

Drugs, cash stolen during break-in

PUBLIC SAFETY, A4



WOMEN GET TOP BILLING AT NEW THEATER
ENTERTAINMENT, B8



WIN-WIN Feeding football fans and fighting hunger
FOOD, B10

Community awards

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

The First Citizen Award was created to recognize an individual for outstanding local volunteer community service. The Business Person of the Year Award was established to recognize a member of the chamber that stands above the rest.

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

Nominating forms can be found in the chamber's August newsletter at www.westlandchamber.com. The deadline for nominations is 4 p.m. Sept. 15. Local residency is not required for either award. 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.

Dems meet

The Westland Democratic Club meets at 7 p.m. the last Tuesday of the month, at the Dorsey Community Center, 32715 Dorsey, at Venoy, Westland. The next meeting will be Tuesday, Aug. 30. Refreshments will be served. For more information, call president Nan Melke at (734) 674-7327.

The 11th Congressional District Democratic Club meets at 7 p.m. the first Thursday of the month at UAW Local 900, 38200 Michigan Ave., Wayne. The next meeting will be Thursday, Sept. 1. The club includes the cities of Westland and Wayne. Visit www.11thDistrictDems.org for information.

Winners

Winners in the Observer & Eccentric and Hometown Newspapers Tony Bennett concert contest include:

Daniel Underwood of Garden City, Ann Henningsen of Northville, Pam Carefelle of Canton, Marian Cook of Livonia, Ilene Weathers of Birmingham, Ben Yee of Southfield, David Manning of Livonia, Jeanine Page of Novi and Rick Ralph of Milford.

Each winner received two tickets to "An Evening with Tony Bennett," Aug. 24 at the Fox Theatre. Contestants entered online or on the hometownlife.com Facebook page.

Check out our Facebook page at hometownlife.com next month for a chance to win an overnight stay at the Townsend Hotel and \$50 for dining in the Rugby Grille.

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WESTLAND OBSERVER

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Former WYAA president ordered to face embezzlement charge

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

From January through July 2010, the Westland Youth Athletic Association received \$31,000 in cash payments for registrations yet only \$1 in cash was deposited into the group's bank account.

Following a lengthy preliminary examination in 18th District Court Monday, former WYAA president Galen Huren was bound over for trial on a

charge that he stole that cash instead of depositing it in the bank along with checks.

A series of current and former WYAA members testified about the non-profit's process of collecting registration payments for youngster participating in a sports program. Payments were recorded on a computer flash drive kept by Huren, who witnesses testified took charge of the receipts at the end of each registra-

tion session.

Other witnesses testified that WYAA bylaws requiring two signatures on checks weren't being followed by Huren. The prosecution admitted as evidence three WYAA checks — for \$1,600, \$1,550 and \$650 — written in June to Huren to himself with only his signature and endorsed by him when cashed. The checks had notes that they were to pay for baseball umpires who were

paid in cash.

The WYAA treasurer for several years until early 2010, Ron Silsbee testified that he had trouble getting accurate financial information from Huren, who took on the responsibility of making bank deposits when the group's financial vice president had health problems.

"I resigned because I couldn't get the information to do the (financial) reports and feel comfort-

able with them," said Silsbee.

Despite months of problems getting information on WYAA's finances, Silsbee said he didn't assume there was money missing.

"I got along with Galen very well. He was not terribly organized. Being president is a thankless and time-consuming job," he said. "There were a lot of people beating him. I didn't think Galen would

Please see TRIAL, A2

Training lets police ID drugged drivers



Westland Police Officer Kevin Yudt is one of only 15 trained Drug Recognition Experts in Michigan. The card (top right) includes examples of pupil dilations.

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

Many drivers seem to have gotten the message not to drink and drive but the same isn't true when it comes to getting behind the wheel under the influence of drugs.

In Michigan, the number of alcohol-related crashes fatalities and arrests has decreased while the same statistics involving drug-related crashes has increased.

Reflecting that shift, Westland Police Officer Kevin Yudt is now one of 15 officers in Michigan trained to recognize and identify drug impairment and identify the categories of drugs involved. He recently com-

pleted training in the state's first Drug Recognition Expert Course.

"This is the hardest thing I ever did. I have my bachelor's (degree). We had to memorize every drug category," said Yudt. "We were in class until 4 p.m. then dinner and studying until 11 p.m. Everyone had to maintain 100 percent."

In addition to the Michigan State Police classes in Lansing, Yudt completed his training at the Maricopa County, Ariz., Sheriff's Department identifying drugs that prisoners had used.

"It's a 12-step process. You can exactly determine what kind of drugs — in seven categories — they have taken," said Yudt, who

has been with the department for eight years. "Each drug affects the body differently."

Along with interviewing the person and administering standard tests for drunken drivers, Yudt conducts a series of examinations — blood pressure checks, pulse and pupil dilation.

"One drug category is depressants. It slows the body down. You look for normal pupil size but a slow reaction to light," said Yudt. "The pulse rate will be down below the normal range and the blood pressure will be down. With pain pills, you get contracted pupils — it's the only one with pinpoint pupils."

As part of his assessment,

Please see TRAINING, A2

3 charged in robbery of Taco Bell

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

Three Inkster residents have been charged with the armed robbery of a Westland Taco Bell where two of the suspects are employed.

Police were called to the Taco Bell on Merriman just south of Cherry Hill just after 10 a.m. Aug. 17 when an employee reported an armed man had robbed the business. The three employees who were inside the business told police a man wearing a mask and armed with handgun had ordered the employees to get on the floor before stealing an undisclosed amount of money.

"The manager was in the office with the safe open," said Westland police Lt. Michael Match.

Two of the employees told they recognized the gunman's voice and mannerisms. That information led officers to Ricky Lamar Jones, 23. Held in lieu of \$100,000 cash bond, Jones is charged with armed robbery, felony firearm and being a second-degree habitual offender.

A friend and Taco Bell co-worker Artesia Diarra McKeever, 18, has been charged with armed robbery and is being held in lieu of \$50,000 cash bond.

"We believe she told him (Jones) when the safe was open," said Match.

Interviews with the first two suspects led officers to Orlando Lavelle Cooper, 19, who is also charged with armed robbery.

"He is a co-conspirator in the armed robbery because he provided the gun," said Match. "We executed a search warrant at his home and recovered the gun, a 357 magnum pistol."

Not guilty pleas were entered for all three defendants at their arraignment in 18th District Court. Preliminary examinations are scheduled today (Thursday).

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Radio Disney rocks mall for Back 2 School

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

Westland Shopping Center will rock Saturday afternoon when "N.B.T." artists Tay Barton and Hollywood Ending take to the stage as part of a Back 2 School celebration.

Hosted by Radio Disney AM-910 Detroit and powered by Westland Shopping Center in conjunction with the Wayne-Westland Commu-

nity Schools, the three-hour event will treat shoppers to the free concert, a fashion show, activities centers and a performance by the John Glenn High School band, the Wayne Memorial High School JROTC and Wayne Memorial cheerleading squad.

"We view the partnership as an opportunity to highlight and communicate the many positive attributes of the Wayne-Westland Community School district," said

Paul Salah, Wayne-Westland's deputy superintendent for instruction.

"I'm a native of Westland and I went through the Wayne Westland Community Schools," said Patrick Derrig, the mall's marketing director. "To be back at the mall where I saw Santa Claus and the Easter Bunny as a child and help support the Wayne-Westland

Please see EVENT, A2

TRIAL

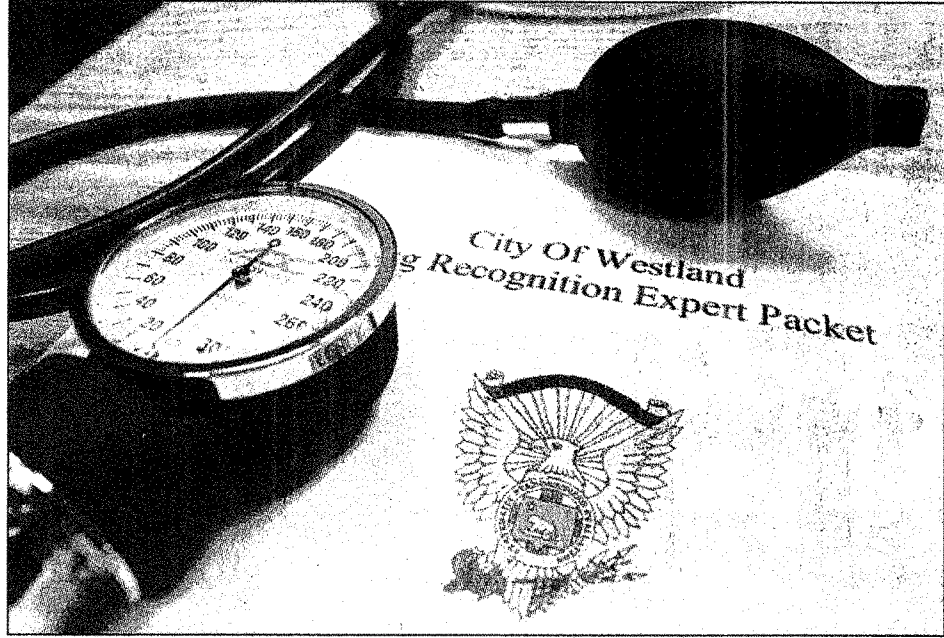
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put me in this position." Once questions were raised about money being missing, Silsbee said he felt it was best to turn over what information he had to WYAA. He said he couldn't say how much money was missing. Other testimony was about unpaid utility bills at the WYAA headquarters on Farmington Road, bounced checks, cookie dough fundraisers and other unpaid bills. Defense attorney Mary Mahoney argued that the prosecution hadn't made their case having failed to provide evidence of WYAA expenditures paid using cash. Witnesses testified that only baseball umpires were paid in cash. "The complainant

has to have suffered a loss in some amount. You're being asked to guess what was lost if anything," Mahoney told 18th District Court Judge Mark McConnell. "There was no testimony that the money was taken and used for improper purposes." The cash collected during registration was kept in an unlocked container and many people had access to the office were the cash box located, Mahoney noted. "The person with the most control and the financial responsibility of the organization's cash is the defendant," said Wayne County Assistant Prosecutor Eric Sterbis. "The defendant was president the whole time. All the witnesses saw him. He was the last to leave the compound (WYAA office). He was the only one to take money away from the compound — no one else was seen."

Arguing the missing cash was used to pay for umpires was in direct conflict with the WYAA checks Huren had written to himself which were noted as money for umpires, McConnell said. "The inference certainly leads to embezzlement. Eyewitnesses testified that he (Huren) put money in his pocket," said McConnell, who also cited another witness who testified to finding \$800 in cash, several month old checks and registration forms in a computer bag returned by Huren, who had a computer service business. Huren, 47, was scheduled for Sept. 8 Wayne County Circuit Court arraignment on a charge of embezzling over \$20,000. His \$10,000/10 percent bond was continued.

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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
A blood pressure cuff is among the tools used by Westland Police Officer Kevin Yudt as a Drug Recognition Expert.

TRAINING

Continued from page A1

Yudt checks for other telltale signs — marijuana smokers will have a green film on their tongue and heat bumps in their mouths, for instance. In the past, it could be problematic when police officers were confronted with a driver under the influence of drugs. "It wasn't uncommon during the heyday of powder cocaine — before crack — for people to do cocaine all day and have one beer before they left the bar," said Westland Police Sgt. Patrick Corby of the Traffic Bureau. "You have no hard evi-

dence. If someone blows .04 (on a Breathalyzer), but are acting really messed up, then he (Yudt) does his assessment. People weren't trained to detect drugs." Drug use overlapping with alcohol consumption is where expertise comes in, said Yudt, whose training also lets him assess the stages of drugs as they move through someone's system. "I'd say the most abused drug now are prescription drugs — Xanax and Oxycodone — and medical marijuana," said Corby. Yudt agreed adding, "You can't drive using medical marijuana. People have a prescription and think it gives them the right to do anything

they want." While Yudt is assigned half time to the Traffic Bureau, the department is developing a policy on when his expertise as DRE will be needed. "It's very exciting for the members of our department as we continue to become more efficient and proactive in our enforcement against people who operate a motor vehicle while impaired," said Westland Police Chief Greg Angelosanto. "We are also looking forward to utilizing this expertise in other law enforcement situations where the need to know if a person is under the influence of narcotics is important."

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EVENT

Continued from page A1

schools is truly a privilege." The event will be noon to 3 p.m. in the mall's East Court, and the concert will be a first for the mall which has hosted Disney Radio events with the Wayne-Westland Community Schools in 2009 and 2010. In the past top Disney stars have appeared on stage, but this is the first time that top Disney performers will fly out from Hollywood for the concert which is expected to attract from several hundred up to 1,000 people. They also will hold a question-and-answer session afterward, Derrig said. "These are two big singing acts for the younger crowd," said Derrig. In addition to the musical performance, participants will be treated to a back to school fashion show that will be a "must see," according to Derrig.

"All the latest styles and the must haves for back to school will be featured and guests will be able to enter to win the actual clothes the models are wearing," he said. They can also stop by the Radio Disney AM 910 tent to register for the chance to win an electric guitar, autographed by Cody Simpson and Greyson Chance. And there also will be a chance to win a \$1,000 mall gift card. The drawings will be done after the free concert. "We'll show you what you can do to enter to win the \$1,000 gift card," said Derrig. "Hopefully, whoever wins can use it to shop here for clothes or their back-to-school fashions." But a big part of the event will be the celebration of public education. In addition to band, JROTC and cheerleaders, there also will be stations set to provide information to parents, schools of choice, career and adult education, preschool program-

ming and transportation. The district will have a school bus outside the mall and it will be one of the stations people can visit to get stamps on a "passport" that they can use to enter the gift card drawing. "It's one way to get a sense about what's great about the city and the school district," said Derrig. "It's going to be a really amazing day that supports and highlights our great school system. That's the main catalyst for this." "It's going to be a fun and enjoyable day for everyone," he added. Salah agrees. "The district is committed to fostering relationships throughout the community and feels privileged to work with a cornerstone of Westland, the mall," he said. Westland Shopping Center is at 35000 W. Warren Road at Wayne Road in Westland. For more information, call the mall at (734) 421-0291.

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Summer fun at Salvation Army

The Wayne-Westland Salvation Army will host its annual Summer Block Party 2-6 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 27. It will be at the corps building, 2300 S. Venoy,

south of Palmer in Westland. Inflatables, games, refreshments and prizes will be featured. Capt. Derek Rose, corps command-

er, said the Westland Police Department has provided some 30 bicycles to be given away to children. For more information, call (734) 722-3660.

Teachers can get free books for kids

It's time again for Court's Kids and Mission Based Books' Teacher Day. Mission Based Books will open the doors at their warehouse to teachers in southeastern Michigan who can make use of thousands of gently used children's books. The free books will

be available 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 27, at the Mission Based Books Warehouse, 8531 Ronda Drive, Canton. The giveaway is open to all teachers and parents who home school. Bring containers to carry your books home in; boxes, tubs, bags, etc. There will be several

large containers to sort through and teachers are welcome to take as many books as they can haul away. Sorting through books can sometimes be dusty work so dress comfortably. The program is free but teachers should register at www.missionbasedbooks.com.

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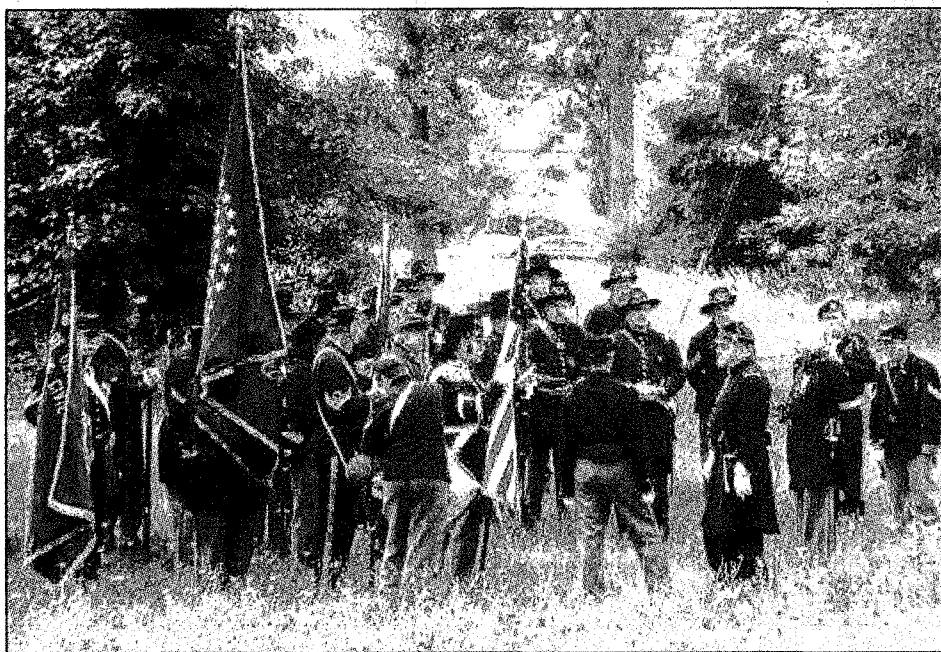
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Members of the Sgt. John S. Cosby Camp 427 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, under the command of Rick Danes, gather for the dedication of two new Civil War gravesites at Chubb Cemetery in Westland.

2 Civil War graves get new headstones

Historians, city officials and re-enactors gathered at Westland's Chubb Cemetery on Sunday to honor two of the city's Civil War soldiers.

Held as part of the 150th anniversary of the Civil War, 25 Civil War soldiers in full dress uniform to dedicate were at the cemetery on Warren Road to dedicate new headstones for two Civil War soldiers, Lucius Chubb and Thaddeus J. Treat, who are buried there. The re-enactors are members of the Sergeant. John S. Cosby Camp 427 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, under the command of Rick Danes.

According to Esther Van Wicklin, Chubb was a local boy who was born and raised in Nankin Township, which today is known as Westland. The family held strong religious beliefs that people had to do whatever was possible to stop slavery

and were heavily involved with the Underground Railroad in this area.

Chubb did his part by joining the 24th Michigan Volunteer Infantry. He went into battle at Gettysburg and was severely wounded on July 1, 1863, the first day of battle. He died of his wounds in the Satterlee Hospital in Philadelphia on Aug. 9, 1863.

He was briefly buried in Philadelphia until his father reclaimed his remains and had his son buried in the family cemetery in Nankin.

"We must remember that Lucius Chubb gave his life on the battlefield at Gettysburg," said Van Wicklin. "It was a famous battle in which, our Nankin native, made the supreme sacrifice for his country."

The second soldier was Thaddeus J. Treat who was from Indiana and served in Company B, 54th Indiana Infantry. He

was a hospital steward during his service to his country. After the war, he moved to Nankin Township and married Elizabeth Locke in June 1868. He passed away in 1897.

Also participating in the ceremony was Jan Poe, a member from the Westland Historical Society, and Westland City Council President James Godbout.

"The highlight of this event was when the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War made their presentation," said Van Wicklin. "They laid wreaths and left a white rose at the graves, and of course, had a 21-gun salute to honor these men. Two buglers played in the distance to end the ceremony."

According to Van Wicklin, the organization picked this year to dedicate these new headstones because they wanted to commemorate the Civil War anniversary.

Extravaganza marks two S'craft anniversaries

The Schoolcraft College Foundation presents its annual Culinary Extravaganza, a premier food and wine event that highlights the culinary talent of metro area restaurants, pastry shops and beverage vendors.

This year's event, 2-5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 25, marks two special anniversaries — the 20th year of the food and wine event and the college's 50th.

The extravaganza allows guests to sample a variety of fine food, wine, beverages and desserts in one afternoon, while at the same time support student scholarships. Proceeds from the event provide scholarships and grants for students. Individual tickets are \$50 each and available at the college or online.

This year's event will

feature more than 50 food, wine and dessert stations, a silent auction and raffle, along with a wine-tasting seminar led by vintner Lee Hershey and a wholesome healthy foods demonstration by master chef Jeff Gabriel.

Food and beverage vendors include Sive Restaurant at St. John's Inn in Plymouth Township, Toasted Oak Grill and Market in Novi, Old World Olive Press in Plymouth, McCormick Distilling Co. and many more.

