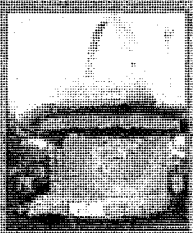


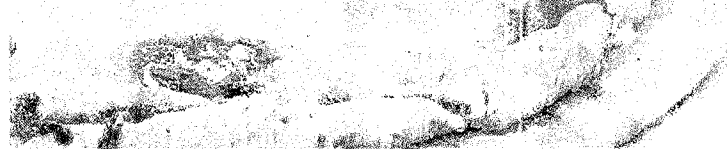
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BLOCK PARTY BECKONS AT SALVATION ARMY, A3



GLUTEN-FREE COOKING FOOD, B8



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## Garage sale

Find all the treasures you've been looking for at the Westland Community Garage Sale, a one-stop shopping experience for bargain hunters 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 17.

The sales is being held in the parking lot between Westland City Hall and Westland Police Department, 36601 Ford Road, Westland. There's space for almost 100 vendors and a food concession provided by Westland Jaycees.

The event runs rain or shine, and all proceeds benefit Westland Youth Assistance Program, Westland Therapeutic Recreation Program and Westland Parks and Recreation. After the Garage Sale, a St. Vincent de Paul truck will be available to accept donations.

To reserve a spot of for information on prices and availability, stop by the Bailey Center during regular hours — 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily. For more information, call (734) 722-7620.

## Barrel sale

The City of Westland in conjunction with the Alliance of Rouge Communities is hosting 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 37137 Marquette, just east of Newburgh.

Anyone interested in purchasing a rain barrel can preorder the barrel by calling (734) 272-0291 and pick it up at the Department of Public Service on Sept. 17 or purchase in person the day of the sale. Limited quantities will be available while supplies last.

The rain barrel's retail value is \$150 each, but will be offered for a discounted price of \$60 (taxes included), with \$1.50 of each purchase benefitting the Alliance of Rouge Communities. Cash, check, Visa, MasterCard and Discover Cards will be accepted. The event take place rain or shine.

The city hosted a similar event on July 30 and in three hours sold out of the 780 rain barrels that were available. An additional 150 orders were placed by residents from all over southeastern lower Michigan.

## Class gets W-W board ready to work

By LeAnne Rogers  
Observer Staff Writer

Call it summer school for Board of Education members.

Along with attending classes sponsored by the Michigan Association of School Boards, members of the Wayne-Westland school board are participating in study sessions with an MASB facilitator.

The sessions — the first cov-

ering board governance — were requested by board President Carol Middel and Superintendent Greg Baracy due to only one board member having extended time in office.

MASB facilitator Scott Morrell talked with the board members about importance of working together, board responsibilities and how board members get themselves and their districts into trouble.

"It's the board role to set policy. The Board of Education has one employee — the superintendent — and the rest of the employees work for the superintendent," said Morrell, a former Centerline school board member. "The board sets the vision for the district — where they want to see the district in three years."

The board sets the budget, adding that if the board has a clear vision, the money will follow,

Morrell added.

How board members communicate with each other, staff and the public was also a topic. Among the recommendations: be prepared, listen, ask questions at the appropriate times, deliberate at meetings — not in the community and be a trustee for the community.

"Be at meetings early, often

Please see BOARD, A2



Open all year long, the Play Planet in Tattan Park draws a crowd during nice weather.

## Summer season winds down at pool, parks

By LeAnne Rogers  
Observer Staff Writer

The back-to-school sales are well under way and the beginning of classes is only days away for most students.

That means there are only a few more days enjoy the water at the Bailey Pool which closes for the season on Labor Day Monday, Sept. 5.

"We'll close the pool Labor Day but the spray park will stay open — that depends on the weather even if it is day-by-day," said Westland Parks and Recreation Director Robert Kosowski. "Last year, we closed the spray park in the third week of September. We had some extra days, but it will definitely be closed by October."

The Bailey Pool will be open from noon to 3 p.m. and 4-7 p.m. daily through Labor Day. The H20 Zone spray park is open from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily and unlike the pool, is free. Call (734) 722-7620 or visit www.cityof-



Trevor Kenyon and his little brother Spencer check out the Play Planet in Tattan Park.

westland.com for additional information on hours and rates. The Play Planet playscape,

located in Tattan Park near the H20 Zone spray park, is open all year and draws youngsters during all seasons.

"We do get kids there, if there is not a lot of ice and snow," said Kosowski. "If there is a lot of snow or ice, we will tell people not to use the playscape."

The new parking lot is open along Carlson for Tattan Park users but Kosowski expects that area will be closed off in September as work wraps up for the year on nearby Central City Park.

"We'll want to close the parking lot to keep folks out of the (Central City) park," said Kosowski.

Hydroseeding of the park was slated to Wednesday, Aug. 31, after large mounds of topsoil, added over a geotextile membrane, had been leveled. It's all part of remediation of contamination in the park.

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## Study trip opens her eyes to world

By LeAnne Rogers  
Observer Staff Writer

During the summer before her junior year at the University of Michigan, Jessica McClain knew she wanted to spend her summer studying abroad.

A Westland resident and University of Michigan student, McClain also wanted to go somewhere French-speaking to improve her language skills — she is majoring in organizational studies with a French minor. France would have seemed the obvious choice but McClain, 20, chose to spend time in Gabon, a French-speaking nation in west Africa.

"Really Gabon wasn't on the radar. I decided between France or Africa. I picked Africa," said McClain. "My dad wanted me to go to France, but I thought this would be a better experience and more of an adventure. I've always wanted to go to France. I wanted to go to a place where I could practice French."

A 2009 graduate of Livonia Churchill High School, McClain was among 10 University of Michigan students participating in the Global Intercultural Experience for Undergraduates.

"I was really able to immerse myself in French. It really helped so much with my listening and being able to understand," said McClain. "It was kind of like sink or swim. I was exhausted at the end of the day. I had to speak French with my host family."

Please see TRIP, A2



Westland resident Jessica McClain participated in a student trip to Gabon in west Africa and stayed with host families.

## Competency report sought in fatal crash case

By Sue Mason  
Observer Staff Writer

A Garden City man will have to wait until November to find out if he will stand trial on charges stemming from a fatal car crash that happened more than three years ago.

On Monday, 21st District Judge Richard Hammer Jr. adjourned a preliminary hearing until Nov. 7 after approving a defense request that a competency report be done to determine if Aaron John Leese, 21, can stand trial and aid in his defense.

Leese, who is free on a \$500 personal bond, has been charged with operating a vehicle while intoxicated causing death, reckless driving causing death and manslaughter

with a vehicle.

Leese was driving a car on June 3, 2008, that was traveling north on Farmington Road when it struck a curb in a residential neighborhood near Marquette and rolled over onto the driver's side. According to police said, the car skidded on its side before slamming into a telephone pole and coming to a stop.

Eighteen-year-old Angelica Goff of Westland was a passenger in the car driven by a Leese. She was taken to Garden City Hospital and then later airlifted to the University of Michigan Hospital where she died June 6, 2008, after family members decided to take her off life support.

Leese also was hospitalized in critical condition at the University of Michigan Hospital. He was not

charged at the time of the crash due to the severity of his injuries.

According to Garden City Police Chief Robert Muery, it's now believed Leese has sufficiently recovered to stand trial. He also has said that "investigators determined that excessive speed and alcohol were factors in the crash." A mechanical review of the vehicle also revealed no defects that would have contributed to the accident.

The charges against Leese are all felonies, each punishable by up to 15 years in prison. If found guilty, he also could be required to participate in a rehabilitative program and to reimburse the city for the costs of its emergency response.