In addition to food, attendees can bid on a variety of gifts cards and baskets, including a VIP wine-tasting at Chateau Chantal, a weekend stay at the Townsend Hotel in downtown Birmingham or sports and entertainment packages.

Highlight of this year's raffle is a Hearts on Fire Diamond necklace from Orin Jewelers in Garden City and Northville valued at \$3,400. Other raffle prizes include \$500 cash, \$250 cash (two winners) and dinner for two at the American Harvest Restaurant at Schoolcraft (three winners).

Raffle tickets are \$5 each or three for \$10. In addition, each ticket has value even if you don't win a prize. Patrons can redeem the ticket for discounts at the American Harvest, Steve & Rocky's in Novi and the Ironwood Grill in Plymouth. Raffle tickets are available at the college.

For more information or to purchase event tickets, sponsorship packages or raffle tickets go to www.schoolcraft.edu.

Westland holds second rain barrel sale

The City of Westland is rolling out the barrels ... rain barrels.

On the heels of a successful sale in July, the city is holding a second Rain Barrel Truckload Sale 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 17, in the parking lot of the Westland Department of Public Services located at 37137 Marquette, just east of Newburgh.

People interested in purchasing a rain barrel can pre-order the barrel and pick it up at the Department of Public Service on Friday, Sept. 16, or purchase a barrel the day of the sale. Limited quantities will be available while supplies last.

The rain barrels have a retail value of \$150 each, but are being offered

at a discounted price of \$60 (taxes included), with \$1.50 of each purchase benefitting the Alliance of Rouge Communities. Cash, Check, Visa, Master Card and Discover Cards will be accepted. The event will go on rain or shine.

The city's first such sale was the most successful one sponsored by the Alliance of Rouge Communities. It out of 780 rain barrels in three hours and an additional 150 orders were placed by residents from all over southeastern Michigan.

"This sale is one of many efforts by our city to support Westland's Mission: Green initiative and I am pleased the residents share my vision," said

Westland Mayor William Wild.

By harvesting rain water with one of the barrels, people can:

- Lower their water bill.
- Preserve their well water supply.
- Use water on their own schedule.
- Improve the soil's pH balance.
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- Reduce erosion and flooding.
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For more information, contact the Alliance of Rouge Communities at (734) 272-0291 or by e-mail at info@allianceofrougecommunities.com.

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<p>MIXED: Mon. 7:00 pm Tues. 7:00 pm Fri. 6:45 pm Sun. 7:00 pm</p>	<p>MIXED: (Every Other Week) Sat. 7:15 pm Sat. 8:00 pm Sun. 4:00 pm Sun. 7:00 pm</p>	<p>MIXED TRIO: Any Combination Tues. 7:00 pm <i>Starts Oct. 4th</i> Wed. 5:00 pm <i>Starts Sept. 7th</i></p>

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PUBLIC SAFETY

Woman reports TV stolen Drugs, cash stolen in break-in

A 67-year-old resident in the 100 block of Garden heard her dogs barking but didn't immediately get up to check why Aug. 20.

When she did, the woman said she found that someone had stolen her television set. Her dining room air conditioner was pushed out and on the ground, she said, and her rear door and side gate were open.

Home invasion

A resident in the 29000 block of Elmwood called police after she saw a strange man looking into her bedroom from outside the window about 4:30 a.m. Aug. 17. She said that her boyfriend had just left for work when she saw the unknown man, wearing a black long-sleeved shirt, peering into her window.

When Garden City police arrived, they found the backyard gate was open. They set up a canine track which ended unsuccessfully in the 30000 block of Dawson.

Narcotics paraphernalia

When the police were processing a woman who lives in the 32000 block of John Hawk. Aug. 16 on a felony warrant arrest, they found narcotics paraphernalia in her purse. They found a burnt Char Boy and a "push rod" that is used to smoke crack cocaine. They also found a used crack pipe.

Property destruction

A resident in the 28000 block of Rush discovered

two deflated tires at 6 a.m. Aug. 16 on the driver's side of her 2000 Chevy Cavalier which was parked on the street. The police said that the tires looked like they had been punctured.

Break-in

The owner of Smoker's City, 27555 Warren, planned to take inventory of exactly how many cartons and what brands of cigarettes were stolen during a break-in about 5 a.m. Aug. 21. The thief first broke into an adjacent vacant building and then broke a hole into a wall to gain entry into the store.

A canine track didn't reveal additional information. The police said that they found two different shoe patterns at the break-in location.

Property damage

A resident in the 800 block of Radcliff reported at noon Aug. 20 that he discovered damage to two panels of his garage door which he found were caved in. He said that three sections were damaged and he estimated the damage at about \$800. He thought that the damage made the garage door beyond repair.

Damaged vehicles

Two car owners on Rosslyn discovered their vehicles damaged on Aug. 21.

A car owner in the 30000 block of Rosslyn reported that his driver's side window on his Chrysler PT Cruiser was broken by an unknown object.

In a similar incident in the 31000 block of Rosslyn, the driver's side window on a 1997 Buick was broken by an unknown object.

—By Sue Buck

Break-in

Drugs and money were reported stolen after a break-in at Noleen's Barber Shop and the Wayne Family Pharmacy,

which share a building at 244 N. Wayne Road Aug. 16. The businesses share a common entrance into a vestibule but have separate doors to each business inside the building.

The common door was found shattered, as was the door to the barber shop. The doors to the kitchen and office within the barber shop were opened without forced entry. The barber shop was ransacked. The owner said the safe inside the office had been opened and the money bag taken out. There was \$200 reported stolen and the money bag was left on the desk.

The wall adjoining the pharmacy had been kicked in and entry was made through the pharmacy restroom. Reported missing from the pharmacy were: 400 Percocet, 420 Methadone pills, assorted other prescription medications and \$290 in cash.

An attempt was also made to enter a third adjoining business, the City Smoker Shop, 240 N. Wayne Road, police said, based on efforts to break through the cement block wall with a pipe wrench.

The barber shop owner told police that she had been having problems with the former business owner, who had worked for her until being terminated recently. She said the former owner had been stalking and harass-

ing her and her customers. The former owner and his cousin, who also works at the barber shop, both have keys to the business, the current owner said.

Attempted break-in

Late on Aug. 19, a 13-year old resident in the 1500 block Berkshire told police that he was lying on his bed listening to music through headphones when he saw someone trying to get into his bedroom through the window. When the suspect, described as a black male 15 years old wearing a red and white collared shirt, saw the resident he fled on foot.

The boy's father told police he heard a loud bang coming from his son's room and went to check. The father said he checked the neighborhood for about 20 minutes before he called 911.

Retail fraud

A Romulus woman was arrested for shoplifting at Kohl's, 35000 Warren, Aug. 19. Store security told police the woman was spotted selecting items from a cosmetics area display without regard to size or price, the move into the accessories department where she put the merchandise into her purse.

The employees said the woman then purchased two purses and went to the jewelry area where she rapidly put numerous items into her shopping bag. The woman continued moving around the store to the juniors department where she selected a number of items and was seen going

into the dressing room. Once she left the dressing room, the employees said price tags and security sensors were recovered.

The size of her shopping bag had increased and the woman headed for the shoe department where she selected several pairs of shoes which were added to the bag.

Stopped as she left the store, store security recovered merchandise valued at nearly \$2,000 including seven pairs of size nine shoes. Police said the woman had no identification — just a Wayne County Jail wristband. She was found to be on felony probation for larceny from a building. The officer also confiscated 14 Xanax from the woman, who said she used to have a prescription for the drug.

On Aug. 16, a resident in the 32000 block of Merritt told police that someone had entered his garage through an unlocked side door and stolen tools valued at \$2,000. He said he normally locks the door due to the large amount of tools but apparently had failed to do so. The items reported stolen included a reciprocating saw, a mitre saw, a router and router table, a cordless drill and a circular saw.

Embezzlement

An Ypsilanti woman was arrested Aug. 16 for embezzling an estimated \$1,200 over six to eight weeks from Kroger, 7350 N. Middlebelt. The woman had worked at the customer service desk and is accused of manipulating her cash register tallies involving bottle refunds

which she placed on a gift card and kept.

Break in

A resident of an apartment at 36008 Hunter told police that someone had stolen a 37-inch flat screen television Aug. 19. He said someone had cut a window screen and opened an unlocked window to enter the apartment. The television was valued at \$300.

Scooter stolen

A resident of the Riverbend Apartments, 30905 Warren Road, told police Aug. 20 that someone had stolen her Honda scooter from the carport. She said the scooter had been chained to a pole. The officer noted it appeared a bolt cutter had been used to cut the chain.

Motorcycle stolen

On Aug. 16, a resident of the Westwood Village Apartments, 37815 W. Woodbridge Circle, told police that someone had stolen his 1996 Harley-Davidson Soft Tail motorcycle from the parking lot. He said the steering had been locked with a padlock. There were scuff marks on the pavement where the bike had been dragged and the kickstand scraped the ground. Police surmised the bike had been dragged to a trailer or another type of vehicle to be driven away.

Vehicle stolen

A Novi man told police that someone had stolen his 1996 Dodge Grand Caravan sometime early Aug. 16 while it was parked in the parking lot of 37930 Westwood Circle.

—By LeAnne Rogers

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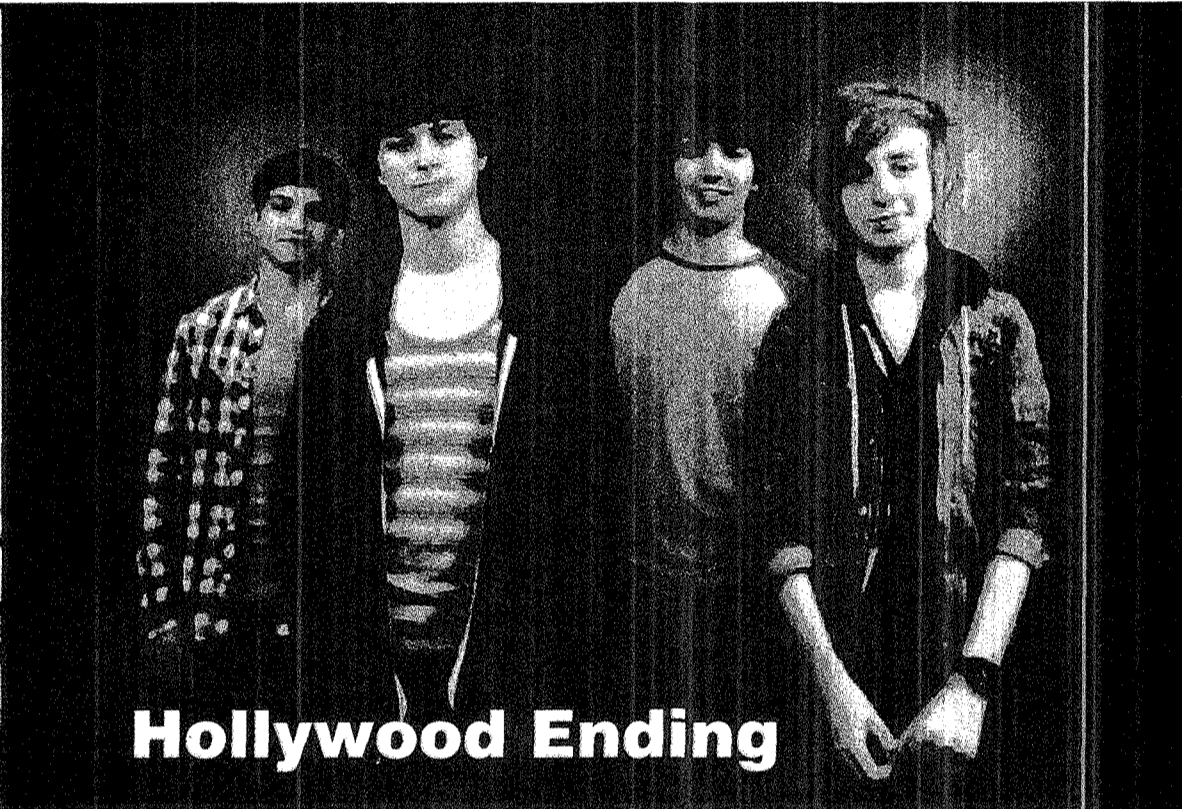
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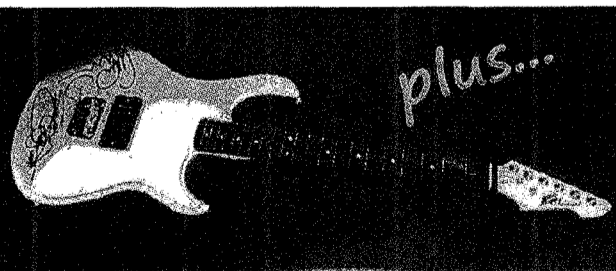
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Wayne Youth Theatre looks for new home

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

For years, the Wayne Youth Theater has called Stage 4 at the State Wayne Theater home sweet home. But the theatrical troupe made up of kids ages 8-18 years is looking for a new home, hopefully somewhere in the city of Wayne after the theater switched from showing second-to-first-run movies.

"We were called the Stage 4 Youth Theater because we performed on Stage 4," said Colleen Meyer, the troupe's director and the arts and entertainment director for the City of Wayne. "The city bought the theater so it could have live theater, show movies and even bring in live entertainment."

The troupe found out in the spring that the theater was switching to show first-run movies which meant it lost its rehearsal and performance space. For its Aug. 12-13 show, *The Ever After - A Musical*, it transformed the floor of the Wayne ice arena into a theater and the locker rooms became the dressing rooms. According to parent Staci Bockmann, the actors and their families were phenomenal in making the venue work. "It was just an open arena," said the Canton resident whose son, Blake, is a member of the troupe. "It was a two-week program. It was all done in two weeks and the stage was built in one day. The kids were absolutely phenomenal from building the stage to tearing it down."

The troupe used the props it at the State Wayne, brought in its own lighting and sound system, and built a 14-foot wall of curtains to have a backstage area. They borrowed curtains from the State Wayne and borrowed some from the city's figure skating club.

"We started from scratch," said Bockmann. "It was the most difficult thing we ever had to do."

Stage productions

The youth theater has up to 40 members who come from Wayne, Westland, Livonia, Plymouth and Canton. Up until now, the group did five productions a year, including one with adults and the youth and a dinner theater performance. It did a lot of major musicals like *Joseph and the Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Wizard of Oz* and *Jesus Christ Superstar*.

"There's a value in what we do," said Meyer, a Westland resident. "At one point, I had three generations of a family performing in the theater."

Bockmann "stumbled" on to the youth theater through Debra Paul of Plymouth. Their children both attend the



Members of the Wayne Youth Theater include Mary Schneider of Wayne (back row, from left) Jessica Van Meter of Wayne, Blake Bockmann of Canton, Megan Kelly of Wayne, Corey Kelly of Wayne, Nick Helton of Westland, Anna Helton of Westland, Lexi Helton of Westland, Madison Kelly of Wayne, Kyler Meilluer of Wayne, Jordan Rice of Garden City (front row, from left), Hailey Hayward of Wayne, Danielle Paul of Plymouth, Austin Barrett of Wayne, Veronica Hays of Livonia, Alley Vincent of Wayne, Alex Meyer of Westland, Kaitlyn Frawle of Wayne, Kyler Meilleur of Wayne. In front is Madison Gaedke of Westland.



Theater director Colleen Meyer of Westland helps Lexi Helton get ready for the dress rehearsal.

Canton Charter Academy and she knew Paul's daughter was in theater so she asked her about it. The experience has been wonderful for her son, Blake, who is autistic.

"We came into the theater and it opened up a whole new world for Blake," she said. "He's not even the same kid as last year. He actually rapped in this show and sang a solo."

"There's a friendship bond the kids have created, they've pretty much grown up together," said Kristine Brothers of Westland, who helped make costumes for the play. "When we're altogether we feel at home, we made the ice arena home because we were all together."

Like Bockmann, she stumbled onto the production. Her son attends Schweitzer Elementary and it was doing a production of *Cinderella*. It wasn't for several months so she went and watched a youth theater rehearsal. She asked them about a coach, told them she had an idea and made it.

"They drew me in, the karma of the families," she said. "My son wanted to be in it after coming to an audition and he was the young prince in his first play. It's a wonderful group, it's lights up the day."

"These kids light up on stage, they transform into their characters," added Bockmann. "It's absolutely amazing."

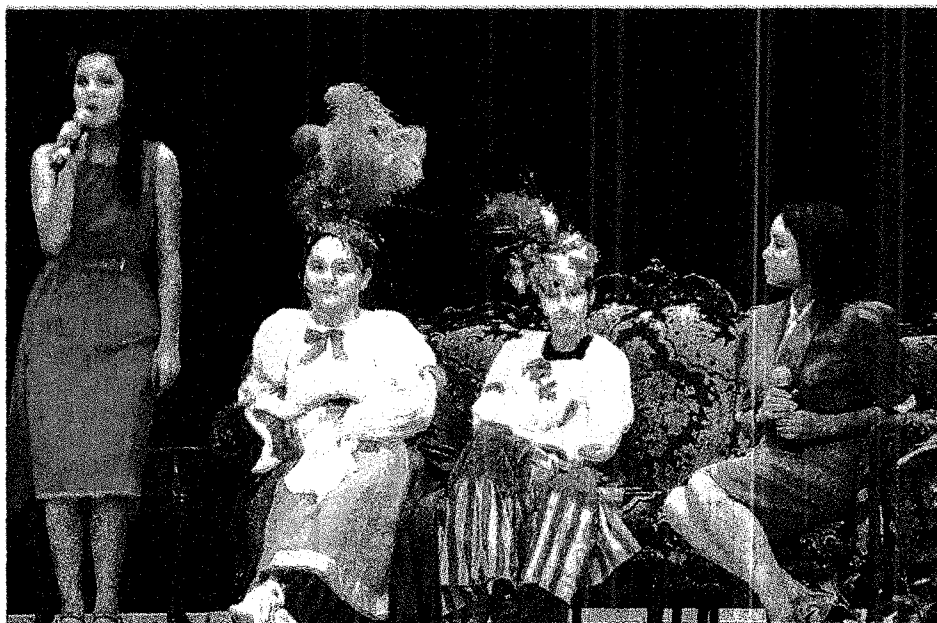
Hailey Hayward of Wayne is one of those kids. The 11-year-old loves to be in the theater. "I used to be so shy, I wouldn't talk to anyone," she said.

"Hailey grew up watching theater, I started taking her to shows when she was three and she was hooked," said her mother Dawn Renae Hayward. "We've tried other theaters but it's not the same. The whole family experience isn't there."

"Everyone works together and takes care of each other," said Bockmann.

Family experience

Brothers saw how deep the family feeling goes with the troupe. Her husband worked for W.C. Franks Furniture and following the devastating explosion in December, she saw the group come together to help



Appearing in the youth theater production of "The Ever After - A Musical," were Veronica Hays (from left) of Livonia as Kelly Lee, Lexi Helton as Anastasia, Madison Kelly of Drizella and Kyler Meilleur of Wayne as Opal Witfree.



Hailey Hayward of Wayne and Blake Bockmann of Canton wait for show time.

the Franks employees.

"Colleen put together a fundraiser which not only was a variety show, including the dance company but some of the older youth performing songs to some being there helping with the preparations," said Brothers. "That's when I myself realized that this isn't just a theater but a family. The families of the youth theater showed me that in the wake of a disaster they are there. The fundraiser, put together in just short of three weeks was one of many, but it was an act of kindness that my family will never forget and it showed the kids in our program

what community really is by giving back."

If the youth theater is to do its December show, it needs to start rehearsing in October. Right now it has nothing booked other than the dinner theater it will do at the Wayne Community Center. That's why the hunt is on for an empty space to use. Meyer is hoping to find a building with higher ceilings and the ability to seat 100 people — 150 tops.

"We're able to make anything work," she said. "We can make anything work, if we have room to work. We hope to be able to stay in Wayne."

Meyer understands the loss of Stage 4. It's due

to the financial crisis in Wayne and the state of Michigan. She's frustrated that the arts has taken a hit, but says the group will "roll with the punches."

"I feel lucky that we've been able to have something for the kids," she said. "We'd like to have something like we had or even something better."

People with space available for the youth theater can call Meyer at (734) 751-7133.

Hailey admits she'll be sad if the troupe can't find a new home.