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**TRIP**

Continued from page A1

One surprise, McClain said, was how westernized she found the capital city of Libreville.

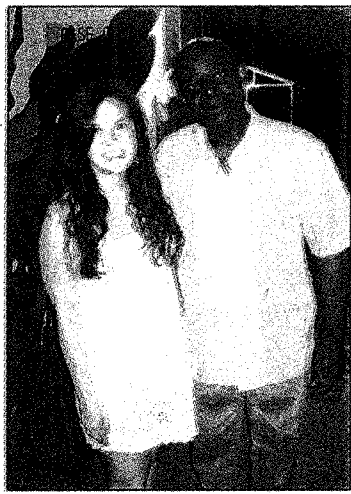
"They have Internet, but it is really slow. The roads are so bad, I don't know how the cars survived," she said. "They had cell phones but they were all pay-as-you-go phones."

Outside the cities, McClain said people would still have cell phones with perfect reception — even in isolated areas without running water. "It was amazing," she said. "My favorite part of the trip was the people. They were so warm and welcoming. Even if you stayed for a day, they would say 'You are my sister' and be welcome to come back," said McClain. "The kids were my favorite. They were so adorable. They aren't shy like American children, they would run right up to you."

On the return trip from Africa, McClain and the other students stopped in Paris and London.

"In Gabon, they speak a lot slower than Parisians," she said. "They speak quicker in Paris but are easier to understand."

Once she completes her undergraduate degree — organizational studies is an interdisciplinary degree covering psychology, sociology and economics — McClain wants to pursue a career in



A student at the University of Michigan, Westland resident Jessica McClain met many people while participating in a study program in Gabon west Africa.

international business consulting or international law.

"This was my first time out of the country except for Canada. It made me realize how big the world is but how small it is," she said. "There are people with completely different lifestyles. Everyone has a stereotypical view of Gabon. People told me to be careful but you have a job and family. Human nature is so similar across cultures. It made me more interested in international affairs."

The daughter of Ted and Kate McClain, she wants to study abroad again, possibly next summer. This time she would like to spend time in France or Switzerland.

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Westland resident Jessica McClain especially enjoyed meeting children during a visit to Gabon in west Africa.

**Stars hold cheer tryouts**

Westland Stars Cheerleading and Dance Team is holding tryouts in September for the 2011-12 season.

The team is open to girls and boys in the fifth-eighth grades. Youngsters who enjoy cheering and learning cheers, chants, stunts and pyramids or dancing are invited to join the team.

The Stars is a team-based program and not just a class. It offers two levels:

The competition team (Varsity) requires a season long commitment and girls must try out to make the team. Regular attendance is required. The competition team does all the events and appearances with the addition of local competitions and recital at the end of the season.

The performance team (Junior Varsity) is open to any girl and boy who would like to join. Youngsters don't have to try out, but students are required to attend practice each week. The performance team will attend at least one competition, all events and appearances and recital at the end of the season.

There will be three clinics held 6-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 14, 21 and 28, in the multi-purpose room of the Bailey Recreation Center. Tryouts will be held on Oct. 5.

The cost is \$185 for the season for the performance team and \$215 for the season for the competition team. Members can pay their fees by the week or month or whole season. Fees need to be kept up to date. There is a \$25 discount for paying in advance or for registering more than one family member.

There also is a deposit of \$25 per member due when uniforms are distributed. The fee will be returned when uniforms are turned in and all class fees are paid.

The coaches are Jill Wehrheim who has five years of coaching experience and is a former high school cheerleader and dancer, and Lisa Walker, also a former high school cheerleader and dancer. Toni J. Bailey-Lay who has 27 years of coaching and is a former cheerleader, is the advisor.

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**BOARD**

Continued from page A1

you can tone down a meeting by talking with citizens before the meeting," said Morrell. "Ninety percent of communication is nonverbal. Sit up straight, put your pen down and pay attention (during public comments). Aloof and disagreeable is a bad combination when you're talking to an audience and people at home."

Board members need to stay on topic, Morrell said, keeping in mind that they were elected to represent the entire community — not segments of the district like sports or drama.

"It is one board with one voice, not seven voices. This is a tough one with seven very diverse individuals. One vision, one mission," said Morrell. "Majority rules. So don't go around saying you voted against it. It's a decision of the board. Once it is approved,

you need to get behind it even if it was a 4-3 vote."

The board is in the process of changing from a long-standing procedure of three-member board committees to having the board operate as a committee of the whole. As board president, Middel favored the move away from standing study committees so that all board members would receive the same information at the same time.

Whichever operating format the board uses, Morrell

said that if the board members understand their roles, the number of committee meetings can be streamlined.

"You have a Human Resources committee — that's not your job. You'll get in trouble with a subcommittee. You are micromanaging the district," said Morrell, who suggested cutting out half of the board's traditional standing committees.

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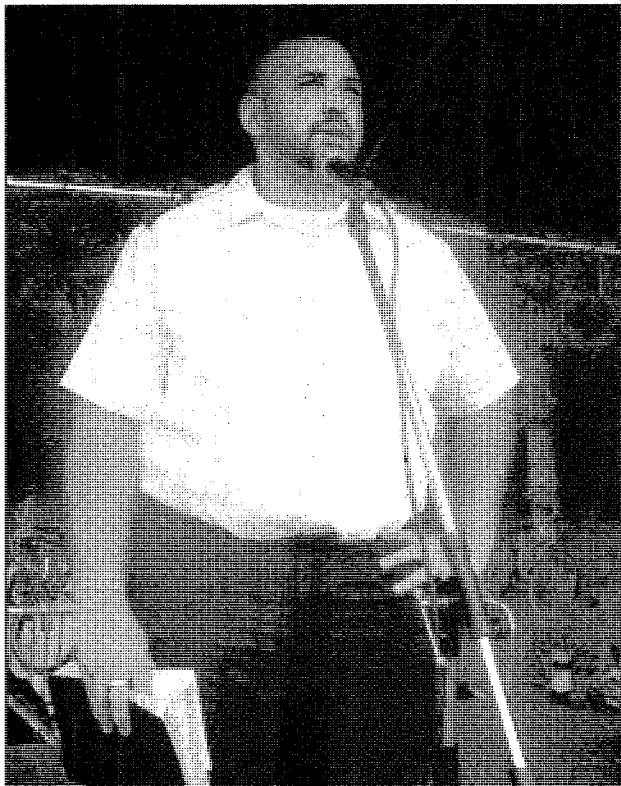
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# Party brings late summer fun to Salvation Army



Capt. Derek Rose speaks to the crowd at the Salvation Army's block party.



PHOTOS BY JOANNA ROSE

This year's block party drew almost 470 and had more than 30 volunteers.

By Julie Brown  
Observer Staff Writer

The red kettle's long been associated with the Salvation Army at Christmas, and a giant inflatable kettle showed up Saturday, Aug. 27, for the Wayne-Westland Corps' annual summer block party.

It was among a number of inflatables children enjoyed at the afternoon event, which drew some 450 people last summer. Capt. Joanna Rose, corps commander with husband Capt. Derek, helped get things off to a good start at 2 p.m.

"Every year the Salvation Army likes to have a big party for our community, especially in Norwayne," she said of the corps on Venoy south of Palmer. In addition to the inflatables or bouncers, there were bands offering live Christian music. Hot dogs and cotton candy were served, and party goers enjoyed carnival games.

"Word spreads," said Joanna Rose, who was pleased with this year's turnout. "I was praying we didn't get the rain coming down like we did the one year."

She and Derek are entering their fourth year as local corps officers.

The Westland Police Department donated about 30 bicycles for the block party, which were appreciated by organizers.