"I'd probably scream all the time," she said.

smason@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-6751

Church hosts festival Sunday

By Sue Buck
Observer Staff Writer

The Garden City Presbyterian Church will hold its first Neighborhood Festival 2-6 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 28.

The festival will be held on the church grounds located on Middlebelt, south of Ford Road. The free festival is organized by the church outreach committees headed up by Randy and Julie Eiermann.

Everyone is welcome to enjoy fellowship, food and family fun. Julie Eiermann explained that this is the first year that the event will be held on the

church grounds.

The previous four years it was held as "Alive in the Park," at Garden City Park.

With the defeat of the 12 mills city millage in May, city services were cut and the park was closed to this type of event.

The planners have done their best to set up a similar setting for families, especially those who can't afford to go out to family events.

Everyone is welcome and membership at the church is not required to attend the event.

"We will have a bouncer and craft area," said Eier-

mann said.

A special tent will be set up for young people where there will be The Beauty Shop and The Rock-N-Roll Do Wop.

Boys and girls can dress up with color sprayed hair, tattoos, jewelry and polished fingernails.

"They can have photos taken with their friends with Rock-N-Roll cut-outs," she said.

Movies and songs will be incorporated in the sanctuary. The grilled hot dogs and hamburgers are also free.

sbuck@hometownlife.com
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Easter Seals Michigan holds Walk With Me

Easter Seals Michigan is asking people to take a step in the right direction by participating in this year's annual Walk With Me Detroit event Sunday, Sept. 11, at the Detroit Riverfront Rivard Plaza.

Money raised by walkers will be used to help children and adults living with disabilities, mental illness or other special needs, so that they can successfully live, learn, work and play

in their communities.

Register online at www.walkwithme.org/detroit or call (248) 475-6411 for more information.

More information about Walk With Me Detroit also is available online at www.walkwithme.org/detroit.

Easter Seals Michigan is the leading nonprofit provider of services for individuals with mental illnesses, emotion-

al impairments, autism, developmental disabilities and other special needs. Spanning the entire state of Michigan, Easter Seals has been offering help and hope to children and adults living with disabilities, and to the family members who love them, since 1920.

For more information, contact Easter Seals Michigan at (800) 75-SEALS.

Memorial service set for community activist Mary Dumas

Mary E. Dumas, a community activist who served for 14 years on the Wayne County Commission in the 1970s and 1980s, died Aug. 17 after a five-year battle with ovarian cancer. She was 89.

A memorial service will be held at 3:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 27, at the R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home, 15451 Farmington Road, Livonia. Visitation will start at 1:30 p.m.



Mary E. Dumas

Dumas was educated at Pershing High School in Detroit, Wayne State University and the University of Wisconsin from which she graduated with honors in languages and broadcasting.

Prior to Dumas' career on the commission, she was active as president of the Livonia School Board Advisory Committee, secretary of the Livonia Charter Revisions Committee, a volunteer probation officer and elected to the Schoolcraft College Board of Trustees. She received numerous awards for her leadership in civic, political and professional organizations, and was appointed to several state and national commissions.

Gov. William Milliken appointed her to the

Michigan Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee. Milliken cited her for a program she conceived, developed and conducted called "A Day at Jackson" where young offenders spent the day with prisoners serving life sentences at Jackson State Prison. The program's intent was to scare the participants straight. Word of the program reached Washington, D.C., and Dumas was invited to testify before the Senate Committee on juvenile justice.

Dumas was elected to the 28-member Wayne County Board of Commissioners in 1972. She was the only Republican and the only woman on the board at that time. During her 14-year term, she served on numerous committees including the National Association of Counties Crime and Public Safety Steering Committee, the Wayne County Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee and the Southeastern Michigan Council of Governments.

Dumas is survived by her husband, Victor, and children Cordelia, Charles and Julianne, four grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

The family is asking that in lieu of flowers contributions be made to the Salvation Army Bed and Bread program or the Michigan Humane Society.

5 time-saving tips to get ready to go back to school

(ARA) — Summer trips are wrapping up and kids are counting down the days until they have to go back to school. With many parents weighed down by worries about escalating back-to-school costs, brushing up on tips and tricks for making the summer-to-school transition smoother will be helpful for the entire family.

In fact, a recent survey by Bing and Impulse found that 52 percent of parents are the most concerned with the price of school supplies. To save time, money, and lighten up the mood, try implementing these tips from Lisa Gurry, a past recipient of *Working Mother Magazine's* Mom of the Year award.

"These simple tricks can make the back-to-school transition go from stressful to stress-free," Gurry said.

- **Shop early:** Schools often provide a long and daunting list of required school supplies. Don't try to buy everything in one day. Rather, be open to grabbing items you see on sale while out and about throughout the summer. Use local coupon-finding tools, like Bing for Mobile Deals on m.bing.com to find daily deals on all the supplies you're looking for.

- **Get (cleverly) organized:** Reduce the amount of time you spend running around the house looking for the keys, backpack, and lunch boxes by picking a location for each item. Try leaving your keys in the fridge with your lunchbox so you'll never forget the lunch again.



With a few simple tips, you can make back-to-school transition more efficient, less of a hassle and even easier on your wallet.

- **Pack a healthy lunch and freeze a few dinners:** Make sure to pack healthy lunches for your children that will help protect their immune systems and energy levels during the new transition. Great lunch options include chicken wraps and straw-

- **berry and cream cheese sandwiches.** Another great idea is to prepare a few healthy dinners in advance and freeze them so you'll have one less thing to worry about. Check out Bing.com for healthy dinner recipes like chicken noodle soup.

- **Get advice:** Don't forget to use your network of friends to find the best deals. Share your shopping list with your friends using Bing Shopping and get advice from your trusted friends about what they think are the best purchases.

- **Routines rule:** Nothing causes more stress or confusion than an inconsistent schedule. Create a schedule early on and make sure you stick to it. Try to re-establish the bedtime and mealtime routines at least one week before school starts to prepare your children in advance.

Going back to school doesn't have to be a stressful experience. With a few simple tips, you can make back-to-school transition more efficient, less of a hassle and even easier on your wallet.

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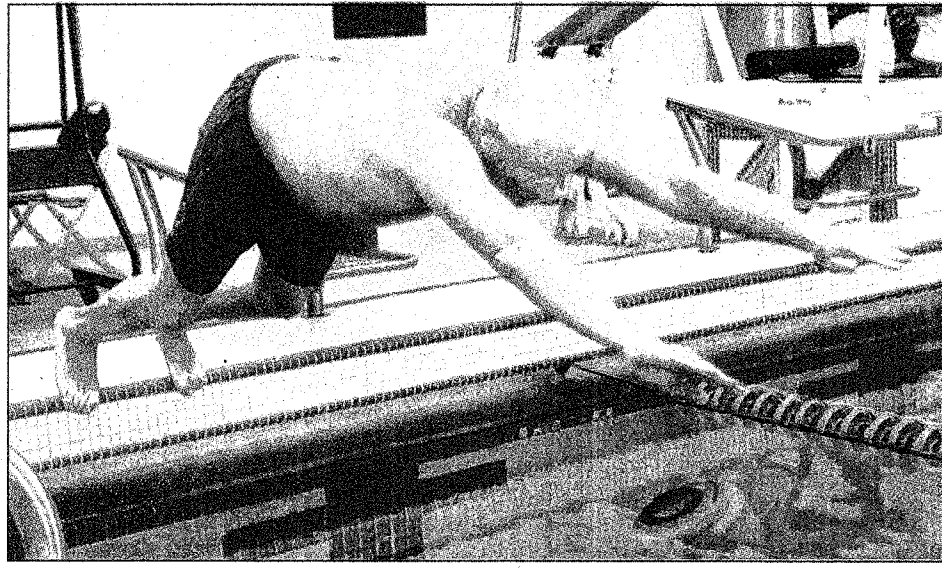
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Senior Olympians go for the gold

By Ken Abramczyk
Observer Staff Writer

Nearly 800 seniors participated in activities last week ranging from bocce ball to swimming in the seventh annual Western Wayne County Senior Olympics.

The event attracted senior athletes from 16 western Wayne County communities. The games kicked off at Nankin Mills in Hines Park with a breakfast for the seniors. County Executive Bob Ficano, U.S. Rep. John Dingell, Livonia Mayor Jack Kirksey and Westland Mayor William Wild attended the opening ceremony. Ficano lit the Olympic torch with the help of Kirksey, Wild and Dingell, before sending the ath-



Dave Edwards of Westland begins his event.

letes to the first of five days of competition. On Wednesday, 18 participants swam in the 50-yard

backstroke, breast stroke and freestyle events at the Livonia Community Recreation Center. Patrice

Milnek of Northville and Sue Hurn of Livonia were the big winners for the women, winning gold and silver medals in the backstroke, breast stroke and freestyle swimming in the A category (ages 50-59).

Other gold medalists in other age groups were Mary Skamiera of Canton,

Dorothy Skupinski of Canton, Joan Jasin of Canton and Ruth Miller of Livonia.

David Edwards, William Anderson, Donald Sprague and Melvin Tockstein, all of Westland, and Al Kopack of Redford won gold medals in the men's races.

In one of the bocce ball categories, Flora Murray, 88, of Livonia and Luigi Aronne, 91, of Dearborn won a gold medal again after taking silver last year. The two have won gold medals every year prior to last, according to Karl Peters, recreation supervisor at the Livonia Senior Center.

"They were very proud of that," Peters said.

Other bocce gold medal winners included Luigi Colone and Joe Vassallo, both of Livonia, and Clara and Roger DeLuca of Northville. Bocce ball was played at the Italian American Club in Livonia.

Peters said the near-

ly 800 participants was a record number. "It's had a snowball effect," he said. "The numbers get larger every year."

"You see how much fun they have and it makes it all worthwhile."

The participants wore their Senior Olympic shirts at the bocce ball competition. "They are very competitive," Peters said.

Peters said the participation is increasing because the games are an inexpensive way for the seniors to have fun and socialize.

For \$7, the seniors got a T-shirt, breakfast and registered for games and for each event they paid an additional \$2.

Anyone interested in participating in next year's games can apply as early as April, Peters said. The games included a closing ceremony on Friday at the Italian American Club.

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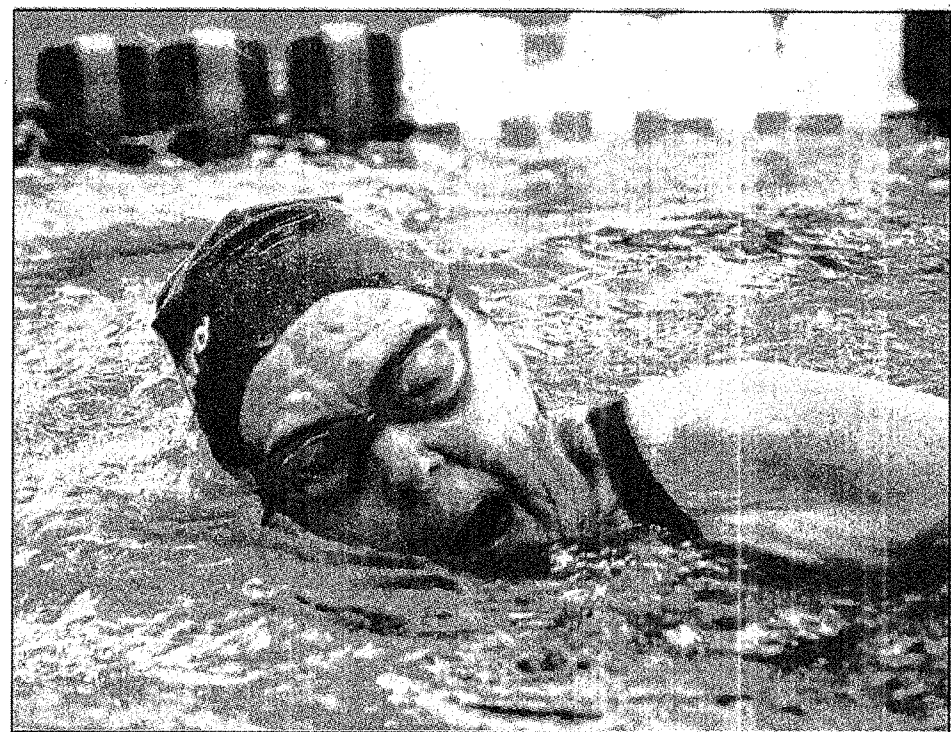
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Joan Jasin of Canton competes in the freestyle.



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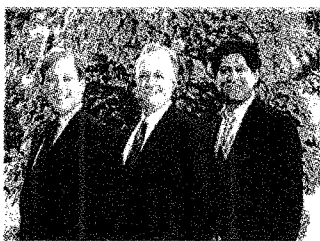
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Make sure student covered for health care at college

By Rick Bloom
Guest Columnist

With all the turmoil in the markets and the world economy, it's amazing how fast summer is going. Labor Day is just around the corner and kids are heading off to college. When I went to college (yes, quite a few years ago), we lived in a simpler time than today. Whether an incoming freshman or a senior, there are some things that parents and college students need to address before the fall semester begins.



Money Matters
Rick Bloom

When kids head off to college it's important to remember they are 18 — legal adults — and, thus, a whole set of different rules apply to them. One of these deals with medical care. When an individual turns 18, his or her parents no longer have the legal right to be involved as they were before.

This issue is particularly important when it comes to health care. In cases of medical emergencies, parents, just by the fact that they are parents, have no rights. Because of this, it is important to have declarations for medical care for your children. If something happens, you don't want to be shut out when it comes to your children's medical care.

Parents who do not have declarations for medical care may find in cases of emergency, the only way they can have access to their children's doctors and be involved in the medical decisions is to go to court.

No one wants to have to go to court, especially in an emergency. Therefore, having a declaration for medical care for your child is essential. Parents can find a free declaration for medical care form on my website www.bloomassetmanagement.com that should fit the great majority of needs. Download the declaration for medical care form by clicking on Legal Forms under the Bloom University tab.

When it comes to health care, nothing is easy and don't assume anything. If your child is currently under your health care plan, confirm that he/she will continue to have coverage even if they are going to an out-of-state institution. It's also a good idea to review what other health care options your child may have. Many universities offer plans that are sometimes very competitive. In some situations it may make sense to use one of those plans. Either way, make sure you confirm your child's coverage.

Speaking of coverage. If your child is taking valuables with them it may be important to have insurance on those items. Some of those items may be covered under your current homeowner's plan while others may not. Contact your homeowner's agent to determine the coverage. Keep

in mind that not everyone who goes to college needs some sort of homeowner's protection.

When your child goes to school they will be inundated with charge card offers. They'll get free T-shirts, free water bottles and more for signing up for a charge card. It is imperative that you sit down with your child and have one of those discussions about charge cards. The number of college kids graduating with substantial debt, that's not related to tuition or books, is amazing. What many of these kids are finding out is that when they graduate, their poor credit scores hinder their chances of obtaining a job.

In today's competitive job market, you need every advantage you can get. Having a charge card is important, however, knowing how to properly use a charge card is even more important. Even if your child rolls their eyes at you, it is important to have that conversation regarding charge cards as well as other areas of personal finance.

Good luck to those who are getting ready to go to college. Whether it's your first year or your last, I believe that a good college education is probably the best investment you'll ever make. Good luck!

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



Lynda Herman, left, of Garden City, Yoga Association of Detroit vice president, and instructor Cheryl Dodge, of Westland, meet at Maxwell's Arts and Treasures in Garden City to plan the End of Summer Yoga Day.

Maxwell's hosts YAGD's Yoga Day

The Yoga Association of Greater Detroit (YAGD) is sponsoring an all-day event, the End of Summer Yoga Day Saturday, Sept. 10, in Garden City.

Yoga Day will be held at Maxwell's Arts and Treasures, 32416 Industrial, north of Ford. Registration for the event can be done by calling YAGD vice-president Lynda Herman of Garden City at (734) 261-7589 or register at the door.

Proceeds from the event will go to the YAGD, whose primary mission is to promote yoga in south-

eastern Michigan, and provide members and teachers with ongoing support and training. The event will also benefit.

"The yoga community is grateful to Maxwell's of Garden City for allowing YAGD to hold this event at their business," Herman said. "Maxwell's Arts and Treasures supports local artists, disadvantaged children, entrepreneurs and the community at large."

Garden City resident Penny Golden, editor and publisher of *Body Mind Spirit Guide*, a magazine for the holistic community, wrote recently: "Come and enjoy this very worthwhile (YAGD) event, support the community while relaxing and letting your spirit soar."

The cost for the morning session is \$27 (two classes) and afternoon is \$27 (two classes). All day is \$50. Registration and check-in is 8:30-9 a.m.

In the first session (9:15-10:30 a.m.) Juli Jeffrey of Livonia, will wake up the body with stretches, twists and slow-flowing sequences to help the rest of the yoga practice.

In the second session (10:45 a.m. to noon) Cheryl Dodge of Westland, and a new member of the Yoga Association, will present an unusual blend of Hatha Yoga, Vinyasa Yoga and Kundalini Yoga. Dodge will incorporate asanas, chanting and yoga mudras followed by

a short meditation.

In the third session (1:30-2:45 p.m.) Velore Brown of Southfield will present Yoga for Stress Management. The class includes guided meditation, pranayama (breathing), a stress relieving practice and guided relaxation. The class is appropriate for all levels.

In the final session (3-4:15 p.m.) Chris Briney of Royal Oak, one of the newest members of the Yoga Association of Greater Detroit, is steeped in the Iyengar tradition, which places emphasis on good posture and proper alignment in asanas. Briney brings a sense of humor to this very interesting practice.

A final relaxation is set for 4:30-5 p.m. Lunch is noon-1:15 p.m. Pre-order a vegetarian lunch for \$10, bring a lunch or visit a nearby restaurant. For more information, call Maxwell's at (734) 427-5300, Ext. 7, or send an e-mail to lyndamay45@yahoo.com. Registration forms also are available at Maxwell's.

The Yoga Association of Greater Detroit is one of the oldest and largest yoga teachers' associations in North America. YAGD has presented Yoga Day in the spring for 27 years, with more than 200 participants in 2010. This September's "End of Summer Yoga Day" is the second year of a new YAGD tradition.

the great indoors

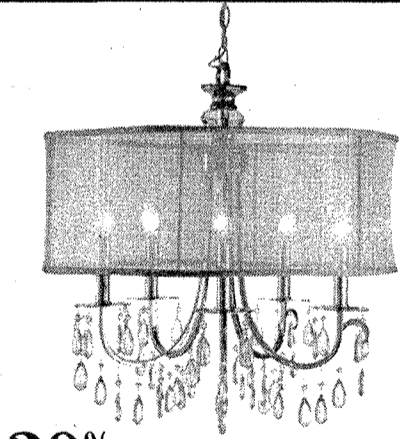
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Astronaut recounts space shuttle flights for students

By Ken Abramczyk
Observer Staff Writer

Capt. David Leestma showed a photo of one of the space shuttles as it peeked through the clouds of Earth.

"I had no idea I would fly one of these," Leestma said. "I could not conceive of such a thing."

Leestma, who flew three space shuttles in the 1980s and 1990s, spoke Tuesday to a group of students from Square One Education Network at Tower International in Livonia.

Square One Education Network, a Waterford-based nonprofit, supports science, technology, engineering and math (or STEM) education among students in Michigan, Ohio and Indiana.

The network presented its inaugural Synergy Summit for Youth that day. Youth Summit participants, coming from schools around metro Detroit, explored discovery labs presented by engineers and scientists.

Leestma talked about his career as an astronaut, space exploration and NASA missions in discussing engineering with the students.

"I think it's really important to inspire the kids," Leestma said, minutes before his talk with the students. He also wanted to encourage them to study the STEM subjects, he said.

Learning to fly

Leestma, who lived in Muskegon and Grand Rapids as a youngster before his family moved to California, marveled at NASA's Mercury and Gemini programs as a boy and teenager. After high school, he attended the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis and graduated with a bachelor's degree in aeronautical engineering in 1971. He



Capt. David Leestma (center, front row, third from the right) spoke to these students and officials of the Square One Education Network at Tower International in Livonia.

received a master's degree the following year in the same field at the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School.

"I found that I liked engineering," Leestma said. "I'm the guy who liked to take stuff and use it, or what they call operations. What I ended being able to do was fly an aircraft."

And he loved it, he said, showing a photo of himself flying an F-15.

NASA announced that they were accepting astronaut applications in 1977. After two members of his squadron were accepted in 1978, Leestma applied and was accepted the following year.