"We've got a line of people, I'm happy about that, said Phil Hull, volunteer coordinator. "Thankfully, we've had a lot of volunteers that have been willing to help us out."

Hull said Marquis Food Service donated hot dogs and buns, with the nearby Palace Supermarket also a major sponsor. Other major sponsors were Kroger, Meijer, Target and Gordon Food Service.

"It is a very economical-challenged area," Hull said. "Having a bike is your



Sunand Mabbula serves cotton candy.

lifeline. For us to be able to give away bikes is really amazing," he added.

There was a dunk tank, with no shortage of people willing to cool off by being dunked with a well-aimed pitch. "It's cold water so it cools you off," Hull said. "We actually had to be a little selective."

Alexis Benefield and best friend Brittany Nichols, both 18, were volunteering in the food line.

"I love this church and I love the Salvation Army," third-year volunteer Benefield said of giving her time. Both young women worship there, with Nichols having grown up in the church, at the Plymouth corps. Both graduated recently from Wayne Memorial High School and attend Henry Ford Com-



Justice Lampman paints children's faces.

munity College. They were counselors this summer at the Salvation Army's Echo Grove camp. Nichols has volunteered four years at the summer block party.

"I did it all through high school and so did Alexis," she said.

Westland resident Susan Lewis attended the party

for the first time this year. "It's nice," she said, resting at a food table. Sister-in-law Valeria Wright of Westland, who attended last year, told her about the community event.

"I like it," said Wright. "It's nice."

Andrew Barylski, director of community and youth ministries, was help-

ing out with an inflatable. "The event's incredible," he said. "We have a lot of good volunteers. A great opportunity for families to get involved in the Salvation Army and see what we're all about."

Barylski was pleased with the recently completed eight-week summer day camp.

"It was phenomenal, a lot of great activities for the kids," he said.

The Wayne-Westland corps offers an after-school program that includes tutoring and dinner. It will start Sept. 12 this year. There will be a parent orientation 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 8. Families don't need to sign up ahead of time, Barylski said. He added busing after school from Hamilton Elementary to the Salvation Army is new this year.

For details, call Barylski at (734) 722-3660, Ext. 110.



Lily Rose with her face painted Saturday.

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## WESTLAND

### Police nab suspects seen breaking into car

#### Larceny from vehicle

An Oak Park man and a 16-year-old Westland resident were arrested early Aug. 28 for stealing items from a car parked in the 37000 block of Barkridge. Police were called to the area about 5 a.m.

about two males looking in to vehicles and pulling the door handles.

The first officer to arrive reported seeing two males on either side of a vehicle, with its doors open and dome light on. Both fled on foot as the officer approached. The officer chased one suspect, later identified as the Westland youth, who could be seen carrying a GPS unit with its cord dangling and other items in his hands.

A witness told police two males had gone through his back yard jumping fences. An Inkster police dog conducted a track that ended where the suspects jumped a fence into the Willow Creek Apartments.

A Westland police dispatcher, on his way home from work, told officers that he spotted two males matching the description of the suspects while stopped for a red light at Ford and Newburgh. The pair were walking nearby when officers arrived and arrested them.

From the 16-year-old, police recovered an iPod, a pink purse containing \$57 in cash, a \$50 gift card, sunglasses and a bag of marijuana. His father told police that his son is frequently in trouble and not allowed to possess a cell phone, iPod, cash, sunglasses, etc. As a result, the father said anything of that nature which is son had would have been stolen. He also added his son has a history of stealing from vehicles.

The 16-year-old is facing juvenile charges of larceny from a vehicle, marijuana possession and resisting police. He was released to his father.

While being arrested, the 16-year-old told police it was his

birthday and that he, along with the Oak Park man, had been stealing from cars to get money to purchase marijuana. He said that he and the Oak Park man had hidden in the laundry after running to the Willow Creek apartments.

The Oak Park man, who denied everything when interviewed by police, is being charged with larceny from a vehicle and resisting arrest.

#### Larceny from a vehicle

A resident at the Village of Westland, 32001 Cherry Hill, told police Aug. 27 that he had been alerted by security that someone had stolen all four tires and wheels from his Ford Escape. The vehicle, which was parked in the car port, was left sitting on the concrete parking lot.

#### Home invasion

On Aug. 26, the owner of an unoccupied home in the 27000 block of Hanover told police that someone had stolen the plumbing from the basement during the previous two days. A window had been left unlocked and a screen removed to enter the house. No dollar amount was set for the missing pipes.

#### Larceny from a vehicle

A resident in the 38000 block of Florence told police Aug. 25 that someone had forced open the driver's door on his vehicle, then had stolen his iPod and the car stereo valued at \$200.

#### Larceny from a vehicle

A CD player and GPS unit valued at \$350 were reported stolen along with \$6 in cash from a vehicle parked at the Landings, 6675 Lakeview Blvd., Aug. 27.

During the theft from the 1996 Honda Accord, police noted a large plastic piece had been broken off the driver's door and the steering column was also cracked. By LeAnne Rogers

## GARDEN CITY

### Police investigate cash missing from bank drops

#### Embezzlement

A loss prevention officer for Auto Zone, 6228 Middlebelt, has filed a complaint with the Garden City police after several bank drops turned up short of cash.

The man told police that the company began noticing money missing from bank deposits three months ago and initiated an envelope verification process at the Garden City store for accountability.

Money is collected from cash registers throughout the day, counted, sealed in the envelope and kept in a safe until picked up by Armored Car. The man said managers have a specific code to make the deposits into the safe and that one manager made several drops in which two came up short. One drop was recorded as \$500, but the bank received \$114. Another drop was for \$500, but the actual amount received was \$82.

The manager denied taking the money or having knowledge as to what happen to it when he was questioned by the loss prevention officer. The company indicated it wants to pursue charges.

#### Vandalism

The turf on three soccer fields at Rotary Park was damaged after someone drove through the area late on Aug. 24. A resident who was walking through the park around 10 a.m. noticed the damage and called police.

According to the officer, there was damage to the grass throughout the park. There were large ruts from a vehicle doing "doughnuts" and the grass was torn up

throughout the three soccer fields.

#### Disorderly conduct

An Ortonville man was ordered to check in with security when coming to Garden City Hospital after brandishing a knife when he thought his sister wasn't being attended to on Aug. 25.

A physician told police the man had been visiting his sister who was in intensive care when he became upset. He pulled a knife from his pocket, opened it and swung it around in the air while telling the doctor "someone needs to take care of my sister now." The doctor said the man put the knife away after being told there was no need for it and that his sister was being cared for.

When questioned about the knife, hospital security said the man pulled it from his pocket and threw it at him. He took the knife and escorted the man from the hospital.

According to his sister, the man had recently lost his wife and was concerned about her health. She said he had never acted like that before.

#### Stolen drugs

A resident told police that someone entered his apartment in the 30500 block of Krauter on Aug. 25 and took the prescription drugs he kept in a fire safe lock box.

The man said that he left the apartment for 15 minutes and when he returned he discovered the lock box was missing. It contained Oxycontin and quick release morphine pills, blood pressure medication and Zolof pills.

He said the door to the

apartment was unlocked because his son was at home and in the shower. He suspects one of his son's ex-friends may have stolen the drugs.

#### Break-ins

The door of the Speedmart at 32271 Ford was shattered during a break-in at 11:16 p.m. Aug. 25.

A surveillance video showed three suspects break the glass and enter the building. They tried the door to the clerk's office and the security glass window and then left the building after finding them locked. They left in what appeared to be a gray Crown Victoria.

The owner told police it appeared that no merchandise was missing.

#### Suspended license

A Westland man was arrested Aug. 26 after a police check showed he was driving with a suspended license. According to police, the man had six current and four prior suspensions. His vehicle was impounded and the license plate confiscated.