Walking in space

In 1984 Leestma flew on the sixth flight of the Challenger. Leestma and astronaut Kathryn Sullivan conducted a 3.5-hour space walk (or what NASA calls extravehicular activity) to demonstrate the feasibility of satellite refueling.

Training for the flight involved learning how to reposition systems on the shuttle and "how to make things work."

"It becomes a game with the simulations and mission control," Leestma said

of the training.

But when it came time for the flight, it was all business.

Leestma remembers a quote from a colleague about the potential danger of the space shuttle.

"It's a four and a half million pound bomb, and someone's going to light the fuse," Leestma said. "And you know that all the time, but you can't wait to go."

Nitrogen and oxygen pour out of the ship's tanks. "The machine is like it's alive and it can't wait to take off," Leestma said.

"You have seven and a half million pounds of thrust, and it is quite a ride. It's like a catapult and it lasts for eight and a half minutes."

Leestma remembered the old *Superman* TV show in describing the speed of the shuttle. Superman could fly "faster than a speeding bullet."

"A bullet travels at about 3,000 feet a second," Leestma said. "You're going at 25,000 feet a second."

Weightlessness causes anything that is unsecured to float inside the shuttle, including dust and cracker crumbs from a recently consumed saltine.

The human body has two quarts of liquid it has to get rid of, and the body must be replenished of liquid before returning to Earth. Leestma said a human's stomach floats upward inside the body because of the lack of gravity.

"You feel very uncomfortable," Leestma said.

An unbelievable experience

Of course, the childlike wonder still exists for the astronauts, too.

"You say 'Wow, I can't believe I am doing this,'" Leestma said.

Besides the extravehicular activity with Leestma and Sullivan, that first shuttle flight included the deployment of a satellite using a remote manipulator system, operating a payload and a large format camera.

As he stepped out of the shuttle into space, the Earth was in his line of sight. "That is a long fall," Leestma thought. He held on tight, and stopped for a few moments before proceeding. He later learned that his EKG reading peaked when he stepped outside the shuttle.

Leestma said the international space station was

built over 35-40 shuttle flights, calling it an "engineering marvel."

"There's a lot we need to learn about space before we head off to Mars," Leestma said. He believes that current elementary school children will be the ones who fly to Mars someday.

Leestma showed a newspaper photo, taken of him right after his first shuttle flight landed. The photo shows Leestma holding two of his children in his arms.

"When you get back, you weigh a ton," Leestma said. "My kids ran out, and jumped into my arms. I thought I was going to die."

Leestma also mentioned the Challenger and Columbia explosions during the discussion. "There is always a risk to fly in space," Leestma said.

"Safety is always a big factor when you design, especially when you go exploring," Leestma said, in describing what happened in the explosions.

Leestma then answered questions from the students. One asked about Leestma's grades. Leestma said he had good grades as a student.

Another asked about the difference in temperatures with the sun and without the sun. "You can hold your hand out, and one side of the glove will be

200 degrees and the other will be minus 200," Leestma said. "That's why the (astronaut's) glove is white. Everyone who designs these suits has to deal with not just the (lack of air) pressure but with the temperatures."

He was also asked what was the hardest thing to do in space. "That's to keep focused on the mission and what is going on," Leestma said.

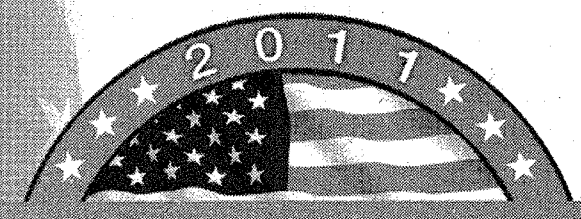
Ken Kundrick, vice president of technology for Tower International, said Tower "gives the right environment for the students to learn about engineering."

Tower International is a global manufacturer of engineered structural metal components and assemblies. The company supplies the automotive industry with body-structure stampings and chassis structures. The company does similar product development work for the defense and aerospace industries.

"Engineering opportunities are endless," Kendrick said. "You can look at these parts and frames of pickup trucks, floors and powertrains, and the work that our company is involved in. It's huge."

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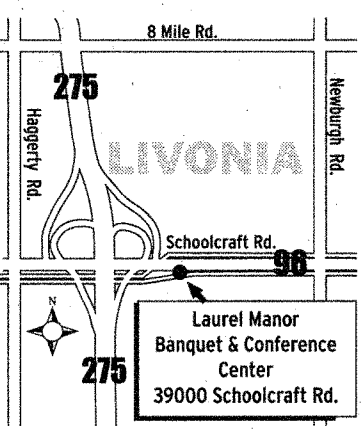
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- Appr. "Blues, Brews & BBQ" 9/24/11 on City Hall grounds.
- Appr. OWI Recovery Fee of \$325 to Police Dept's 2011-12 Admin. Fee Schedule.
- Appr. sale of DPS equipment to MI Truck Parts.
- Appr. purchase of 2012 steel dump truck; cost \$174,830.00.
- Appr. purchase of 2011 Caterpillar 981 HIT R; net cost \$127,177.00.
- Appr. disbursement of 16th pmt. to Bidigare for SWQIF Project; amt. \$72,714.65.
- Adopted Prep. Res. approving the disposition of 1 property to the adjoining property owners.
- Adopt. MOU with Habitat for Humanity for development of affordable housing for income eligible families.
- Appr. Gamerez USA to increase number of devices from 25 to 43.
150: Appr. to go into Closed Study Session immediately after meeting Re: Library Arbitration.
151: Appr. minutes of regular meeting held 8/1/11.
152: Appr. contract w/AT & T U-Verse as revised.
153: Conf. appt. of R. Graunstadt to Parks & Rec. Advisory Bd. to fill exp. term to exp. 8/15/13.
154: Appr. checklist: \$586,568.16 & Prepaid: \$12,387,838.37. Mtg. adj. at 8:08 p.m.
Minutes available in the Clerk's Office.

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OUR VIEWS

Making the grade

It's time to change NCLB's 'flaws'

Education has always been a priority when it comes to our children. We want them to have the best education possible. We are quick to celebrate achievement and even quicker to point fingers when that doesn't happen.

Over the years, we have been told our children don't measure up educationally to students in other countries. Reports by the National Assessment of Educational Progress and the Program for International Assessment have us wringing our hands because our kids just aren't cutting it. How can that happen in a country that outspends the world when it comes to education — some \$809 billion or \$7,743 per child?

During the Bush administration, the federal government decided there needed to be accountability, something that measured the progress students make in school. It set a threshold — 100 percent proficiency — that all students had to achieve by 2014. Now, we no longer have to compare ourselves to other countries, just the neighboring school district, to see what we are or are not doing right. Do it right and you make Adequate Yearly Progress. Miss the target and you don't make AYP.

School officials have been saying for years the law is flawed and, as the 100 proficiency rate deadline quickly approaches, the cacophony about it is reaching a crescendo that includes the U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan. In a recent interview, Duncan called NCLB "fundamentally flawed."

"It is far too punitive, it is far too prescriptive, top down from Washington," he said. "It led to a dumbing down of standards in states around the country, and it led to a narrowing of the curriculum. At a time when we have to get better, faster educationally than ever before, when many other countries are out-educating us, we can't afford to have the federal law, the law of the land, have so many perverse incentives and disincentives."

The Obama administration 18 months ago asked Congress to revamp NCLB, to no avail. And now Duncan is allowing states to ask for waivers of the 100-percent proficiency. Michigan is one of them. State Superintendent Mike Flanagan is seeking a 10-year extension based on a change in the cut scores for the state's standardized testing. Flanagan and local school officials are already warning that the MEAP scores will be down — some have used the word dramatic — next year. That means even more schools will not make AYP.

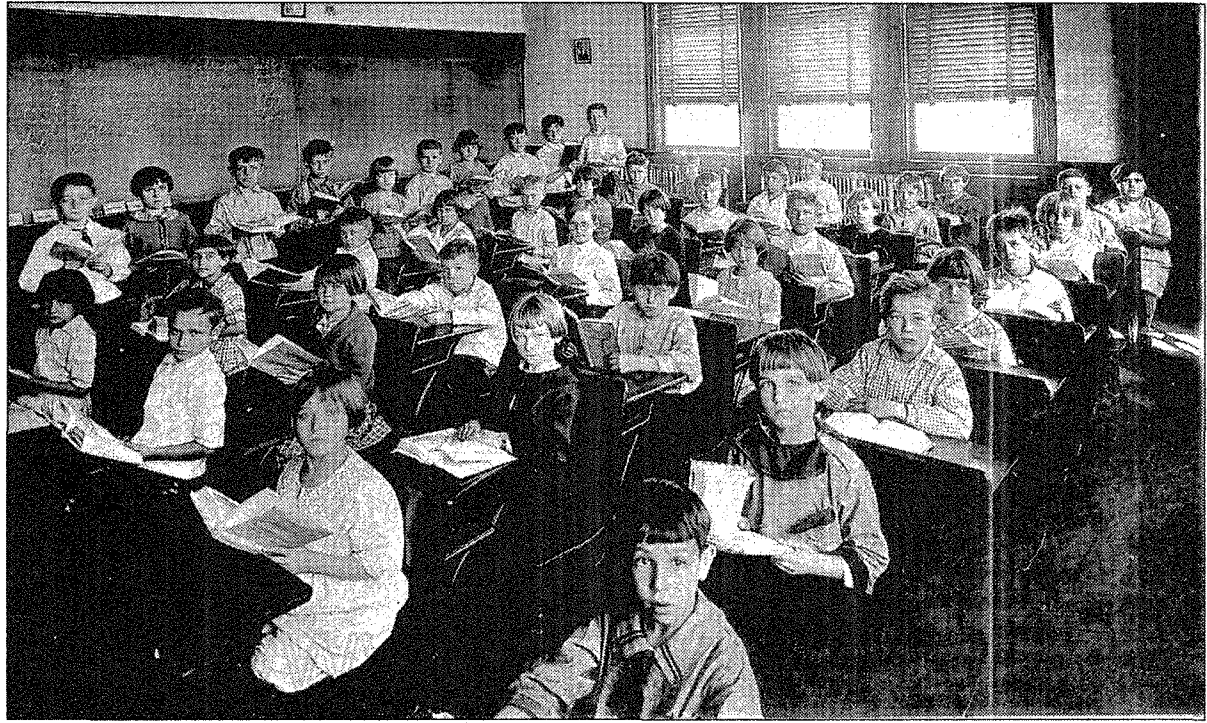
Duncan hit the nail on the head when he pointed out that with AYP, if one child in one subgroup doesn't show progress, the entire school is treated as a failure like a school that has 1,000 students not making it. Schools that have outstanding education programs can be labeled failures because of it.

Americans are driven to be the best in the world, and we have a hard time accepting the fact that in education we are average. We see the educational systems in China and Japan as better than ours, overlooking the fact that all levels of education in America — from K-12 up to a university doctorate — are available to all students, not a select few.

It is apparent NCLB needs fine-tuning. Holding the educational system accountable is good idea, but the law needs to be applied equally. If one district must include subgroups in looking at AYP, all districts must. We also need to celebrate the successes along with acknowledging the failures.

We urge Congress to set aside politics and do what's right for our children. Our educational system may not be perfect, but it allows our students to be what they want to be. There has been progress with NCLB, but the focus has shifted to meeting a mandated threshold. Students will continue to learn, but everyone has to be on the same page with how they learn. Yes, failure is not acceptable, but do we really want to continue to label our children failures?

We don't. Do you?



The face of education from the appearance of the classroom to what is taught in it has changed dramatically as schools work to improve achievement and meet the proficiency requirements of the No Child Left Behind law. See "Our Views" at left.

LETTERS

AYP is 'ridiculous'

AYP testing and proficiency requirements are ridiculous.

A mandate for 100 percent proficiency by 2014 contradicts reality, there is no such thing as perfection! And standardized tests might provide a reflection of already known demographic data, too late to have any value.

Punishment as the solution is reflective of turn of the century management behaviors for unskilled manual labor. Punishment for failure to exceed these ridiculous "standards" will just make matters worse — the cheating in Atlanta schools is a prime example.

Continued reliance on these broadly proven failures to "reform" schools and provide accountability hint at the unwillingness of those who hold the purse strings to embrace strategies that work. Fear of change or upsetting the apple cart is no doubt the root of this unwillingness.

We could make progress if real change were embraced. Change such as:

- Curriculum development and implementation at the building level.
- Curriculum and assessment of learning progress focused on an individual student's strengths.
- Older students teaching younger students.
- End the use of the Carnegie Unit (AKA seat time) for earning credit.
- Incorporate the community, including parents, in the school through meaningful project-based

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

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

E-mail: smason@hometownlife.com.

Read or comment online: www.hometownlife.com

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

learning and internships.

- Provide honest alternative paths to teacher certification.
- Capital and operating funding distributed equally for each student.

Blaming special needs children and absences is acceptance of the status quo, excuses to mask the reality of our failure. What to do and how to do it is known. Ignorance and fear stand in the way.

And children pay the price.

Chuck Fellows
South Lyon

A wakeup call

On Aug. 2, the U.S. and the world witnessed the end of a congressional logjam over the debt ceiling which was a phony diversion from the real issues of jobs and economic stimulus.

The lengthy crisis was created and manipulated by 80-plus new Republican members of the House of

Representatives. These half-educated ideologues elected by corporate dollars and Tea Party fanatics threatened to cut Social Security and other dire consequences. Thus the our nation was saved from default, but the poor and middle class will suffer even more in the future.

President Obama could/should have been more involved and combative.

He is a knowledgeable, pragmatic, experienced politician, but is naive and conciliatory at times. Most Democrats fought hard but could not defeat irrational people who, while quoting and interpreting the Constitution to fit their agendas, paid more allegiance to Grover Norquist's pledge to never raise taxes. The guiding principle of many extreme right-wing Republicans was and is "no compromise." Congress is now under the control of persons who do not behave in a civil, coherent, legal or ethical manner.

What happened Aug. 2 must be a wakeup call for all concerned citizens. It is imperative that voters with moderate views be involved, active and as passionate and organized as they were in the 2008 election, when Barack Obama was elected president. Many voters neglected to participate in the 2010 mid-term elections. Contact and support representatives with your ideas, time and money. Let's begin NOW to battle these know nothings!

Hannah Provence Donigan
Commerce

GUEST COLUMN

Shared sacrifice must begin

By Carl Levin
Guest Columnist

The Senate passed legislation to increase the debt ceiling and avoid a catastrophic default on our national debt while reducing the deficit. To say that this legislation was not ideal is truly an understatement.

The notion that our deficit problem can be solved solely by cutting spending, as this legislation does, ignores the fact that unwise tax cuts for the wealthy and egregious tax loopholes are significant culprits in our fiscal crisis. I believe too many members of

Congress are influenced by an ideology so extreme that they promised to wreak economic havoc if they did not get their way. "No additional revenues" became the battle cry, an approach that prevented the balanced deficit reduction that the American people rightly support.

But no public policy exists in a vacuum. Despite its many flaws, this legislation had to pass.

The choice we faced was between a faulty piece of legislation, on the one hand, and severe damage to our economy and even greater joblessness on the other. Had it not passed, the United States, the globe's pre-eminent economic power, would have defaulted on its obligations to senior citizens, students and veterans, as well as to those who have invested in our country by the pur-

chase of our bonds and Treasury notes.

Despite this bill's imbalance in focusing solely on spending cuts, it does contain a mechanism that can force acceptance of what too many of my colleagues have refused to accept: the reality that revenue must be a part of real deficit reduction.

I have supported common sense steps to address the failure to include more revenue and promote shared sacrifice: rolling back unnecessary tax cuts for the wealthiest among us; the end of tax breaks for the highly profitable oil companies; closing loopholes that now allow tax dodgers to hide income and assets in overseas tax havens to avoid the taxes they rightly owe; and an end to tax breaks that let highly paid hedge fund managers pay taxes at a lower rate than their employees.

So far, too many have denied the need for these changes. But under this legislation, we will face a stark choice: We must agree before the end of this year to deficit reduction of at least \$1.2 trillion over 10 years or stand by as an automatic budget cut kicks in to accomplish that goal.

A bipartisan joint committee of 12 members of Congress will meet and develop a deficit-reduction plan to avoid those automatic cuts. That joint committee will have broad powers to review and propose changes to spending and to the tax code and to add revenues. Revenues will finally be back on the table.

Meeting the \$1.2 trillion goal will not be easy, but it is achievable — if those who have so far been unwilling to compromise can recognize that revenue must be part of the

equation. Nobody should be eager for those automatic cuts to take effect. Many would be unacceptably painful and damaging. But the very idea of those automatic cuts is that they are so unacceptable that few of us will want to see them enacted, and most of us will be willing to compromise in order to avoid them.

Congress has used this approach before. In 1985, we passed Gramm-Rudman-Hollings, which set forth specific deficit targets and required cuts if those targets weren't met. Under that law, in 1990, when facing the possibility of unacceptable cuts in important programs, President Bush and bipartisan leaders in Congress adopted a balanced deficit-reduction plan that included significant new revenues.

Now, under the legislation we have just approved, the members of the joint committee must truly be willing to lead, to put aside rigid ideology, if we are to avoid triggering unacceptable cuts.

It is my hope that we have reached the high tide of an ideological movement that has sought to hold tax cuts for the wealthy sacred, while imposing increasingly draconian cuts on American families, and threatened economic calamity if that movement did not get its way. The era of slashing programs that help middle-class Americans, with no shared sacrifice by the wealthiest among us, must end, and give way to an era in which fairness and balance guide our efforts. Passing this legislation hopefully will drive us to make that transition.

Carl Levin is the senior U.S. senator from Michigan.

WESTLAND
OBSERVER
A GANNETT COMPANY

Sue Mason,
Community Editor
Susan Rosiek,
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Grace Perry,
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Scottish Society hosts fundraiser

The Scottish American Society of Michigan will host a fun fall Ceilidh (pronounced kay-lee) on Sunday, Sept. 18, from 3-7 p.m. at the Commonwealth Club, 30088 Dequindre, in Warren.

Partial proceeds from the third annual fundraising event by the group will go to benefit the Commonwealth Club in Warren.

The Ceilidh will feature a traditional Fish Fry Meal with mushy peas, chips (fries), and coleslaw, plus great entertainment including The Alma College Pipe Band, Highland Dancers, Tir Na N'og Irish Dancers, Raggle Taggle Band, and more.

Tickets are \$20 per person or \$15 for kids 10 and under. Kids 4 and under are free. Seating is limited to 160. Cut-off for tickets is Thursday, Sept. 15.

No tickets will be sold at the door. For more ticket information, please visit www.scotsofmichigan.com or send e-mail to scotsofmi@yahoo.com.

"Last year's Ceilidh was incredible and this year's event will be even better, and all for a good cause," says Franklin Dohanyos, Executive Director of the Scottish American Society of Michigan. "The Commonwealth Club has been a great home for all people from the U.K. and of English, Scottish, Irish, Cornish, and Welsh heritage. Like the last two years, this event will sell out very quickly."

The Scottish American Society of Michigan is a benevolent organization whose goal is to preserve and further Scottish heritage and culture throughout Michigan, as well as to help organizations and individuals in need. For more information about joining the group, visit www.scotsofmichigan.com.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

BASEBALL FUNDRAISER

Time/Date: Saturday, Sept. 17
Location: The Sports Venue, 6327 Middlebelt, Garden City
Details: Two all-day fundraisers are being held at the Sports Venue to support Garden City High School baseball program. Ten percent those days' sales go directly to the program. The money will be used to help redo the baseball field.
Contact: For more information, call Holly at (734) 516-3652.

DIABETES DAY

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 17
Location: The Community Education Room at the Westland Specialty Center, 35600 Central City Parkway, Westland
Details: Garden City Hospital is presenting its 19th annual Diabetes Day. The program includes updates on healthy food choices, discussions about how to detect problems, the latest information from specialists, diabetes product displays, door prizes, giveaways, and other surprises. A light breakfast and lunch will be provided. The cost is \$20 per person and \$30 for two people. Program registration begins at 8:45 a.m. Reservations are encouraged.
Contact: For more information, contact Diabetes Education at (734) 458-4330.

COUGAR CROPS

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday Oct. 1
Location: Cafeteria of Garden City High School, 6100 Middlebelt, north of Ford, Garden City
Details: The GC Cougars Crop 4 Sports is holding a 12-hour cropping event to raise funds for the baseball fields and improvements. The cost is \$25 and includes breakfast, lunch and dinner. There will be raffle baskets, ven-

dors and mini workshops. New to scrapbooking? There will be experienced scrappers there to help, and Cricut, BigShot and tools to use. Save your seat by sending a check or money order made to GCHS, with Crop 4 Sports in memo line, to Garden City High School, 6100 Middlebelt, Garden City, MI, 48135
Contact: For questions, send an e-mail to Specialprojects4gcsports@yahoo.com or call (734) 612-5274.

MEN'S HEALTH SCREENING

Time/Date: 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 24
Location: The lower level classrooms of the Allan Breakie Medical Office Building on the campus of at Garden City Hospital, 6255 Inkster Road, Garden City
Details: September is Prostate Cancer Awareness Month, and Garden City Hospital is sponsoring its annual Men's Health Event, which focuses on healthy living and preventing and detecting prostate cancer. The screening is for men between the ages of 40 and 70, those older than 35 with a family history of prostate cancer or who are of African American or Hispanic descent. Exams will be provided by Dr. Gregory Weigler, the hospital's expert physician who is board certified in Urology, and staff. The cost is \$10 (cash only), which includes a prostate exam and laboratory tests (PSA, Cholesterol, Testosterone). Appointments are necessary.
Contact: Call (734) 458-4330 to schedule an appointment.

NEW RECRUITS

Time/Date: 11 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 17
Location: Naval Reserve Center 1620 E. Saginaw, Lansing
Details: United States Division 094 of the USNSCC in Lansing is accepting new members, youth age 11-17, to become Naval Sea Cadets. Orientation meeting on how to become a Sea Cadet will be held at the Naval Reserve Center in Lansing. A parent must be present to attend the orientation.
Contact: Call instructor Randy Grove at (517) 663-3461 or by e-mail at mkyv2@aol.com to reserve a spot.

GRIEF SUPPORT

Time/Date: 6-7:30 p.m. first and third Tuesday of the month

Location: Compassionate Care Hospice, 5730 Lilley, Suite A, Canton

Details: Compassionate Care Hospice conducts an ongoing grief support group, The Grief Journey, for anyone grieving the loss of a loved one. The goal of the group is to provide support and education on the grief process. There is no charge.

Contact: For information, contact Ann Christensen, Compassionate Care Hospice Bereavement Coordinator at (888) 983-9050.

INDOOR FLEA MARKET

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, Oct. 14
Location: Eton Senior Center, 4900 Pardee, Dearborn Heights
Details: Itching to make money? The Eton Senior Center is currently in search of people to take part in their indoor flea market. The cost to rent an eight-foot table is \$15. Sellers are responsible for pricing and selling all of your items, the center will advertise the sale. All proceeds are kept by the seller. Table position will be based on first come basis. Crafters and vendors are welcome. Registration for a table can be made at the Eton Senior Center. Deadline for table rentals is Friday, Sept. 23. Proceeds will go towards the Eton Senior Center Building Fund.
Contact: For more information, call (313) 277-7765.

CLASS REUNION

Time/Date: Saturday, Oct. 15
Details: Garden City High School Class of 1986 is holding a 25-year reunion. E-mail Trish First (Patty Buggy) for more information at pm2b2005@yahoo.com or contact Kristy Hickson (Roberts) on Facebook.

CAR SHOW

Time/Date: 5-8 p.m. every Thursday evening, now through Sept. 29
Location: American Legion Post 32, 9318 Newburgh Road, just south of Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia
Details: In addition to a variety of cars on display, there will be dinners will be served inside as well as grilled items like hot dogs, hamburgers and sloppy joes outside. There also is a DJ, 50/50 raffle and a bake sale hosted by the American Legion Riders. Everyone is welcome.

HIGHER ROCK CAFE

Time/Date: 7:30 p.m. second and fourth Fridays of the month.

Location: Wayne-Westland Salvation Army, 2300 Venoy, south of Palmer, Westland.

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

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

CRAFT SHOWS

ST. THEODORE

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 22

Location: St. Theodore Parish, 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland

Details: St. Theodore's CCW is looking for vendors for their fall craft show. Table rental is \$25.

Contact: all Mary at 734-425-4421 (voicemail #10)

ST. SEBASTIAN SCHOOL

Time/Date: Saturday, Oct. 15

Location: William Brennan Activity Center, 20700 Colgate Dearborn Heights

Details: Vendors are needed for the St. Sebastian Catholic School's vendor show. Eight-foot table rental is \$25 and \$45, electricity \$5.

Contact: For more information, call Michelle at (313) 562-2835.

BIZARRE BAZAAR

Time/Date: Saturday, Oct. 22

Location: First United Methodist Church of Northville, 777 W. Eight Mile, Northville

Details: Crafters, vendors, and entrepreneurs are being sought for a Bizarre Bazaar. Don't miss the opportunity to showcase your talents and products to hundreds of local customers and support Village Banking. Grow your business and help women in desperately poor countries start a business with a micro-loan from a Village Bank you helped create by participating in Bizarre Bazaar. Reasonable entry fee, friendly community atmosphere and a great cause. For details and to reserve a space, go to furnc-northville.org/#/missions-and-service.

Contact: Send an e-mail to furnc-bazaar@gmail.com, find it on Facebook, or call (248) 446-8175.



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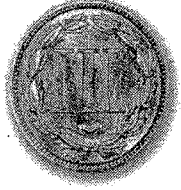
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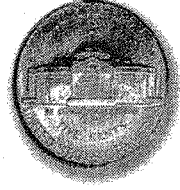
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Late PK save boosts Spartans



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Stevenson's Jeremy Kozler (6) steps in front of Churchill's Evan Schweizer to control the ball during Monday's boys soccer opener.

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

With 12:29 left in the match and trying to protect a 2-1 lead, Livonia Stevenson goalkeeper Zach Verant had many thoughts going through his head while facing a penalty kick attempt by Livonia Churchill's Evan Schweizer.

"I just tried to read him to see what side he was going to — hope you just get lucky and he puts it in the right spot to save it," the junior said. "That's all you can really do is hope and pray, and go the right way."

Verant's sprawling save near the right post helped preserve the one-goal margin as the host Spartans held off the rival Chargers in the 2011 season opener for both teams.

"This time I saw him he was looking left, so I knew he was going right the whole time," Verant said. "I just went right and got a piece of it."

Verant, who stands only 5-foot-5, wasn't expecting a shot to be placed over his head.

"Kids don't usually go high because they're afraid to miss a PK," he added.

As he did last season, Verant will split time in goal with senior John Boudreau.

"The penalty kick was obviously a difference maker," Stevenson coach Lars Richters said. "That (save) was huge for us, but I thought he (Verant) stepped up and played well in the flow of play also. Technically he's a sound goalkeeper and he's courageous and confident. We have two capable goalkeepers and I'm really thrilled what Zach did tonight."

Richters also had to be thrilled with the play of junior forward Zack Atwood, who set up both of Stevenson's first-half goals after Churchill's Austin Henson popped a shot into the upper right corner to open the scoring

just 4:19 into the match. (Senior defender Bryan Barnum drew the assist.)

But just 7:36 later, John D'Agostino made it 1-1 and Jeff Thomas, a senior transfer from Churchill of all places, scored what proved to be the game-winner with 21:10 remaining in the first half.

"We had to front him (Atwood) on the throws," Churchill coach Reid Friedrichs said. "He was just a handful. When any one player can draw two players, it can tend to open up other areas. That's how their first goal happened. They (Stevenson) played well, and we're sad to lose because we were hoping for something better, that's for sure."

Despite the missed second-half PK, Churchill carried the play for much of the second half with the best chance coming with just over 20 minutes to go when Ryan Kobylarz slid a shot just wide-

Please see SPARTANS, B3

Indians sign Mr. Baseball

Ohio State's loss is the Cleveland Indians' gain as Westland's Eric Haase, Michigan's Mr. Baseball from Dearborn Divine Child High, recently signed a professional baseball contract worth an estimated \$580,000.

The 5-foot-11, 190-pound catcher, third baseman and pitcher, who helped the Falcons to a pair of Division 2 state championships (2008 and 2010), had signed an NCAA letter-of-intent last November to play for the Buckeyes before going in the seventh round in June of the Major League Amateur Draft.

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

He also owns career records at DC for hits, doubles, runs scored, RBI and plate appearances, along with 17 total pitching wins.

Instead of heading to Columbus, Haase will report shortly to Good-year, Ariz., the Indians spring training site, for the fall instructional league.

Haase attended Graham Elementary and Stevenson Middle School in Wayne-Westland before enrolling at Divine Child.

"Eric has a tremendous skill set and combines that with an outstanding work ethic," Divine Child coach Tony DeMare said.

Lady Ocelots bringing grit to workplace

By Ed Wright
Observer Staff Writer

The most fitting symbol for this season's Schoolcraft College women's soccer team would probably be a shiny metal lunch bucket.

Along with a relentless appetite for success, the Ocelots are blessed with a gritty, get-the-job-done attitude.

"I love this team's blue-collar mentality," said Schoolcraft coach Deepak Shivraman, whose team is ranked 10th in the National Soccer Coaches Association of America's NJCAA Division pre-season poll. "We don't have any superstars, but we have a group of players who work hard for each other every practice and every game. It's a pleasure to work with this group because of its work ethic."

The Ocelots' success won't be the result of sweat equity alone. They also possess some serious talent.

"Possession-wise, we're a pretty skilled team," Shivraman noted. "We just have to figure out how to unlock some goals after losing our top two scorers from last year's team."

Schoolcraft returns five players from last year's highly-accomplished 17-4-1 unit that lost just two regular-season games and finished with a No. 4 national ranking.

A trio of sophomores — Renee Boudreau and Ashley Welch (both Livonia Stevenson grads), along with Lindsay McMullen (Livonia Churchill) — have earned tri-captain responsibilities.

"Renee can play several positions and play them all well," said Shivraman. "She's very athletic and gained a lot of attention from coaches at last year's national tournament."

"Ashley is a very physical midfielder and she is gifted with a lot of skills. Lindsay's work ethic is incredible. All three captains play

Please see SOCCER, B2



2-step routine

Franklin's Mike Iacoban (left) and Garden City's Toyosi Kuforiji (right) get tangled up in the midfield during Monday's non-league encounter. The two teams battled to a 1-1 draw. See more boys soccer on page B7?

OBSERVER
STAFF PHOTO

S'craft banks on its foreign legion

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

The makeup of this year's Schoolcraft College men's soccer team has the distinct look of a United Nations meeting.

That's because veteran coach Rick Larson, who is coming off a 17-4-1 season and a runner-up finish in the NJCAA Region XII tournament, has brought in players from three different conti-

nents including England, Venezuela and Canada.

"It's been great," Larson said. "I think the multicultural flavor allows us to play a versatile style of soccer. You have the area kids mixed in with players who have come here and are serious about the game, and it makes for a unique environment."

Schoolcraft opens its season Saturday on the road against Region XII nemesis and 2011

NJCAA National Tourney runner-up Cincinnati State before coming back home for a 10 a.m. Sunday match against South Suburban (Ill.).

The Ocelots, gunning for their sixth straight MCCA title, are led by second-team NJCAA All-America Marco Lobo, a native of Caracas, Venezuela.

"He (Lobo) is an amazingly

Please see SCHOOLCRAFT, B4

Stevenson spikers rule at East Lansing

Livonia Stevenson is off and running in the 2011 girls volleyball campaign.

The Spartans, getting 48 kills on the day from sophomore Katie VOLLEYBALL Tomicic and 46 assist-to-kills from senior Kelly Vellucci, captured Friday's East Lansing Invitational by going 6-0 on the capped by a 25-17, 25-20 win over Pewamo Westphalia.

Tomicic also had 23 digs and 12 ace serves, while Vellucci chipped in with 33 kills and 10 aces.

Other Stevenson standouts included Morgan Copperstone (20 kills), Allie Koestering (57 assists, six aces), Jordan York (22 digs, four aces) and Holly Mossioian (14 digs, four aces).

Stevenson reached the finals with wins over Fowlerville (25-12, 25-12 and 25-19, 25-19); Lansing

Catholic (25-8, 25-8), Lansing Eastern (25-13, 25-10) and Pewamo (25-13, 25-23).

Chargers finish 4-1

It turned out to be a productive opening day for Livonia Churchill as the Chargers finished 4-1 Saturday in the Grand Haven Invitational.

The host Buccaneers ousted Churchill in three sets, 24-26,

25-22, 15-11, in the semifinals. Defending Class B state champion Fruitport then eliminated Grand Haven for the title.

"It was a great first tournament," Churchill coach Mark Grenier said with an exclamation point. "We came away with a lot of confidence that we can play with anyone."

Please see SPIKERS, B4

O&E tourney

Registration remains 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.

Visit www.golflivonia.com or call (248) 476-4493.

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL CAPSULE OUTLOOK

LIVONIA CHURCHILL
Head coach: Mark Grenier, ninth year.
League affiliation: KLAAS Kensington Conference (South Division).
Last year's overall record: 48-7.

Titles won last year: Class A district, regional and KLAAS South champions.
Notable losses to graduation: Cory Urbats (first-team All-Area); Kara Kempinski (first-team All-Area); Nicole Kempinski, Megan Miller.



Emily Norscia Churchill

Leading returnees: Emily Norscia, 6-0 Jr. OH (first-team All-Area); Erin Menard, 6-0 Sr. MH; Jackie Tolles, 5-6 Sr. libero; Marissa Pomaville, 6-0 Jr. MH; Audrey Durocher, 5-8 Jr. OH; Krystyn Niescier, 5-6 Jr. DS.

Promising newcomers: Courtney Pietruska, 5-8 Jr. OH-DS; Julia Szuba, 5-6 Jr. DS-setter; Katie Chartrand, 5-8 Jr. setter; Emily Ehr, 5-7 Jr. setter; Casey Bias, 5-6 Jr. DS-OH; Olivia Hiser, 5-7 Jr. OH; McKenzie Hamill, 5-9 Soph. OH.

Grenier's 2011 outlook: "We bring back five starters from last year's state quarterfinalist team and the goal is to be competitive within our division, conference and association, and I think we will do just that. However, we have our work cut out for us with the likes of Canton and (Livonia) Stevenson."

LIVONIA FRANKLIN
Head coach: Linda Jimenez, sixth year.
League affiliation: KLAAS Kensington Conference (South Division).
Last year's overall record: 10-30-2.

Notable losses to graduation: Chelsea Williams (third-team All-Area); Amanda Borioe, Danielle Wiecezorek, Kelsey Boyd.
Leading returnees: Kathryn Chinavare, 5-8 Sr. OH; Racquel Garza, 5-5 Sr. DS; Rachael Kapchus, 5-2 Sr. setter; Nicole Williamson, 5-4 Sr. libero; Sarah Bo, 5-3 Sr. DS; Jackie Shields, 5-8 Sr. OH; Andrea Thompson, 5-8 Sr. OH; Afton DeWyse, 5-7 Jr. DS; Maggie Leins, 5-8 Jr. OH; Mackenzie Lukas, 5-5 Jr. OH; Kelly O'Brien, 5-8 Jr. OH.

Promising newcomers: Madison Osborn, 5-6 Jr. OH; Nicole Jarecki, 5-2 Jr. DS; Brittany Fowler, 5-6 Jr. OH; Tori Dubuck, 5-7 Jr. OH; Julie Madowski, 5-8 Soph. setter.

Jimenez's 2011 outlook: "With eleven returnees, we are much improved. I am proud of the hard work demonstrated over the summer. Our offense has a lot of question marks. The hitters who are aggressive, mentally tough, and those willing to take risks will be the starters. We are still searching for the right combinations. Our weakness is our spiking and timing of the block. Our strength is our defense. However, we have a determined group of seniors and great team unity so anything is possible. I love this team because they are such a pleasure to coach."

LIVONIA STEVENSON
Head coach: Kelly Graham, 18th year.
League affiliation: KLAAS Kensington Conference (Central Division).
Last year's overall record: 20-18-4.

Notable losses to graduation: Reina Tyl (second-team All-Area); Monika Rudis (second-team All-Area); Lauren Corbeil, Catherine Licata, Kristen Balhorn.
Leading returnees: Kelly Vellucci, 5-11 Sr. OH-setter; Jordan York, 5-6 Sr. libero; Katie Tomasic, 6-0 Soph. OH; Holly Mossioian, 5-4 Jr. DS; Allie Koestering, 5-5 Jr. setter.

Promising newcomers: Mara Murray, 5-10 Jr. OH; Katie Cole, 5-9 Jr. MB; Kyla Hunter, 5-10 Jr. OH; Annie MacDonald, 5-6 Jr. DS; Morgan Copperstone, 5-9 Jr. OH; Kelsey Szabo, 5-7 Jr. DS; Abby Whitehead, 5-10 Soph. MB.

Graham's 2011 outlook: "I am very excited about the upcoming season. We are young and will feed off of the experience of our seniors. Both (Kelly) Vellucci and (Jordan) York have a lot of experience and will be great leaders for the younger girls. With (Katie) Tomasic, (Holly) Mossioian and (Allie) Koestering having had varsity experience, it will make the transition to varsity play a lot easier for them. The group of girls who are new to the varsity level all have talent to be very competitive, and if we all stay healthy, it will be exciting to see what they can do."

WESTLAND JOHN GLENN
Head coach: Sharon Hubbard, second year.
League affiliation: KLAAS Kensington Conference (South Division).
Last year's overall record: 23-17-5.

Titles won last year: Class A district champions.
Notable losses to graduation: Hallie Baker (first-team All-Area); Brooke Zywick (first-team All-Area); Brandi Holbrook, Allie Murphy.

Leading returnees: Jordyn Coniam, 5-10 Sr. OH (captain); Claire Truskowski, 5-7 Jr. setter; Sarah Headrick, 5-6 Sr. libero; Brooklyn Holbrook, 5-10 Sr. MB; Katelyn McNally, 5-9 Sr. OH; Nicole Quaine, 5-4 Sr. DS.

Promising newcomers: Emily McNally, 5-10 Jr. MH.
Hubbard's 2011 outlook: "I'm really looking for Jordyn (Coniam) and Brooklyn (Holbrook) to be my powerhouses this season. I'll expect great leadership from the, both on-and-off of the court. I believe they will both have successful seasons. I'm also looking for Claire Truskowski to take charge and to run the offense aggressively. Sarah Headrick has some big shoes to fill as she moves from the 2010 co-setter to the libero position. She's excited and motivated, and I'm really looking forward to watching her grow. The team has a new dynamic this season. They are a tight-knit group, they really look out for each other and they know that they're only as strong as their weakest link. They've been working hard in the preseason, but most importantly, they've been working together. I'm anticipating some really some really great things from this squad. Of course, it's always our goal to play well and to be competitive, but this season, I think we'll be ready to really challenge some of the teams (Churchill) we've struggled with in the past."

WAYNE MEMORIAL
Head coach: Robert Kelsch, first year.
League affiliation: KLAAS Kensington Conference (South Division).
Last year's overall record: 21-31-4.
Notable losses to graduation:

Alyssa Florn, Amanda Chalmers.

Leading returnees: Katie Horton, 6-1 Jr. MH (first-team All-Area); Keri Horton, 6-0 Sr. MB (fourth-team All-Area); Shelby Hooper, 5-9 Sr. OH; Ciara Frazier, 5-7 Sr. all-around.

Promising newcomers: Danielle Robbins, 5-6 Soph., all-around.

Kelsch's 2011 outlook: "Things look promising. Our weak spot is our setting and that could be our downfall. We have somebody new to the position. I'm expecting the Hortons to lead us to a district title. That's our goal. Katie (Horton) has more consistency in her hitting. We have a roster of 10, but all six of our starters are going to have to play all the way around."

LIVONIA LADYWOOD
Head coach: Erin Craggs, 11th year.
League affiliation: Catholic League (Central Division).
Last year's overall record: 39-22.

Titles won last year: Class B district and regional champs.
Notable losses to graduation: Katy Rooney (first-team All-Area); Caitlin McClorey, Shannon Hogg.