#### Drunken driving

A 22-year-old Livonia man was arrested for driving while under the influence of alcohol and possession of marijuana after he was stopped for speeding on Middlebelt Aug. 26.

The officer said the man was observed doing 62 mph in a 40 mph zone and was straddling the two northbound lanes of Middlebelt. He was unsteady on his feet and continually used the car to steady himself.

A baggie containing marijuana was also found in his pants pocket.



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**AROUND WESTLAND**

**Mom to Mom Sale**

The Kirk of Our Savior will hold a Mom to Mom sale 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 24, at the church, 36660 Cherry Hill, west of Wayne Road, Westland.

Table space is available. An eight-foot table costs \$20, a five-foot round table/square card table is \$15. Space only - bring your own six-foot table/or rack or racks is \$10. Outside space also is available for \$10 - bring your own table and canopy. Large item space is \$1 per item.

Early Bird admission at 9 a.m. is \$2, after 10 is \$1. Strollers will be admitted after 11 a.m. Food will be available and there will be a bake sale featuring homemade goodies.

For reservations or more information, call Kate Fox at (734) 260-9500 or Sharon Garcia at (734) 637-2662.

**Chill at the Joe**

First Step is holding its annual Chill at the Joe 2-6 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 11, at Joe Louis Arena in Detroit.

The event features a variety of crafts, games, entertainment, and all-you-can-eat "game day fare," as well as a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to tour the Red Wings' locker room. Guests can bring their own skates, or rent a pair, and take a few laps on the ice and participate in hockey feats of skill.

This year's Chill at the Joe features a charity hockey game between the Detroit Red Wings Alumni and Police Department All-Stars.

Proceeds will be donated to First Step to support the organization's mission

of providing a safe place to stay, a 24-hour help line, counseling, advocacy, assault response, legal support, children's programs and other essential services designed to support victims of domestic and sexual violence and their families.

Tickets are \$20 per person in advance and at the door. More information is available online at [www.firststep-mi.org](http://www.firststep-mi.org) or call Theresa Bizoe, associate director, at (734) 416-1111, Ext. 205, or by e-mail at [tbizoe@firststep-mi.org](mailto:tbizoe@firststep-mi.org).

**Comets honored**

The Westland Youth Athletic Association is putting out a call for members of the 2011 Comets varsity football championship team.

WYAA plans to honor the team during halftime of the 2011 Comets varsity Homecoming game Saturday, Sept. 24, at John Glenn High School on Marquette west of Wayne Road in Westland.

Former players can contact Keith Demolay at 734-516-9269 for more information.

**Golf Outing**

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

Contact Coach Polk at [www.rocketwrestling@gmail.com](http://www.rocketwrestling@gmail.com) or Judy at (734) 634-4595 for more information or to make reservations. More information is also available on the website. Hole sponsorship and raffle donations

are also being accepted.

**Farmers Market**

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

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

**Spaghetti dinner**

The monthly spaghetti dinner returns to the Dyer Senior Center in Westland Friday, Sept. 23. Enjoy spaghetti, salad and dessert, as well as entertainment, for just \$6. Dinner is served 4-7 p.m.

The center also has euchre and bingo at 1 p.m. Wednesdays and pinochle is played at 1 p.m. Fridays.

The Dyer Center is at 36745 Marquette, east of Newburgh, in Westland. For more information, call (734) 419-2020.

**Blues and barbecues**

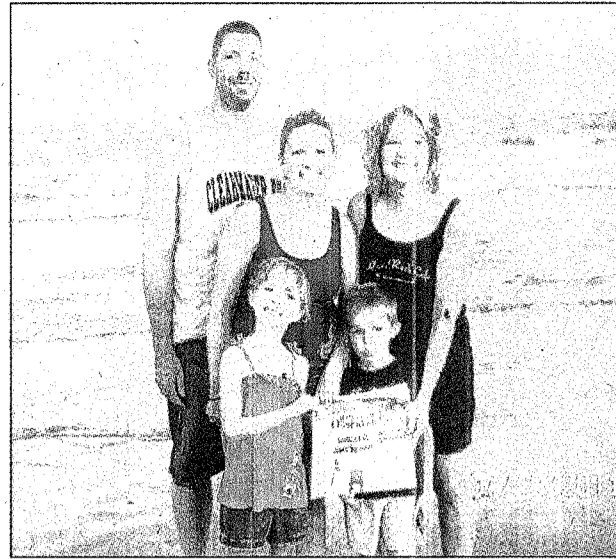
Make sure your calendar is clear of engagements, except for one, Saturday, Sept. 24.

That's when the city of Westland and the Westland Chamber of Commerce will sponsor a new event sure to please those who love good music, food and drinks.

Blues Brews & BBQ will be held from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on the grounds of Westland City Hall, 36601 Ford, west of Wayne Road.


The event will feature some of the best BBQ around, great blues bands — Front Street Blues Band from noon to 1:40 p.m., The Boa Constrictors 2-3:40 p.m. and The Alligators 4-6 p.m. — a wide variety of Michigan-brewed craft beers, a car show and a kid zone.

Bring the whole family to enjoy the day. For updates, check the city's website and Facebook page.



**Wish You Were Here**

Danielle, Brendan (holding paper), Todd and Melissa Bigelow and Linda and Steve (taking picture) Bodnovits pose for Wish You Were Here on the beach at Hilton Head Island where they vacationed July 9-23. "We had warm temperatures, but it was even hotter back here in Michigan," said Linda. "We swam in the ocean, walked on the beach, played games. We had a great time and can't wait to go back." If you go on vacation, be sure to take a picture with your Observer and send it to Sue Mason as a jpg at [smason@hometownlife.com](mailto:smason@hometownlife.com) or by mail to her attention at 615 W. Lafayette, Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226. Be sure to include your name and information about your photo.


  
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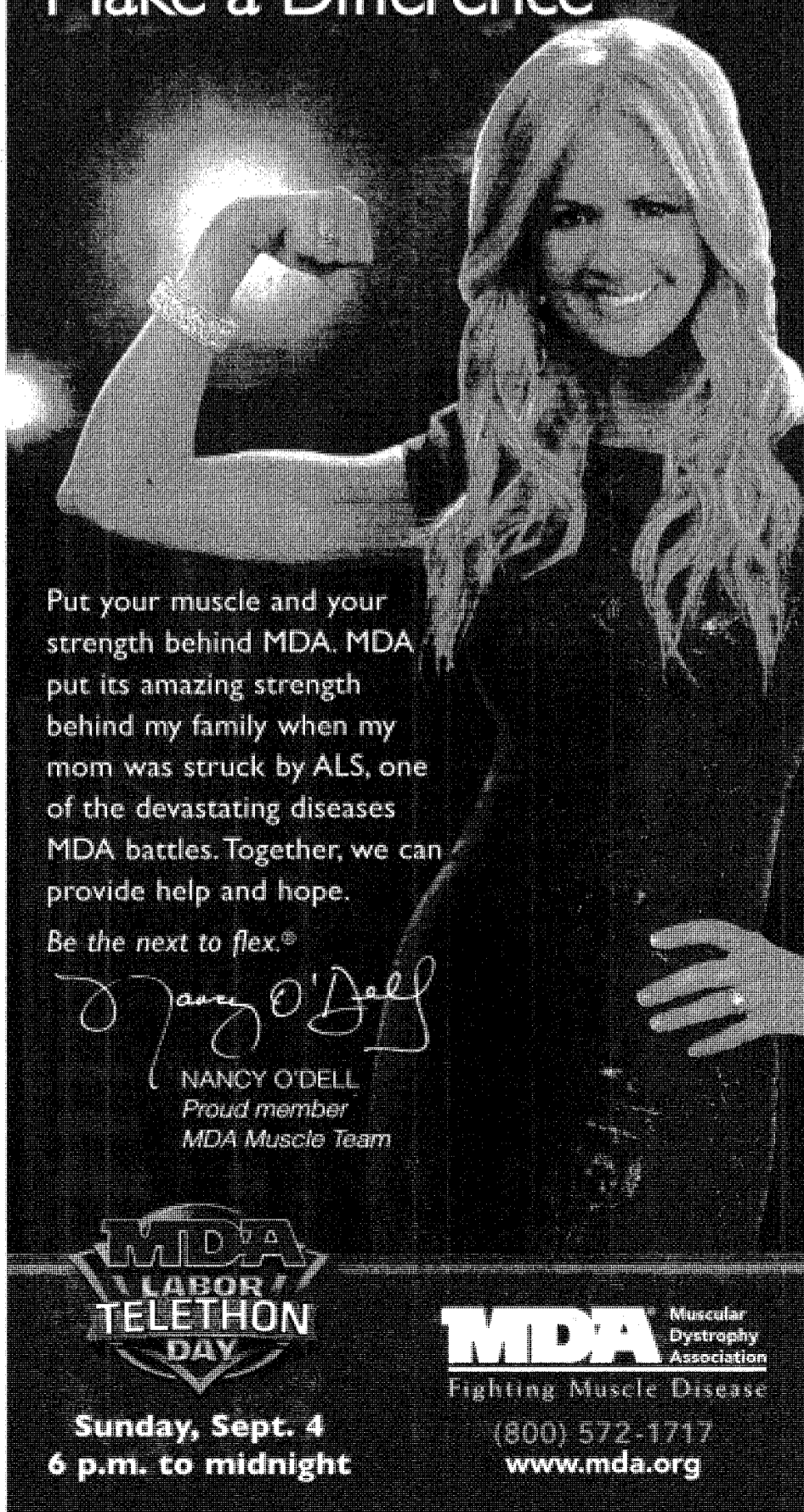
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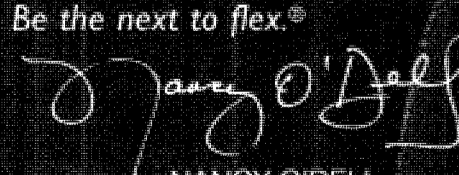
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Members of the Wayne Memorial High School cheer squad perform for the crowd at Disney Radio's Back 2 School celebration Saturday.

# Crowds turn out to celebrate at Back 2 School

Crowds of parents and their teens crowded into the East Court of Westland Shopping Center for a Back 2 School celebration designed to entertain them and introduce them to the Wayne-Westland Community Schools. The three-hour event was hosted by Radio Disney AM-910 Detroit. It featured a first ever concert by "N.B.T." artists Tay Barton and Hollywood Ending and a performance by the John Glenn High School marching band. Those in attendance also were treated to a back-to-school fashion show and performances by the Wayne Memorial High School cheerleaders and its JROTC exhibition drill team.

The school district also used the event to introduce families to Wayne-Westland, tempting with desserts prepared by the William D. Ford Career Technical Center's culi-

nary arts program and providing information on about its schools of choice program, career and adult education, pre-school programming and transportation. The district even had a school bus outside the mall.

This was the third year the mall and school district partnered with Radio Disney to present the Back 2 School celebration and the first time top Disney performers flew out from Hollywood for the concert which attracted a large crowd. Barton and Ending are two singing acts popular with the younger crowd, according to Patrick Derig, the mall's marketing director.

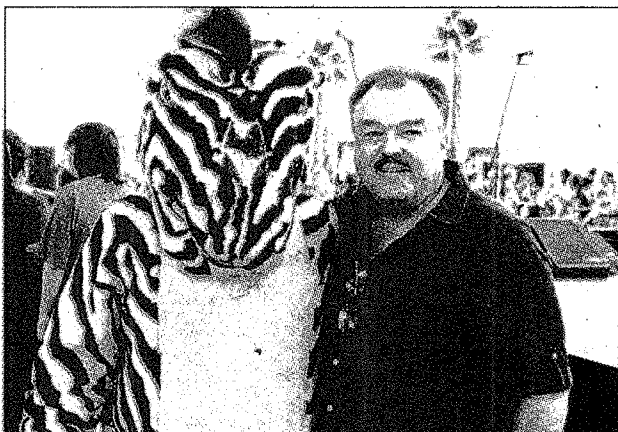
As part of the celebration, shoppers had a chance to win an electric guitar, autographed by Cody Simpson and Greyson Chance, and a \$1,000 mall gift card. Shoppers also were able to win the actual clothes modeled in the fashion show.



"N.B.T." artists Tay Barton and Hollywood Ending perform for the crowd at Radio Disney's Back 2 School event Saturday at Westland Shopping Center.



Members of the Wayne Memorial High School JROTC Zebra Battalion's exhibition rifle team demonstrate their precision.



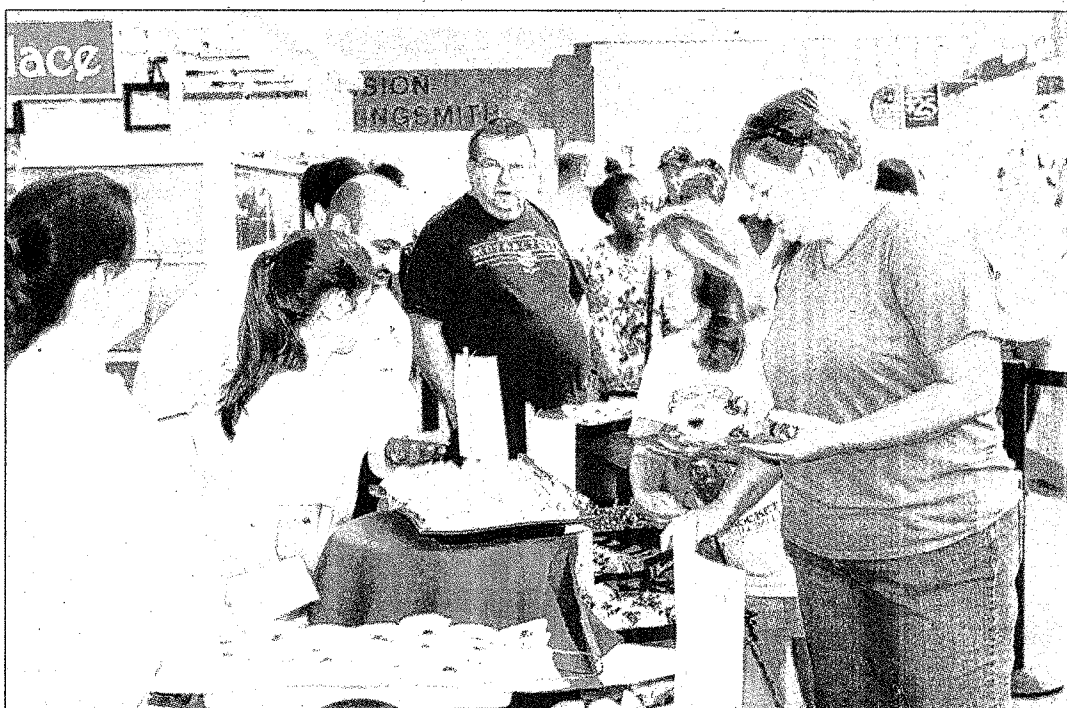
Wayne-Westland School Superintendent Greg Baracy shows his stripes by posing with Wayne Memorial's Zebra mascot. Baracy is a Wayne High graduate.