Leading returnees: Jenny Rhodes, 5-8 Sr. OH (first-team All-Area); Kenzie Kettner, 5-7 Sr. OH (second-team All-Area); Cheyenne Woodall, 5-11 Sr. MH; Kristi Aurand, 5-5 Sr. libero; Madison Quinn, 5-5 Sr. DS; Olivia Quinn, 6-0 Jr. MH-RSH; Allison Malick, 5-10 Jr. OH-RSH; Kiley Gorski, 5-10 Jr. MH-RSH.

Promising newcomers: Andria Gielti, 5-8 Jr. OH; Tori Williams, 5-6 Jr. OH; Izzabella Porada, 5-5 Fr. DS-libero.

Craggs' 2011 outlook: "We return six seniors who have all been instrumental in our past years successes. We will rely heavily on this experience. Overall, we will be very strong defensively and will rely on some new faces offensively. We definitely have the pieces in place to have another successful season."

LIVONIA CLARENCEVILLE
Head coach: Wendy Merschman, seventh year.
League affiliation: Independent.
Last year's overall record: 12-21-3.

Notable losses to graduation: Joanna Burling, Isabella Sidon, Brittney Tallman, Kellie Ankiel, Suzy Kilpatrick.
Leading returnees: Ashley Murphy, 5-11 Jr. OH (fourth-team All-Area); 5-10 Angela McAlpine, Sr. OH; 5-10 Tonya Vernier, Jr. MH; Ayanna Buckley, 5-11 Soph. MH; Nicole Kurdziel, 5-6 Soph. setter; Jodi Ankiel, 5-7 Jr. DS; Brittney Olds, 5-1 Sr. libero.

Promising newcomers: Christine Hurmiz, 5-0 Soph. DS; Lauren Katz, 5-9 Sr. OH; Sadie Zachos, 5-6 Sr. DS.

Merschman's 2011 outlook: "We are so excited for the season to start and see where it will take us. I have high expectations for this group of girls. We have a core group of returning players with some athletic underclassman ready to step up. We know we will have some challenges this year defensively, but this year's squad enters this season with a lot of determination."



Katie Horton Wayne

LUTHERAN HIGH WESTLAND
Head coach: Kevin Wade, sixth year.
League affiliation: Michigan Independent Athletic Conference (Blue Division).
Last year's overall record: 17-27.

Notable losses to graduation: Jamilyn Preece, Alyssa Shirkey, Jacqui Schwartz.
Leading returnees: Amanda Terranella, 6-0 Sr. MH (fourth-team All-Area); All-MIAC; Taylor Wiemer, 5-5 Sr. libero; Hannah Conley, 5-7 Jr. OH; Marisa Hahn, 5-7 Sr. OH; Erica Killian, 5-0 Sr. setter; Leah Refenes, 5-9 OH-setter (out with ACL injury).

Promising newcomers: Shannon Abbott, 5-1 Jr. setter; Chandler Davenport, 5-5 Jr. DS; Aldreanna Fikes, 5-7 Jr. DS; Alissa Flury, 5-11 Jr. MH; Marcella Flury, 5-11 Jr. OH; Sam Roberts, 5-9 Jr. OH.

Wade's 2011 outlook: "Last year we took our lumps quite a bit with a lot of inexperience at the varsity level. With five returning seniors, all who started as juniors, we have a lot more experience for the juniors to learn from. We have a good mix of players who can play different positions, which gives us some flexibility in developing our lineups. We play in a very tough conference (Plymouth Christian in the Class D finals last year, Oakland Christian in the Final Four in 2009 and in the Final Four in 2009 and finals in 2008). We are in some very tough tournaments (Battle Creek St. Philip, Ladywood, UM-Deerborn) so we will definitely be tested come tournament time. Our main goal is to get better every day and to hopefully be playing our best volleyball come November."



Jenny Rhodes Ladywood

HURON VALLEY LUTHERAN
Head coach: Mike Dest, eighth year.
League affiliation: Michigan Independent Athletic Conference (White Division).
Last year's overall record: 17-15-3.

Titles won last year: MIAC Red champions.
Notable losses to graduation: Leah Miller (fourth-team All-Area), Paige Sharrow, Katie Nell.

Leading returnees: Allie Dest, 5-2 Sr. OH (first-team All-MIAC); Paige Schmidt, 5-8 Sr. setter (second-team All-MIAC); Lexus Medina, 5-11 Soph. MB (second-team All-MIAC); Dayna Schroeder, 5-10 Soph. MB.

Promising newcomers: Ana Gutierrez, 5-3 Jr. DS; Jenny Henkel, 5-5 Jr. DS; Alyssa Hanley, 5-10 Jr. OH; Madison Dest, 5-9 Fr. OH; Anne St. John, 5-8 Fr. Utility.

Dest's 2011 outlook: "We return four starters from last year's team that has some great floor experience. Our newcomers show some great potential. Our conference schedule is new this year, with teams like (Bloomfield Hills) Rooper and Southfield Christian, but we hope to be very competitive."

Trojans block Hazel Park in non-league encounter

Livonia Clarenceville is off to a 3-1-1 start in girls volleyball following a 25-20, 25-12, 25-16 triumph Tuesday at home over Hazel Park.

The Trojans were led by senior outside hitter **ANGELA McALPINE**, who finished with 10 kills and six digs.

Sophomore setter **Nicole Kurdziel**, adjusting to her new role, contributed 21 assist-to-kills.

Sophomore **Ayanna Buckley** chipped in with six kills, while junior **Tonya Vernier** added four kills and three blocks.

"We started out slow but things started to come together," Clarenceville coach **Wendy Merschman** said. "We need to make sure we keep intensity and play as a team."

Warriors reach semis

Amanda Terranella, a 6-foot senior middle hitter, recorded 47 total kills, eight solo blocks and 23 digs as Lutheran High Westland finished 3-1-1 in Saturday's Battle Creek St. Philip Tournament.

The Warriors captured their pool by defeating Fowler (25-12, 25-14)

and Hanover-Horton (25-17, 25-18), while splitting with Athens (22-25, 25-21).

In Gold Bracket quarterfinal, No. 5 seed Lutheran Westland ousted No. 4 seed Kalamazoo Central, 14-25, 25-19, 15-12, before losing to top seed Coldwater in the semifinals, 26-24, 12-25, 6-15.

"I am very pleased with our overall performance and the potential we possess," Lutheran Westland coach **Kevin Wade** said. "We competed and beat some very good teams. Even in the loss to Coldwater, we hung with them, but just got stuck a few times that ultimately led to our loss."

Marisa Hahn added 20 kills, eight aces and 31 digs, while Taylor Wiemer led the defense with 71 total digs. Alissa Flury and Alreanna Fikes combined for 32 kills.

Assist leaders included Erica Killian (73) and Shannon Abbott (32).

"We certainly want to build off our success from Saturday, but we do know that we cannot be satisfied with our showing if we are going to get better as the season goes on," Wade said.

THE WEEK AHEAD

PREP FOOTBALL

Thursday, Aug. 25
W.L. Northern at Churchill, 7 p.m.
Anchor Bay at John Glenn, 7 p.m.
Wayne at Brighton, 7 p.m.

Friday, Aug. 26
Cranbrook at Luth. Westland, 5 p.m.
Bradford Acad. at Clarenceville, 7 p.m.

Stevenson at Franklin, 7 p.m.

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

Thursday, Aug. 25
Huron Valley at Greenhills Inv., 9 a.m.

Saturday, Aug. 27
Portage Northern Inv., 8 a.m.
Ladywood Tournament, 8:30 a.m.

W.L. Central Invitational, 8:30 a.m.

Mich. Lutheran Quad, 9 a.m.

Oakland Christian Tourney, 9 a.m.

Carleton Airport Invitational, 9 a.m.

BOYS SOCCER

Thursday, Aug. 25
Redford Union at Wayne, 4 p.m.
Rooper at Luth. Westland, 4:30 p.m.

Wash. Christ. at Huron Valley, 5 p.m.

Stevenson at South Lyon, 5 p.m.

Friday, Aug. 26
Cranbrook at Luth. Westland, 3 p.m.

Belleville at John Glenn, 4 p.m.

Luth. W'sid at Luth. South, 4:30 p.m.

Stevenson at Farmington, 5:30 p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 27
John Glenn at Ypsi Lincoln, TBA.

BOYS & GIRLS X COUNTRY

Saturday, Aug. 27
South Lyon Inv. at Island Lake, 9 a.m.

GIRLS SWIMMING & DIVING

Saturday, Aug. 27

Kenzie Classic at Howell, 1 p.m.

GIRLS GOLF

Friday, Aug. 26
Grosse Ile Invitational at West Shore G&CC, 8:30 a.m.

BOYS TENNIS

Thursday, Aug. 25
Ply. Christian at Wayne, 4:30 p.m.

Friday, Aug. 26
Churchill at Harrison, 4 p.m.

Belleville at John Glenn, 4 p.m.

GIRLS FIELD HOCKEY

Thursday, Aug. 25
Ladywood at A.A. Skyline, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 27
Ladywood at Cranbrook, 11 a.m.

WOMEN'S COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL

Friday, Aug. 26
Schoolcraft at Ohio Kickoff Classic, TBA.

(UM-Deerborn Early Bird Classic)
Madonna vs. Shawnee St., 3 p.m.

Madonna vs. Trinity Christian, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 27
(UM-Deerborn Early Bird Classic)
Madonna vs. Mt. Vernon, 12:30 p.m.

Madonna vs. Spring Arbor, 2:30 p.m.

MEN'S COLLEGE SOCCER

Saturday, Aug. 27
Schoolcraft at Cincinnati State, 1 p.m.

Sunday, Aug. 28
S. Suburban at Schoolcraft, 10 a.m.

WOMEN'S COLLEGE SOCCER

Saturday, Aug. 27
Schoolcraft at Cincinnati State, 11 a.m.

Madonna at St. Xavier (Ill.), noon.

TBA - time to be announced.

SOCCER

Continued from page B1

with a nose-to-the-grindstone style that rubs off on everybody else."

Also returning are sophomore **Ashley Werner** (Stevenson), a solid outside defender and **Emily Marshall** (Belleville), who possesses "a lot of energy and speed" according to Shivrman.

A pair of freshmen from Churchill — **Megan Bauman** and **Kelly Twigg** — will handle the goal-keeping chores.

"Megan has good composure in net and is confident," said Shivrman. "Kelly can help in the net and on the field."

Four freshmen defenders will be looking to make an early mark: **Megan McDonald** (Churchill), **Rachael Eklund** (Utica Ford), **Jenna Williams** (Westland John Glenn) and **Anthoula Papioannau** (Riverview).

"Megan is very versatile; she can play in the back and at midfield," Shivrman said. "Rachael has stepped in by playing as a central defender.

She reads the game really well."

The Ocelots welcome a pair of incoming midfielders: **Lauren Badalamente** (Woodhaven) and **Emily Behnke** (Warren Tower).

"Lauren is a natural athlete and she's fearless," Shivrman said. "Emily is speedy and will provide a spark for us on the outside."

Providing a fresh scoring spark will be freshmen forwards **Alejandra Mesa** (Livonia Franklin), **Dawn Easton** (Brighton) and **Kayla Szado** (Churchill).

"Alejandra has a powerful shot and she's a hard worker," Shivrman said. "Dawn is very creative and can bend balls in, while Kayla has a lot of experience from playing at Churchill and she can help us score goals."

Sophomore **Sam Zerilla** (Mount Clemens Chippewa Valley) brings experience and great vision to the midfield, Shivrman concluded.

The Ocelots open the regular season Saturday at Cincinnati State.

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SCHOOLCRAFT

Continued from page B1

balanced player, a good defender and great passer of the ball who plays with a great air of confidence," Larson said. "He brings great consistency to the table and his teammates feed off of that."

Other returning starters include sophomore defender Juan Garcia, another Caracas native, along with Brent McIntosh, a sophomore midfielder from Rochester.

Larson also welcomed back with open arms two sophomores who were bit by the injury bug last year — midfielder Ryan LeMasters (Dexter) and forward Doug Beason (Northville).

"Doug was injured in the 11th game and he has a real good knack for scoring," Larson said. "Ryan separated both shoulders last year and we had to redshirt him. He was a starter on our 2009 (NJCAA) national tournament team."

Others who are expected to start on Saturday in sophomore defender Mario Teixeira (Ann Arbor Pioneer), freshman midfielder Johnathon Heslop (Spenny, more, England), freshman defender Adrian Tesh (Mississauga, Ontario) and freshman defender Tom Nevill (Notts, England).

The goalkeeping position is up for grabs between 6-foot-5 Scott

Schewfedt (London, Ontario), a sophomore transfer from Garden City Community College (Kan.) and freshman Tom Duquette (Novi).

Another Garden City CC transfer, sophomore Anthony Laurenco (Winnipeg, Manitoba) will help out in the midfield.

Other returnees include sophomore defender Phil Strachan (Livonia Clarenceville) and sophomore defender Juan Garcia (Caracas, Venezuela).

Among the other promising newcomers include freshmen Pat Smith, a midfielder from Livonia Stevenson; Ardit Dushkaj, a forward from Livonia Clarenceville; Nate Lightner, a defender from Northville; Tyler Koontz, a goalkeeper from Auburn Hills Avondale; Gino Pasquali, a winger from Utica Eisenhower; Damjan Stamenkovik, a sweeper from Clinton Township (currently injured); Sam Ellis-Stockley, a midfielder from Gloucester, England; and Carlos Izquierdo, a freshman midfielder from Caracas.

Depth shouldn't be a problem for the 2011 Ocelots. "When we first went to the NJCAAs (in 2009) we learned we had to be deep," Larson said. "Overall we're positioned well with some strong defenders, strong midfielders and some strong forwards."

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STAFF GRID PICKS

Week 1

Thursday, Aug. 25

West Bloomfield at Farmington, 7 p.m.
Seaholm at North Farmington, 7 p.m.
Edsel Ford at Thurston, 7 p.m.
Walled Lake Central at Canton, 7 p.m.
Walled Lake Northern at Churchill, 7 p.m.
Anchor Bay at John Glenn, 7 p.m.
Wayne at Brighton, 7 p.m.

Friday, Aug. 26

Cranbrook at Lutheran Westland, 5 p.m.
Bradford Academy at Clarenceville, 7 p.m.
Salem at Ann Arbor Huron, 7 p.m.
Detroit Western at Garden City, 7 p.m.
Redford Union at Romulus, 7 p.m.
Stevenson at Franklin, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 27

Plymouth vs. Monroe St. Mary CC (at EMU), 11 a.m.
Harrison vs. Cass Tech (at EMU), 8 p.m.

Wright

Farmington
Seaholm
Thurston
Canton
Northern
Anchor Bay
Brighton

Smith

West Bloomfield
North Farmington
Thurston
Canton
Churchill
John Glenn
Wayne

O'Meara

Farmington
Seaholm
Thurston
Canton
Churchill
John Glenn
Brighton

Emons

West Bloomfield
Seaholm
Thurston
Canton
Churchill
John Glenn
Brighton

Lutheran Westland
Clarenceville
Salem
Garden City
Union
Franklin

Lutheran Westland
Clarenceville
Salem
Garden City
Romulus
Stevenson

Cranbrook
Clarenceville
Huron
Garden City
Romulus
Franklin

Cranbrook
Clarenceville
Salem
Garden City
Romulus
Franklin

Plymouth
Harrison

Plymouth
Harrison

Plymouth
Harrison

Plymouth
Harrison

SPIKERS

Continued from page B1

In pool play, Churchill defeated Hudsonville (25-20, 25-23), Hudsonville Unity Christian (25-14, 25-23) and Jenison (14-25, 25-19, 15-5). The Chargers then ousted Whitehall in the quarterfinals, 25-20, 25-11.

Junior outside hitter Emily Norscia paced Churchill with 63 total kills and five blocks on the day followed by junior Marissa Pomaville (44 kills, eight blocks), senior Erin Menard (30 kills, six blocks) and sophomore McKenzie

Hamill (22 kills).

Senior libero Jackie Tolles paced the defense with 65 digs, while junior setter Katie Chartrand added 140 total assist-to-kills to go along with 30 digs.

Patriots go 1-5

Livonia Franklin opened its 2011 season Saturday by losing four-of-five matches in the Hartland Invitational, but Patriot coach Linda Jimenez was encouraged by her team's play.

"Despite the losses I was proud of the effort we put forth," she said. "Our goals were to play with tons of energy, serve

to locations, play tough defense and maintain a 'team' attitude. For the most part, we were able to do so."

The Patriots defeated Lake Fenton in their pool play opener (25-20, 24-26, 25-21) before losing to Walled Lake Northern (12-25, 16-25, 17-25), Lake Orion (13-25, 18-25, 16-25), Farmington Hills Harrison (17-25, 25-23, 18-25) and Lake Fenton (20-25, 21-25).

Setters Rachael Kapchus, a senior, and Julie Madowski, a sophomore, combined for 43 assist-to-kills and 10 service aces. Seniors Andrea Thompson and Jackie Shields

each recorded 10 kills, while junior Madison Osborn and senior libero Nicole Williamson added eight each.

Williamson led the defense with 46 digs followed by Madowski (14), along with seniors Raquel Garza and Sarah Bo (13 each).

Bo also added six aces. "We had two starters with other commitments leave the tourney early so we had to shuffle things around, but it allowed some of the younger players an opportunity to compete," Jimenez said. "We played some very good teams, which raised our level of play."

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Boys hoop tryouts

Tryouts for the seventh-grade AAU Livonia Rebels boys basketball team will be from noon to 2 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 28, at the Livonia Community Recreation Center (Main Gym No. 2), located at

15100 Hubbard (at Five Mile).
For more information, call Joe Jakacki at (734) 223-1070.

WYAA volleyball

The Westland Youth Athletic Association is seeking a volunteer to run its volleyball program.

If interested, call Don Haas at (734) 412-0640 (leave a message).

CYO gridders

The Livonia St. Edith Catholic Youth Organization program has immediate openings for those interested in playing football this fall (grades

three-eight).
For more information, call Steve Cooper at (248) 921-3772 or Jeff Sugg at (248) 921-3772.

Openings for grades four-eight also remain for volleyball (girls) and soccer (boys and girls) and cheer (girls).
For more information,

call John Michniak at (734) 732-5933.

Hickory Creek golf

Hickory Creek Golf Course, located at 3625 Napier Road (at Ford Road), in Superior Township, will stage a Ladies

Night Out "Margaritas on the Range from 6:30-8 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 25 (cost \$25) along with the Glow Golf & Fish Fry from 7:30-11:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 30.

For more information, visit TrainwithTami@yahoo.com; or call (734) 731-0238.

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Celebrating the naming of the of the Karen Colina Wilson Smithbauer Breast Care Center at Oakwood Southshore Medical Center are Joan Hennessey (from left), Carla O'Malley, Dolores Pfeffer, Patrick Smithbauer, Karen Colina Wilson Smithbauer, Rebecca Kaplar, Nancy Colina, Karen Mazo, John Colina, Debbie Dingell, Kathryn Chambers, John Daly, and Kimberly Pfeffer. In the back at right is Joe Diederich, executive vice-president and chief operating officer of Oakwood Healthcare Inc.

Oakwood celebrates naming of new breast care center

Oakwood Healthcare System recently celebrated the naming of the Karen Colina Wilson Smithbauer Breast Care Center at Oakwood Southshore Medical Center as a result of a \$500,000 gift for breast care equipment, staffing and community outreach.

Smithbauer, an eight-year breast cancer survivor and a business leader in southeast Michigan, founded the Karen Colina Wilson Foundation in 2007 with a focus on women's and children's causes. She is a member of the Oakwood Foundation Board and is the chair of Oakwood's Women's Advisory Committee, which was created to pave the way for transformational delivery of healthcare to women in southeastern Michigan.

She is also a board member at First Step, a domestic violence shelter and safe haven for victims of domestic abuse and sexual assault. Smithbauer also supports numerous other community and civic causes in the Downriver and western Wayne communities.

This transformational gift provides the lat-

est in programs and technology for prevention, early detection and timely treatment of cancer. Oakwood now offers advanced breast cancer screenings with a comprehensive array of cutting-edge technologies that allow women a one-stop service and provides a nurse navigator to support women through their journey.

The Karen Colina Wilson Smithbauer Breast Care Center provides digital mammography, which uses less radiation than film mammography and improves image storage, transmission and interpretation. The center has been awarded a three-year term of accreditation in digital mammography by the American College of Radiation. Smithbauer spoke of her experience and the reason behind her gift at the celebration.