Drummers from John Glenn High School keep the beat during a performance by the marching band.



The John Glenn High School Rockets marching band get ready to perform for the crowd at the mall.



Chef Tony Paquette, culinary arts instructor at Wayne-Westland's William D. Ford Career Technical Center, talks to shoppers about the desserts his students prepared for the event.

# Ballroom dancing: 'Best exercise a senior can get'



Jean Orleans of Westland and Irving Szokola of Livonia practice their dance moves.



Dolores Grodzicki, of Detroit, is led by dancing partner John Palka of Livonia.

**By Ken Abramczyk**  
Observer Staff Writer

At 1 p.m. every Wednesday, Fred Lunde of Livonia shows up with his friend and neighbor Margaret Matthews.

So do Donald Rodde of Livonia and Eleanor Peterson of Farmington Hills, along with Redmond Rock of South Lyon and Marilyn Charette of Redford.

About 30 seniors hit the dance floor for a little ballroom dancing.

Judging from their broad smiles and jaunty gaits, they're having a blast.

"We like to dance to fast

songs, but when we're out there, and it's Marilyn and me and the music, no one else exists," Rock said.

"It's the moving to the music, the camaraderie of the people, and it's such a healthy happy time," Charette said.

**'The day we dance'**

Rock always looks forward to Wednesdays. "This is the day we dance," Rock said. "The doctor told me to do it for exercise."

Roberta O'Meara of Farmington Hills and Mitch Woroniewicz of Westland took a short break between songs.

"Just being with old friends, and they're old because everyone is over 80," O'Meara said, joking about the ages of the dancers. Woroniewicz also dances for the exercise.

Joseph Pressotto of Livonia is 91. "I've been coming here for 20 years," Pressotto said. "I like the band and these people have all kinds of friends here. I like dancing, that's all."

Peterson said she loves the seniors gathered at the center. "We come here every Saturday night for dancing and Wednesdays, and every day for activities,"

Peterson said. "We love it here."

**Happy times**

Rodde believes the friendships he's made have given him reason to live. "I've really found what happiness is with this group," Rodde said.

"We have a nice facility, air conditioning, a live band, and the dance floor is good," Rodde said. "Now I know what life is about; it's not all about work, it's play, too."

Lunde and Matthews live next-door to each other in senior apartments in Livonia.

Matthews said she enjoys getting out, dress-

ing up and spending time with friends. "My doctor said 'Dance as long as you can,'" Matthews said. "I think it's the best exercise a senior can get."

Lunde recently gave Matthews a ring.

"It's unique," Lunde said. "It has three stones, one for the past, one for the present and one for the future."

"The past we don't forget, we both were married; the present, we remember our kids and we each have three, and the future is that we look forward to a beautiful relationship," Lunde said.

Rock said he enjoys the time spent at the cen-

ter. "I'm more at ease with these people than I am with 50- and 60-year-olds," Rock said.

Sometimes the dancers get together afterwards for some food and a drink at a local restaurant, Charette said. "These people are so upbeat and ready to enjoy life," Charette said.

For more information on senior activities, visit [www.ci.livonia.mi.us](http://www.ci.livonia.mi.us) and click on Senior Center or visit the center at 15218 Farmington, just south of Five Mile.

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# Coalition aims to get health insurance to children

More than 127,000 children in Michigan are uninsured and it doesn't have to be that way.

Oakwood Healthcare, Inc. has joined a coalition of Michigan hospitals, school districts and Community Health Centers in a back-to-school campaign to enroll eligible children in the state's low-cost and free health insurance programs known as MICHild and Healthy Kids.

The Enroll Michigan coalition includes the Michigan Primary Care Association (MPCA), the Michigan Health and Hospital Association (MHA) and the Middle Cities Education Association (MCEA).

The eight-week campaign is part of a year-long effort of the Enroll Michigan coalition to enroll as many of Michigan's more than 127,000 uninsured and eligible children as is possible in the two programs.

## BY THE NUMBERS

- Nearly 65,000 of Michigan's uninsured children live in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb Counties. (Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007)
- If they held hands, Michigan's uninsured children would stretch nearly 97 miles, fill 2,311 school buses and form 14,126 Little League teams. (Source: Campaign for Children's Health Care)
- Michigan once had the lowest number of uninsured children in the country — it is now number nine on that list. (Source: U.S. Census Bureau)

"This care is critical for detecting health conditions at an earlier stage," said Brian Connolly, president and CEO of Oakwood Healthcare Inc., which provides health care to patients throughout southeast

- Nationwide, Michigan is ranked 30th for the well-being of children. (Source: KIDS Count 2011)
- One in 20 children in Michigan has no health insurance (Source: Campaign for Children's Health Care) and Twenty-three percent of Michigan children live in poverty. (Source: KIDS Count 2011)
- Children with family incomes below 200 percent of poverty are three times as likely to be uninsured. (Source: Center for Healthcare Research and Transformation (CHRT), 2009)

Michigan. "Introducing children to prevention and wellness care also teaches them the importance of developing healthy habits. These lessons last a lifetime."

While most of the uninsured children in are

- At least 83,000 of Michigan's uninsured children are eligible for an existing low-cost or free health insurance program. (Source: Center on Budget & Policy Priorities)
- Nearly 22 percent of Michigan's uninsured children are age 0-5. (Source: Robert Wood Johnson Foundation)
- Sixty-three percent of Michigan's uninsured children are white, nearly 20 percent are black or African American and more than 9 percent are Hispanic. (Source: Robert Wood Johnson Foundation)

eligible for MICHild or Healthy Kids, they have not enrolled for reasons including language barriers, lack of transportation or means of communication (telephone access) and unawareness of eligibility and/or how

to enroll. Enroll Michigan has been working since March to connect the families of eligible children to MPCA Community Navigators to complete the simplified online, telephone and in-person enrollment processes.

"A child who gets health care in the right place at the right time is better prepared to learn and less likely to develop serious, costly medical conditions," said MPCA Executive Director Kim Sibilsky. "The goal of the Enroll Michigan back-to-school project is to help more Michigan children get affordable coverage, obtain the care they need, and become healthier and happier students."

It's easier than ever to enroll, according to Spencer Johnson, president of the MHA. Families with children who have no health insurance can call 2-1-1, e-mail

enroll@mpca.net or visit the Enroll Michigan website at [www.enrollmichigan.com](http://www.enrollmichigan.com).

"The process to enroll eligible children has been simplified significantly, and the quality of care and services available through MICHild and Healthy Kids are high," Johnson said.

"Healthy kids can consistently attend school and aren't distracted with avoidable medical conditions that can set them back," added Ray Telman, executive director of the MCEA. "Let's make sure kids return to school this fall with the best school supply there is — their health."

The coalition recently launched a gift card incentive program which gives \$10 gift cards to people who refer a child to coverage through Enroll Michigan. The gift card program runs through Sept. 30 or until supplies last.

# State lawmakers cap health care premiums for cities, school districts

By Ken Abramczyk  
Observer Staff Writer

If they aren't already, city and school employees will find themselves picking up more of the tab of health insurance costs.

Under new legislation approved last week by state lawmakers, the employers' share of health insurance premiums for local government and school employees will be capped.

The legislation, expected to be signed by Gov. Rick Snyder, will limit the amount a local government or school can pay for an employee's annual health insurance premiums to \$5,500 for individ-

uals, \$11,000 for couples or \$15,000 for a family, or the bill would also allow a school district or local government to choose to adopt an 80 percent-20 percent split of premium costs as an alternative if it is cheaper for the governmental unit, according to State Rep. John Walsh, R-Livonia.

Walsh supported the bill.