"Women's health care can go to a higher level, and Oakwood can provide that Center that can meet the needs of women in every aspect of their care," she said. "These women need resources, they need to have people they can talk to, they need reassurance, and

they need to have whatever they need at that point in their life."

Carla O'Malley, executive director and president of the Oakwood Healthcare Foundation, praised Smithbauer for her continuous support and dedication to women's causes.

"Karen's interest in transformational leadership, her compassionate view of the world and desire to become involved for the 'greater good' makes her one of our most valued allies. We are honored to have her passionate voice representing women's causes," O'Malley said.

Breast cancer is the most common cancer among women in the United States, with one in every eight diagnosed each year. It is the second leading cause of cancer deaths in women. Regular screening is essential to early detection, with a 96 percent survival rate.

For more information about The Karen Colina Wilson Smithbauer Breast Care Center or Oakwood's Women's Healthcare initiatives, visit www.oakwood.org/foundation.

BUSINESS MILESTONES

BACK 2 SCHOOL

Time/Date: noon-3 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 27

Location: Westland Shopping Center, 55000 Warren Road, Westland

Details: Radio Disney AM 910 Detroit is hosting a family-friendly "Back 2 School" Celebration, powered by Westland Shopping Center in conjunction with Wayne-Westland Community Schools. Kids and families are invited to join the Radio Disney Road Crew for activities including a "Back 2 School" fashion show, performances from Wayne-Westland Community School groups, and free activity stations throughout the mall. The event will conclude with performances by "N.B.T." artists Tay Barton and Hollywood Ending, followed by an on-stage Q&A. Kids ages 16 and under can also stop by the Radio Disney AM 910 tent to register for the chance to win an electric guitar, autographed by Cody Simpson and Greyson Chance.

Contact: For more information visit www.radiodisney.com/detroit.

YOGA DAY

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 10

Location: Maxwell's Arts and Treasures, 32416 Industrial, north of Ford, Garden City

Details: The Yoga Association of Greater Detroit (YAGD) is sponsoring the all-day event, which includes a session on an unusual blend of Hatha Yoga, Vinyasa Yoga and Kundalini Yoga, the Iyengar tradition. Registration and check-in is 8:30-9 a.m. The cost for the morning session is \$27 (two classes) and afternoon is \$27 (two classes). All day is \$50. Lunch is noon-1:15 p.m. Pre-order a vegetarian lunch for \$10, bring a lunch or visit a nearby restaurant. Registration for the event can be done by calling YAGD vice-president Lynda Herman of Garden City at (734) 261-7589 or register at the door. Registration forms also are

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available at Maxwell's.

Contact: For more information, call Maxwell's at (734) 427-5300, Ext. 7, or send an e-mail to lyndamay45@yahoo.com.

DIABETES DAY

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 17

Location: Community Education Room at the Westland Specialty Center, 35600 Central City Parkway, Westland

Details: Garden City Hospital is presenting its 19th annual Diabetes Day. The program includes updates on healthy food choices, discussions about how to detect problems, the latest information from specialists, diabetes product displays, door prizes, giveaways, and other surprises. A light breakfast and lunch will be provided. The cost is \$20 per person and \$30 for two people. Program registration begins at 8:45 a.m. Reservations are encouraged.

Contact: For more information, contact Diabetes Education at (734) 458-4330.

BLUES AND BBQ'S

Time/Date: 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 24

Location: The grounds of Westland City Hall, 36601 Ford, west of Wayne Road, Westland

Details: The City of Westland, in partnership with the Westland Chamber of Commerce, is sponsoring the first annual Blues, Brews

and BBQ on Saturday. The event will showcase some of the area's best known blues bands performing live on stage all afternoon including the Front Street Blues Band, The Boa Constrictors and The Alligators. Event goers will also be able to taste some of Westland's best BBQ and sample some of Michigan's best micro-brewed beers. There will also be a classic car show and an incredible kid's zone to make it an event for the entire family. The event will be manned by several of the area's non-profit organizations and the goal of the event is to distribute a portion of the proceeds back to the non-profit organizations to help them in their fundraising efforts. Sponsorship opportunities are available.

Contact: For more information, call (734) 467-3200.

FUND-RAISING CRUISE

Time/Date: 2-5 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 25

Location: MV Friendship, the dock behind the Portofino Restaurant at 3455 Biddle Ave., Wyandotte

Details: The S.S. Columbia Project will host their third festive fundraising cruise on the Detroit River on aboard the MV Friendship. The cruise will also serve as an official reunion event for former Boblo Crew members and employees. Guests are invited to bring memorabilia, share their fond memories and reminisce about America's oldest surviving passenger steamer as they view the beloved Boblo boats, Columbia and Ste. Claire. During the cruise, guests will feast on complimentary pizza delivered by the J.W. Westcott II mailboat while toasting the slow steady progress in restoring the Columbia to its former glory. Boarding begins at 1:30 p.m. Suggested donation is \$40 per person.

Contact: Additional information about the cruise and the S.S. Columbia can be found at www.sscolumbia.org or by calling (212) 228-3182.

BUSINESS MILESTONES

Accreditation

The Community Health Accreditation Program, Inc. has awarded Arbor Hospice accreditation under the CHAP Hospice Standards of Excellence.

CHAP accreditation demonstrates that Arbor Hospice meets the industry's highest nationally recognized standards. Evaluation by CHAP focuses on structure and function, quality of services and products, human and financial resources and long term viability.

"This recognition reinforces Arbor Hospice's commitment to maintaining the highest standards of excellence," said Arbor Hospice President and CEO Gloria Danna Brooks. "As Arbor Hospice continues to grow, we will always be driven by our mission to give comfort, assurance and care to families and patients who have life-limiting illnesses, and to educate and nurture others in this care."

Since 1984 Arbor Hospice has been committed to providing quality, compassionate care for those experiencing

life-limiting illnesses and grief support services to patients and their families in southeast Michigan. This is the first year that Arbor Hospice has applied for and received CHAP accreditation.

Arbor Hospice, a not-for-profit 501(c) 3 organization, serves communities in Jackson, Lenawee, Livingston, Monroe, Oakland, Washtenaw and Wayne counties. It has offices in Ann Arbor, Monroe, Plymouth and Woodhaven.

New physicians

St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia has three new additions to its medical staff:

• Dr. Jeffrey Kimpson, pain management. He received his degree at Wayne State University School of Medicine and completed his residency at Providence Hospital in Southfield.

Kimpson is board certified in anesthesiology and pain management. A member of the American Society of Anesthesiologists, he is located at Prizm Pain Specialists, 6200 N. Haggerty Road, Canton.

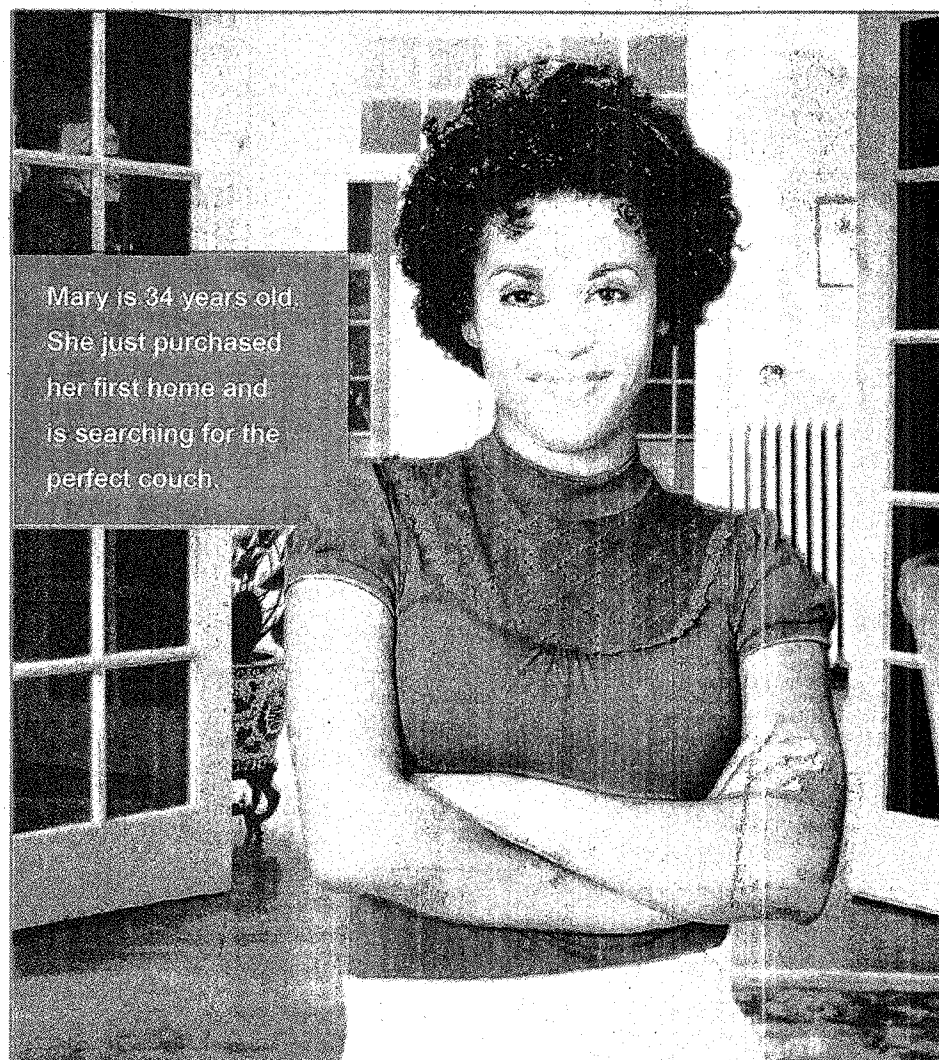
• Dr. Issam Mansour,

podiatry. He received his degree from the Dr. William M. Scholl College of Podiatric Medicine, North Chicago, Illinois, and completed a residency at Botsford Hospital in Farmington Hills.

Mansour is board certified in Podiatry and a member of the American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons. He is located at the Advanced Foot & Ankle Care Center, 39500 W. Ten Mile, Suite 104, Novi.

• Dr. Ryan Molli, orthopedic surgery. He received his degree from Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine in Erie, Pennsylvania and completed a residency at the St. John Providence Health System in Detroit, Michigan. He also completed a Total Joint fellowship at Joint Implant Surgeons Inc. in Columbus, Ohio.

Dr. Molli is a member of the American Orthopedic Association, American Osteopathic Academy of Orthopedics and Michigan Osteopathic Association. HeDr. Molli is at located the Orthopedic Institute of Michigan, 14555 Levan, Suite 116, Livonia.



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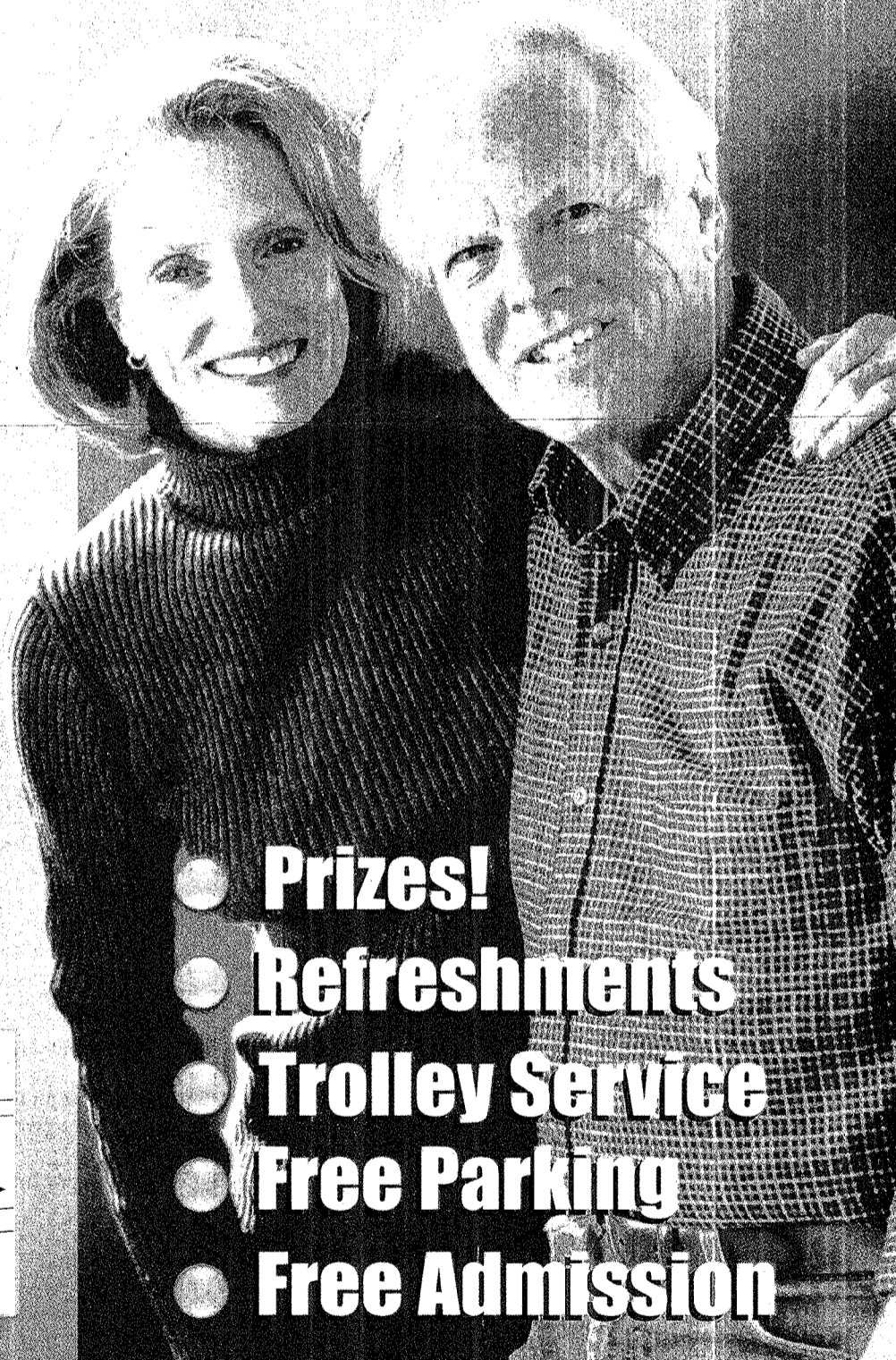
**Come hear O&E
Financial Columnist
Rick Bloom**
(11 a.m. to noon)



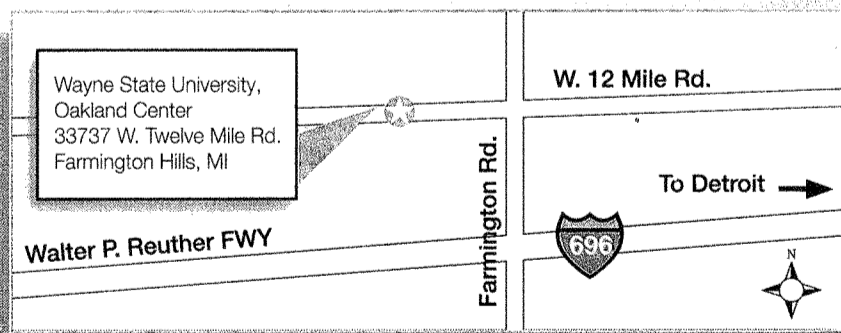
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Rick will discuss and answers questions about **"Protecting and Growing Your Investment Portfolio in a Down Economy."**



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Sewing expo returns to Novi

The 18th annual American Sewing Expo will bring fashion shows, sewing tips, home decorating and fashion design competitions under one roof, Friday-Sunday, Sept. 23-25 at Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi.

"Reality sewing competition, one of a kind fabrics and supplies, hands-on workshops and demonstrations will provide techniques and tips for beginner and veteran crafters and sewers," stated Janet Pray, show producer, in a press release. "It's a chance to inspire your

artistic and creative side."

Show experts will include Stephen "Suede" Baum, 2008 Project Runway semi-finalist; Sandra Betzina, author, Vogue pattern designer and HGTV *Sew Perfect* show host; Sue Hausmann, author and PBS-TV sewing and quilting show host and producer; Kathy Delaney, author and quilting expert; and other award winning fashion sewing designers including Barb Callahan, Joi Mahon, Kathy Ruddy and Angie Wolf.

Other industry professionals will conduct edu-

cational presentations at more than 160 lectures, hands-on classes, seminars and all-day workshops.

The "Show Your Support Bra Challenge" sponsored by Janome, Coats & Clark and BurdaStyle and benefiting Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute will display bedecked fun, serious, themed or abstract bras completely decorated inside and out using thread in some form. The "Yes, I Made This!" pin purchased by attendees to show off their sewing project bene-

fits the Dress for Success charity.

Reality television competitions are the inspiration for the Passion for Fashion Sewing Challenge that will start when the show opens. Twelve finalists design and sew garments for judging and a fashion show.

Attendees can learn unique tips and techniques as they sew their own project to take home at the Sew Experience Café and make a handbag and embellish it using their style and imagination at the Bag-Mania Station sponsored by Janome and Clover.

More than 125 exhibitors from 35 states, Australia

and Canada will display fabrics, sewing machines, notions, threads, patterns, yarn, sergers, technology, embellishments, kits, gadgets, embroidery designs, tools and other products. Visitors can participate with quick Make and Take projects at some vendor exhibits. Several special exhibits will display art quilts, couture collections, fiber art and fashion designs.

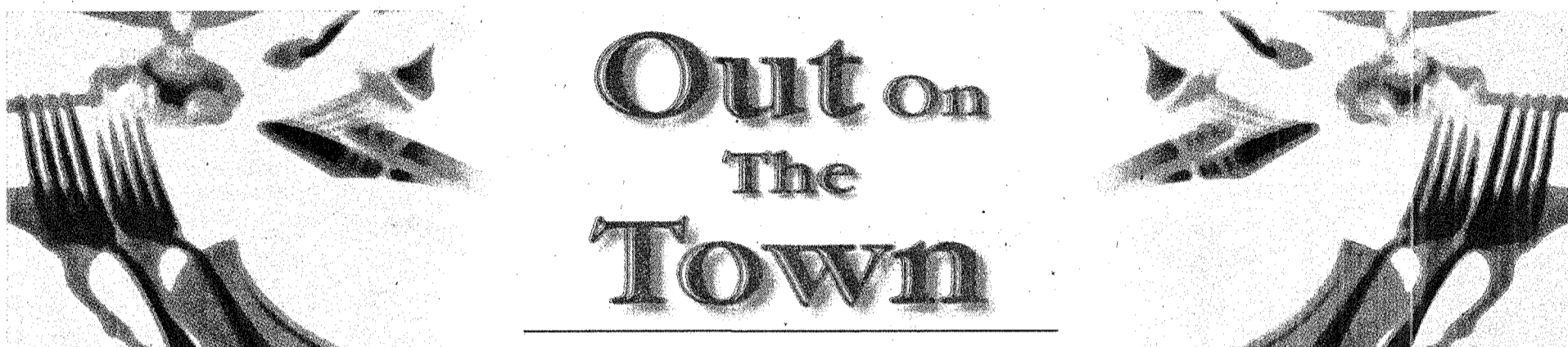
"Show visitors can test-drive sewing machines, attend a seminar or watch a demo to get creative tips, discover fresh possibilities and be inspired for new projects," Pray stated.

Show hours are 9 a.m.-6

p.m. Friday; 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday and 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday. Preshow workshops are 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 21 and Thursday, Sept. 22. Expo admission is \$14 and children 15 and under are admitted free with a paying adult. One-hour seminars are \$14, all-day workshops are \$98 to \$148 and special combination packages are available. Onsite parking is available for \$5.

Suburban Collection Showplace is located at 46100 Grand River Ave., between Novi Road and Beck, in Novi.

For more information, visit www.AmericanSewingExpo.com or call (248) 889-3111.



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Tailgate Turkey Pile-on

It's a WIN-WIN!

How to feed football fans and fight hunger

When it's your turn to call the plays on game day food, you need recipes that are easy to make, easy to eat and will feed a crowd of hungry fans. These four recipes from celebrity chefs Pat and Gina Neely are a must for your tailgating playbook — full of satisfying flavor that will score big with football fanatics.



Gina and Pat Neely.