"One of the biggest costs facing municipalities, townships and school districts are health care costs," Walsh said. "The private sector costs average more than 20 percent co-pays. What we're trying to do is reflect in the public sector what is

going on in the private sector in health insurance."

Walsh also supported it to help local governments balance their budgets, which have been besieged with declining revenue due mainly to falling property values. "School boards and local communities have asked us for tools to help them address rising health care costs at a local level," Walsh said.

## Impact on bargaining

Walsh was asked if these issues should be negotiated at a local level as a part of collective bargaining.

"It is still subject to bargaining," Walsh said. "That's why we gave them a choice between the cap and the 80/20. The problem with health care costs is so dramatic and large, that we should start with this step to set a floor. We don't like to intervene, but it is not an isolated case. It is a problem felt across the state."

The Michigan Association of School Boards, the state Board of Education members and state schools superintendent supported the legislation. "We studied it and felt comfortable doing it," Walsh said.

Wayne-Westland school officials and union mem-

bers have already negotiated and approved some cost-cutting measures. Garden City school officials are currently negotiating with their employee groups.

## Dem rips plan

State Sen. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland, ripped the Republicans for the bills.

"It is the height of hypocrisy that the same Republican Senators who blast Washington for imposing mandates on the states now support Lansing mandates on our school districts, townships and cities," Anderson said in a prepared statement.

"We once valued hometown rule in this state. We valued allowing communities to make decisions based on their individual needs, realizing that state government shouldn't micro-manage and dictate from Lansing local government decisions that were their responsibility. And we used to value the ability of employers and workers to negotiate terms without state interference. This Republican-led Legislature is again stripping away local control and the power of the people across our state."


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## Spa hopes 'Give Back' week changes lives

The team at Ashka Salon & Spa hosts their second annual Give Back Week in honor of Spencer and Bryton Pratt, Sept. 12-17.

Alongside other initiatives spa employees will be volunteering their time to host a week-long "Beauty-A-Thon" at their facility, located at 242 N. Canton Center Road, with 100 percent of the proceeds being donated to The Pratt brothers. Ashka's team members will be donating their time and offering 25-minute chair massages for \$20, haircuts for \$25, pedicures for \$30, facials for \$40 and express Keratin treatments for \$50.

Owner Jozie Hogarth said her team is "excited to invite the Pratt Brothers into their Ashka Family." Spencer, 6, and 2-year-old Bryton were born with a similar birth defect.

"The sad part is their suffering is unnecessary," Hogarth said. "The medical help they need is currently available, but not in their home state of Texas."

The brothers were the winners of a contest the salon held for its second annual Give Back Week. They beat out First Step, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Children with Hairloss, C.S. Motts Children's Hospital and Gleaner's Community Food Bank of Southeastern Michigan in the online voting.

A tracheoesophageal fistula (TEF) is essentially a point of fusion or connection between the trachea and esophagus. TEFs often lead to severe and/or life-threatening pulmonary compli-



Canton's Ashka Salon & Spa hosts its second annual Give Back Week to benefit Spencer and Bryton Pratt, who were born with similar birth defects.

cations, as food particles can enter the lungs and/or air can enter the stomach and intestines. The brothers, according to Hogarth, have had over six failed surgeries and months of missed school, and are "still in a great need for advanced medical treatment." As the situation progresses, developmental concerns are increasing for both boys, she said.

Hogarth said one of Ashka's stylists had a baby boy last July born with a TEF. He received surgery shortly after being born to take care of the fistula and to repair the mis-connection.

In addition to the Beauty-A-Thon, a silent auction will be conducted through Sept. 17 and will feature many gift cards, services and items. It includes assorted gift cards from local restaurants including Hayden's, Red Olive, and Flem-

ing's Steak House. Also, front row tickets for the Detroit Tigers, Red Wings Legend's Club tickets and tickets for a University of Michigan football game are included. Autographed Red Wings Memorabilia, gym memberships, Amazon.com gift certificates, personal training, handbags and jewelry will also be included.

Lastly, Ashka Salon & Spa will be donating 10 percent of all regular service, retail and gift card sales this week and will host an on-line raffle for a \$500 Aveda Gift Basket, which can be found at [www.ashkasalon.com](http://www.ashkasalon.com).

Call (734) 414-9980 to schedule a Beauty-A-Thon appointment. Mention the Beauty-A-Thon when booking as these appointments are limited and subject to availability. Ashka Salon & Spa is located at 242 N. Canton Center Road in Canton.

## BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS

### Be a sponsor

Businesses can spread the word about themselves by being a sponsor of the Sunday, Sept. 11, Chill at the Joe, a benefit for First Step, which supports the victims of domestic and sexual violence and their families in western Wayne County and Downriver.

A variety of sponsorship packages are available, including:

- Underwriter - \$10,000, which includes the right to use the Chill at the Joe 2011 event logo and images for communications and promotional purposes, a full page advertisement in the Chill at the Joe 2011 program, VIP hospitality, including access to VIP reception area, 100 event tickets and premium signage, including logo on ad boards and TV monitors at the event at Joe Louis Arena.

- Benefactor - \$5,000, which includes the right to use the Chill at the Joe 2011 event logo and images for communications and promotional purposes, a half page advertisement in the Chill at the Joe 2011 program, VIP hospitality, including access to VIP reception area, 50 event tickets and signage, including logo on ad boards and TV monitors at the event at Joe Louis Arena.

- Patron - \$2,500, which includes recognition in Chill at the Joe Program, 30 event tickets and recognition as Gold Sponsor on TV monitors around the Joe.

- Sponsor - \$1,000, which includes recognition in Chill at the Joe Program, 20 event tickets and company name listed on sign.

- Peacemaker - \$500, which includes recogni-

tion in Chill at the Joe Program, 10 event tickets and company name listed on sign.

- Hopemaker - \$250, which includes recognition in Chill at the Joe Program, 5 event tickets and company name listed on sign.

Customized benefit packages also are available for partners who want to donate goods and services.

The afternoon of family fun runs 2-6 p.m. at Joe Louis Arena in Detroit. Tickets are \$20 per person in advance and at the door. The event features a variety of crafts, games, entertainment, and all-you-can-eat "game day fare," as well as a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to tour the Red Wings' locker room. Guests can bring their own skates, or rent a pair, and take a few laps on the ice and participate in hockey feats of skill. This year's Chill at the Joe features a charity hockey game between the Detroit Red Wings Alumni and Police Department All-Stars.

All proceeds from sponsorships will be donated to First Step to support the organization's mission. Details about sponsorships are available online at [www.firststepmi.org](http://www.firststepmi.org). For more information, call Theresa Bizoe, associate director, at (734) 416-1111, Ext. 205, or by email at [tbizoe@firststepmi.org](mailto:tbizoe@firststepmi.org).

First Step provides a safe place to stay, a 24-hour help line, counseling, advocacy, assault response, legal support, children's programs and other essential services designed to support victims of domestic and sexual violence and their families.

### Best and Brightest

For the second consecutive year, Atlas Oil Company, a premier provider of round-the-clock petroleum products and services, has earned a spot on the coveted "Metropolitan Detroit's 101 Best and Brightest Companies to Work For" list.

The 101 Best and Brightest awards were established by the Michigan Business and Professional Association to honor companies that practice innovative strategies and represent best practices in human resources. Companies on the list are leaders in creating organizational value and business results through their best practices and policies in human resource management. The awards are a testament to fact that these companies are ideal places for employees to work.

The award process consists of a nomination, anonymous employee surveys by an independent research firm and an extensive survey of the company's Human Resources Department.