The recipes make it easy to please the football crowd, and Kraft Foods' Huddle to Fight Hunger makes it easy to help your neighbors in need. According to Feeding America, more than 50 million Americans — that's one in six of your neighbors — live in food insecure households. But you can do something about it.

Join the Huddle to Fight Hunger on Facebook — for every "like" at www.facebook.com/KraftFightHunger, Kraft Foods will help donate one meal to Feeding America. Last year, Kraft Foods and its family of iconic brands donated more than 20 million meals. Its mission this year is to help donate 25 million meals.

It's a win-win for everyone — make the recipes for your friends, like the Kraft Fight Hunger Facebook page and you will help feed your neighbors.

Zesty 100 Yard Bites

Prep Time: 20 minutes
Makes: 12 servings

½ cup Kraft Mayo with Olive Oil Reduced Fat Mayonnaise
1 tablespoon Sriracha sauce
1 teaspoon fresh lime juice
12 slider buns
12 slices Oscar Mayer Deli Fresh Honey Ham
12 slices Oscar Mayer Deli Fresh Slow Roasted Roast Beef
3 Kraft Big Slice ColbyJack Cheese Slices, cut into quarters
2 plum tomatoes, cut into 12 slices
12 Claussen Bread 'N' Butter Pickle Chips
12 stuffed green olives

Mix mayo, Sriracha and lime juice in a small bowl. Spread each bun with ½ tablespoon (1 ½ teaspoons) mayo mixture.

Fill each bun with 1 folded slice each ham and roast beef, a cheese slice quarter, tomato slice and pickle.

Top each bun with a small decorative bamboo skewer, skewered with an olive.

Substitute: Substitute hot pepper sauce for the Sriracha sauce.

Potato Dog Skins

Prep Time: 10 minutes
Total Time: 1 hour, 30 minutes
Makes: 6 servings

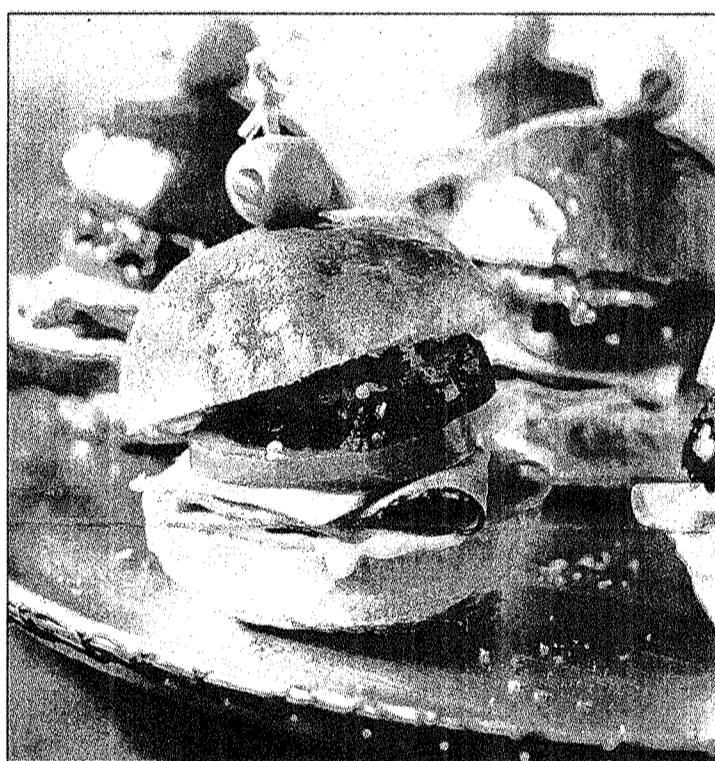
3 large baking potatoes (2 ½ pounds), baked
2 cloves garlic, minced
2 tablespoons butter, melted
3 Oscar Mayer Selects Premium Beef Franks
½ cup Bull's-Eye Original Barbecue Sauce, warmed
½ cup Kraft Shredded Colby & Monterey Jack Cheeses
½ cup Breakstone's or Knudsen Sour Cream
¼ cup chopped fresh chives

Heat grill to medium heat. Cut potatoes in half lengthwise and spoon out the flesh, leaving half-inch shells. Mix garlic and melted butter. Brush potatoes on both sides with garlic butter mixture.

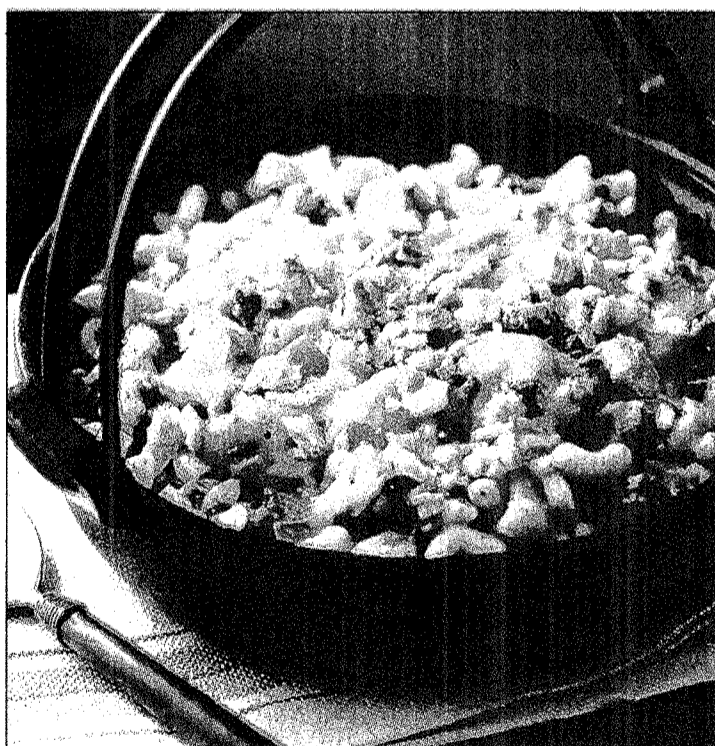
Grill franks 7 to 9 minutes, or until heated through, turning occasionally; slice into rounds. Grill potatoes until crisp, about 4 to 4 ½ minutes on each side.

Spoon sliced franks into the potato shells; drizzle with barbecue sauce and top with cheese. Grill until the cheese is melted. Top with sour cream and chives.

Alternative cooking method: If you prefer, bake the buttered potato skins in a 250°F oven until crisp, about 15 minutes, before adding the toppings. Fill as directed and bake 5 minutes more.



Zesty 100 Yard Bites



Chipotle Chile Mac and Cheese



Potato Dog Skins

Tailgate Turkey Pile-On

Prep Time: 10 minutes
Makes: 6 servings

1 12-inch loaf Italian bread with sesame seeds, sliced in half horizontally
¼ cup Kraft Mayo with Olive Oil Cracked Pepper Reduced Fat Mayonnaise
24 slices Oscar Mayer Deli Fresh Oven Roasted Turkey Breast
6 slices Oscar Mayer Fully Cooked Bacon, crisped
½ cup shredded iceberg lettuce
¼ cup sliced black olives
¼ cup drained roasted red pepper strips

Hollow top of bread slightly; discard removed bread or save for another use. Spread mayonnaise on both sides of bread.

Fill with remaining ingredients. Slice into 6 (2-inch) pieces.

Tailgating tip: To make for easy eating, wrap sandwich in parchment paper (like at a sandwich shop) and then slice with a serrated knife. Wrap in foil for transport.

Chipotle Chile Mac and Cheese

Prep Time: 20 minutes
Total Time: 35 minutes
Makes: 6 servings, about 1 cup each

1 package (14 ounces) Kraft Deluxe Macaroni & Sharp Cheddar Cheese Sauce
1 pound lean ground beef
1 onion, finely chopped
1 red bell pepper, finely chopped
1 canned chipotle pepper in adobo sauce, minced
4 green onions, thinly sliced
¾ cup Kraft shredded cheddar cheese
6 Ritz crackers, coarsely crushed (about ¼ cup)

Heat oven to 400°F. Prepare dinner as directed on package. Meanwhile, brown beef with onion and bell pepper in large skillet over medium-high heat 5 minutes. Drain.

Add meat mixture to prepared dinner and stir in chipotle pepper. Spoon into greased 2-quart casserole or baking dish. Top with green onions, cheese and cracker crumbs.

Bake 15 minutes or until mixture is hot.

Tailgating Take Along: Make your casserole in a disposable foil pan. Just heat on a covered grill on low heat until mixture is golden and heated through.

Tip: For additional heat, increase to 2 chipotle peppers in adobo sauce.

Substitute: Prepare using extra-lean ground beef and Kraft 2% Milk Shredded Cheddar Cheese.

Project Build! gives homeowner new lease on life and place to live

When Alison Grabell, a case manager for Jewish Family Service of Metropolitan Detroit, visited her client's Novi home in March, she found rotted floors, peeling paint on the walls, appliances that didn't work and gutters that were no longer fully attached to the home. Her heart went out to the woman who had to live in these conditions. She knew that if she could find a way to improve her client's surroundings, it would also go a long way toward improving all the other aspects of her life, as well.

Grabell knew her client would be a perfect candidate for Project Build! a program formed by JFS in partnership with the Building Industry Association of Southeastern Michigan in April 2011. Project Build! matches people in desperate need of repairs to their homes with professional builders, remodelers and suppliers. Despite facing significant financial difficulties, families in the program gain a chance to live safely and comfortably in their own homes. And despite enduring a crippling economic downturn in their businesses, local professionals can offer much needed support by donating their expertise and the materials they may have on hand.

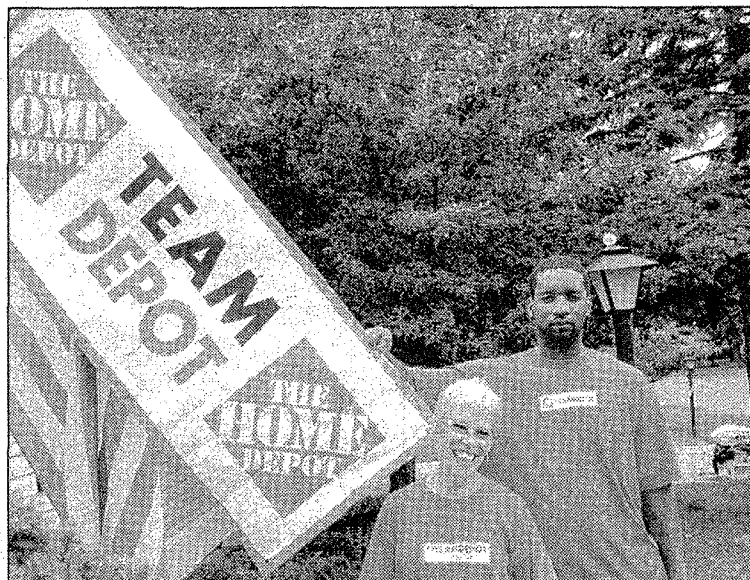
The Home Depot Foundation and the The Home Depot Commerce Township store teamed up to complete this extensive home repair. It took seven days over a period of three weeks to replace all of the rotted flooring, paint all of the walls, replace the lighting and oven, and repair the gutters outside. The client even received a new American flag to replace her old one, which was faded and ripped. In the end, Project Build! and The Home Depot turned the client's house into a home.

"Everyone at work tells me how happy and healthy I look these days," said the client. "I tell them that every day I walk into a new home. I'm not worried about things anymore."

Marsha Burley, Team Depot captain, and 10 of her colleagues completed the majority



Working on the home are Tom Keyser (left) and Doug VanGordon.



Marsha Burley, Team Depot captain, of Commerce Township and Mark Williams, store manager, Commerce Township, were glad to participate.



Participants included back row (left to right): Linn Smith, Tom Keyser, Mark Williams, Commerce Township store manager; Front row (left to right): Brittney Pasekel, Marsha Burley, Team Depot captain, Bill Trembley.

of the work with the assistance of a couple of volunteers. "I'm leaving part of my heart here," said Burley.

Through Team Depot, an associate-led volunteer program, The Home Depot Foundation provides opportunities for associates and suppliers to contribute their home improvement know-how to create meaningful impact in communities. In 2010, Team Depot completed 1,600 projects across the country. From building dozens of wheelchair ramps in one day for disabled senior citizens in Altamonte Springs, Fla., to renovating the home of an 82-year-old Marine Corps veteran in Seattle, Wash., Home Depot associates work with local nonprofit organizations to use their home

improvement know-how to make a difference in the lives of thousands of deserving families.

"It turned out far more beautiful than I imagined it would. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. Team Depot really did a fantastic job," said the homeowner.

Project Build!'s sources, in addition to The Home Depot, include The Jewish Women's Foundation of Metropolitan Detroit, BIA Charitable and Educational Foundation and the BIA Professional Women in Building Council. To date, over 35 local businesses have participated in 12 home repairs or remodels and together have donated over \$30,000 in supplies and labor costs.

Richard Cherkasky, president

of The Richard Group Inc., a JFS and BIA board member, initiated Project Build!

"Unfortunately, the world has changed from how we knew it not too many years ago," said Cherkasky. "Times are hard and this gives you an opportunity to be involved with work where you know what you are doing is desperately needed and deeply appreciated. It is highly satisfying to see the relief and excitement in the clients we serve. I feel honored to be a part of it."

Project Build! is looking for building and remodeling industry professionals and local businesses to volunteer services and donate materials for upcoming jobs. If you are interested in helping, call Michelle Malamis at (248) 592-2651.

China has firms for home services

By Robert Meisner
Guest Columnist

Q: Are there companies in China that provide residential services for purchasers of houses and/or apartments?

A: Yes, there are companies that provide residential services including orientation, home selection, home inspection, lease negotiation and lease maintenance. The company is also involved in commercial projects throughout China. They have, by way of example, residential sales and leasing businesses throughout China. However, it has been necessary to adopt various measures to curb rising property



Robert Meisner

prices such as restricting residents in 35 major cities from buying second or third homes.

Other measures include higher down payment requirements for mortgages, the imposition of property taxes in Chongqing and Shanghai, and various monetary policies that have raised borrowing costs for developers. Apparently more people are interested in investing in real estate because of the high demand for premium residential properties.

Q: I am the purchaser of a condominium and I find that my condominium association is not FHA certified. Don't they have a responsibility to do so in order for me to get financing?

A: In my view, the Board of Directors of a condominium association has the fiduciary responsibility to assist in the marketability of the condominium units. Given the fact that FHA requires project-wide certification ("spot" approval having been abolished in 2009), you may have a good argument that the board has been remiss in the discharge of its fiduciary duties by not seeking FHA certification, assuming that is the case. You should have your prospective seller (the co-owner) write the Board of Directors to demand that it take action to seek FHA certification.

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

HOMES SOLD-WAYNE

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of May 16-20, 2011, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

CANTON	
6837 Carriage Hills Dr	\$135,000
44338 Fair Oaks Dr	\$131,000
1535 Glengarry Blvd	\$275,000
42825 Lilley Pointe Dr	\$52,000
1729 Nowland Ct	\$283,000
3648 S Canton Center Rd	\$70,000
46764 Spinning Wheel Dr	\$160,000

7534 Thornwood St	\$145,000
GARDEN CITY	
32261 Bock St	\$80,000
31960 Florence St	\$30,000
28782 Leona St	\$50,000
LIVONIA	
14475 Alexander St	\$146,000
35974 Ann Arbor Trl	\$48,000
15875 Blue Skies Dr	\$223,000
29059 Bretton St	\$125,000
31568 Bridge St	\$189,000
38813 Donald St	\$130,000
36152 Fairway Dr	\$290,000
19931 Farmington Rd	\$37,000
9951 Inkster Rd	\$41,000
37535 Kingsbury St	\$165,000

14644 Merriman Rd	\$170,000
NORTHVILLE	
18186 Blue Heron Dr W	\$295,000
16290 Brook Trout Ln	\$127,000
16305 Brook Trout Ln	\$125,000
44352 Cypress Point Dr	\$70,000
16368 Sherwood Ln	\$360,000
PLYMOUTH	
46730 Barrington Ct	\$210,000
50456 Beechwood Ct	\$90,000
1052 Coolidge St	\$160,000
13968 Eaton Dr	\$330,000
354 Pinewood Dr	\$50,000
1199 S Sheldon Rd	\$32,000
48989 Tuscan Hills Dr	\$440,000
8829 Woodberry Rd	\$305,000

REDFORD	
9392 Garfield	\$40,000
8974 Mercedes	\$65,000
26305 W Seven Mile Rd	\$8,000
12113 Woodbine	\$60,000
13560 Wormer	\$33,000
WESTLAND	
35030 Donnelly St	\$90,000
34354 Florence St	\$80,000
613 Lansdowne Dr	\$88,000
947 N Wildwood St	\$96,000
1377 Westchester St	\$75,000
1915 Wilshire St	\$57,000
7422 Woodview St	\$25,000

HOMES SOLD-OAKLAND

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of May 9-13, 2011, at the Oakland County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

BEVERLY HILLS	
18356 Bedford St	\$277,000
19070 Bedford St	\$490,000
BINGHAM FARMS	
23795 Ravineview Ct	\$200,000
BIRMINGHAM	
771 Ann St	\$515,000
1207 Bird Ave	\$325,000
1790 Graefield Rd	\$73,000
856 S Bates St	\$895,000
1537 S Bates St	\$325,000
BLOOMFIELD HILLS	
2975 Aspen Ln	\$235,000
496 Newburne Pointe	\$133,000
1094 Park Place Ct	\$415,000

950 Trailwood Path # D	\$87,000
284 Woodwind Dr	\$600,000
BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP	
322 Douglas Dr	\$150,000
2860 Farmingdale Dr	\$80,000
7203 Lindenmere Dr	\$440,000
1915 Long Lake Shore Dr	\$1,500,000
2446 Sanders Pl	\$200,000
6290 Thurber Rd	\$230,000
1133 N Cranbrook Rd	\$705,000
COMMERCE TOWNSHIP	
3119 Arbutus St	\$130,000
9470 Boncrest St	\$80,000
2688 Ivy Hill Dr	\$233,000
8307 Kingfisher Ct	\$240,000
2282 Palmetto	\$180,000
FARMINGTON HILLS	
31831 Grand River Ave Unit 8	\$18,000
33268 Slocum Dr	\$143,000
24290 Farmington Rd	\$54,000
29549 Fox Club Dr	\$243,000
30314 Fox Club Dr	\$310,000
21142 Ontaga St	\$10,000
22085 River Pines Dr	\$142,000

26738 Trillium Dr	\$775,000
29850 W 12 Mile Rd # 503	\$22,000
31915 W 14 Mile Rd # 237	\$85,000
30271 Westgate Rd	\$235,000
FRANKLIN	
26980 Wellington Rd	\$280,000
Lathrup Village	\$232,000
17380 Roseland Blvd	\$90,000
MILFORD	
1675 Lone Tree	\$38,000
2525 W Buno Rd	\$425,000
NOVI	
24584 Bashian Dr	\$56,000
24347 Bramblewood Dr	\$227,000
22553 Cranbrooke Dr	\$78,000
1705 East Lake Rd	\$165,000
48700 Grand River Ave	\$510,000
23667 Greening Ct	\$232,000
40518 Lenox Park Dr	\$229,000
40522 Lenox Park Dr	\$240,000
27026 Maxwell Ct	\$45,000
25556 Portico Ln	\$120,000
30911 Savannah Ct	\$160,000
44920 W 10 Mile Rd	\$185,000
157 Wainwright St	\$116,000

45566 White Pines Dr	\$325,000
28346 Wolcott Dr	\$89,000
22142 Worcester Dr	\$415,000
SOUTH LYON	
144 Aspen Way	\$78,000
331 E Lake St	\$75,000
205 Maplewood Ct	\$42,000
512 Orchard Rdg	\$18,000
23689 Prescott Ln W	\$61,000
SOUTHFIELD	
29644 Farmbrook Villa Ct # 2	\$28,000
29170 Heritage Ct	\$73,000
22530 Ivanhoe Ln	\$123,000
24282 Lois Ln	\$45,000
27389 Marshall St	\$50,000
29501 Red Leaf Dr	\$106,000
17614 Silver Maple St	\$60,000
20906 Stahelin Rd	\$19,000
18698 Webster Ave	\$550,000
17070 Westland Ave	\$75,000
WHITE LAKE	
20 Acorn Ct	\$180,000
1157 Union Lake Rd	\$70,000
1323 Waverly Dr	\$105,000