Atlas was formed in 1985 and today has more than 400 employees and does business in 23 states - nearly half of the continental U.S. The company's commercial transportation business supplies Fortune 500 companies with innovative fuel solutions. Atlas also has a mobile fueling tank wagon business and supplies nearly 400 retail gas stations, representing six gasoline brands.

Atlas will accept its award at the MPBA Symposium and luncheon on Sept. 29 at the Marriott Dearborn Inn.

## Schoolcraft hosts export boot camp

Small businesses looking to increase sales and profits are taking their businesses global so now is the time to learn the tools for international trade as the Michigan Small Business and Technology Development Center presents a new series: "Export Boot Camp for Small Businesses," a five-class program, starting Sept. 15 at Schoolcraft College in Livonia.

Get your small business the information to be competitive in the global marketplace. Learn the basic tools to initiate or expand into international markets. Topics covered include risk assessment, supply chain management,

finance, freight forwarding, insurance, product classification, export regulations and marketing.

Trained MI-SBTDC counselors and export experts from the Small Business Administration will guide participants through the class so they come away with numerous resources to grow their international business.

The cost is \$245 per person - senior citizen cost is \$196 per person. Register by calling (734) 462-4438. Schoolcraft College is located at 18600 Haggerty Road in Livonia, MI, 48152. The five-class program runs from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

The Michigan Small Business and Technology Development Center (MI-SBTDC) is a statewide business assistance program that provides one-on-one counseling, training and research support for Michigan small businesses.

The MI-SBTDC Southeast Region, serving Wayne, Oakland and Monroe counties, is headquartered at the Eastern Michigan University College of Business in the Center for Entrepreneurship with full service locations at TechTown in Detroit, Schoolcraft College in Livonia, the Monroe Industrial Development Corporation and the Oakland County Business Center.

## Communicate: Use more words

By Clarity Patton Newhouse  
Guest Columnist

Today's success tip might seem counter-cultural in an era of instant messages and e-mail on the fly, but that's why it's even important than ever: use more words.

We live in a fast paced world that values brevity, as do I (get to the point, please!). But getting to the point is pointless, unless it's clear. My point is - clear communication saves money and saves relationships.

1) Saves Money - Imagine the enormous number of salary hours spent by employees trying to decipher or follow unclear communications. Yes, we all want the job done fast, but if you want it done fast and right, don't skimp on the instructions.

2) Saves Relationships - "I thought you arranged tonight's baby sitter! When you said, 'we're going need a baby sit-



Clarity Patton Newhouse

ter this weekend,' I didn't know that meant you wanted ME to call her. Now what do we do?"

At work and at home, using just a few more words can make a big difference. I'm not advocating for long rambling meetings (too many words!). Rather, I'm reminding us that a clearly written communication can help keep a meeting brief or even eliminate the need for a meeting at all, while a badly written communication can lead to multiple meetings and hours of lost productivity caused by wasted time deciphering unclear instructions.

In conclusion, there's a big difference between being brief and being concise, which involves getting to the point quickly but also clearly. While

brevity may be the soul of wit, making the audience LOL, brevity can be the death of communication, leaving people wondering WTF. (Oh, yeah, and watch out for acronyms.)


Clarity

PS. One of the important pieces of information often left out of instructions is "why." Telling someone "why" something needs to be done enables them to engage their own reasoning to fill in gaps in the instructions and/or help improve the results.

Clarity Patton Newhouse is co-president of Sunny Media Group Inc., located at 39209 Six Mile, Suite 165, Livonia. She writes "A Sunny Note" to brighten the day with encouraging insights for business and life. "A Sunny Note" also is published online at [ASunnyNote.com](http://ASunnyNote.com) for readers across America and beyond. To reach her call (734) 855-4728 or find her on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/sunnynotes](http://www.facebook.com/sunnynotes).

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## OUR VIEWS

# Back to school

## These tips can ease transition for many

It's been a great summer for kids in Westland — lots of special programs and events to fill each day — but, those days are dwindling in number, as we approach Back to School time.

Students will return to the routine of getting up early, doing homework and learning new things when school starts on Tuesday, Sept. 6.

For some students, this transition can be scary and somewhat dreadful. An area education expert, Wie Pan, who is executive director of Huntington Learning Center of Canton, takes note of this, and offers parents and students some tips.

We think they're worth sharing with our readers.

"End of summer is bittersweet for some children, while others are much more fearful about going back to the classroom", said Pan. "No matter what your child's demeanor, it is beneficial for parents to prepare their child for the change."

Pan offers these six tips to get your child ready to head back to school.

1. Take your child back-to-school shopping. Spending a day together buying school supplies and maybe even a new back-to-school outfit is a fun way to get into the school mode and a good opportunity to let your child tell you the things he or she thinks will help make him or her successful. It's also a good chance for parents to have one-on-one conversations with their children about any goals they have for the year and how they can be supportive of their children.

2. Introduce your child ahead of time to another classmate or two. A few weeks before the first day of school, reconnect with friends from last year who will be in your child's new class. If your child is new to the school, look around your neighborhood to find other children of the same age. A back-to-school night may be a good opportunity to meet other classmates, too.

3. Plan on getting extra help. For students who struggled in the previous school year, the idea of going back to school may be especially stressful. Summer is a great time to build skills and improve weaker areas, but if your summer was focused on other things, now is a great time to investigate supplemental education services for your child. Talk to his or her teacher in advance about problem areas and how the two of you can work together to get your child off on the right foot.

4. Set an optimistic tone. As a parent, you have a lot of influence on your child's attitude toward school. Show him or her through your actions that learning is fun and a part of everyday life. Teach your child to value effort and hard work. Your child needs to understand, too, that failure is something we all experience. What matters is how we learn from it and move forward.

5. Be prepared. Many schools have an orientation before school starts, which gives parents the information they need about school supplies, dress code, required forms, transportation and more. Being organized and on top of all school requirements will minimize first-week stresses for both you and your child.

6. Meet the teacher. Your school may host a meet-your-teacher day, which is a great opportunity for your child to get to know his or her new teacher before the first day. If not, ask the school if you and your child can come in another time before school starts. Get familiar with the school layout and other school resources that will help your child (the guidance counselor and speech therapist, for example). Let your child's teacher know that you look forward to working together this year.

These tips can be useful in reducing the back-to-school nerves and anxieties for students and parents. Parents should set that positive tone about school, long before the bell rings on the first day. But, that's just the beginning — support throughout the school year is necessary. Partnering with your child and with his or her teacher in the education process is important in leading kids down a productive and perhaps even enjoyable educational experience.

## COMMUNITY VOICE

### What are your plans for Labor Day?

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



"I'll probably just hang out with my friends and family. I'm lucky I don't have to work."

**Briana Tierney**  
Novi



"I'll just get together with family and friends and have a barbecue."

**John Emery**  
Garden City



"I think we'll go out to the lake, get on the jet skis and hang out at the house and have a barbecue."

**Diana Gilley**  
Westland



"I don't have any plans. If anything, I'll cook at home with my 3-year-old."

**Rachel Burns**  
Westland

## LETTERS

### Stop spending money

I felt compelled to write and address these ridiculous recall proceedings going on in our state to recall the governor, some legislators and senators for doing what the people asked for.

They are trying to do what is right by balancing the state's checkbook as every American must do. In order to save Medicaid and other necessary programs, the budget must be trimmed, and everybody needs to be on the same playing field.

The teachers unions don't want any part of this, they want to feed at the public (taxpayer) trough as long as possible. It is these organizations that are leading the charge on these elected officials that are doing what the public elected them to do.

Every job I've had required me to pay part of my medial and retirement benefits, the unions believe they shouldn't.

We do not need to raise taxes; we need to stop spending so much.

**Phil Solarz**  
Westland

### Maple tar spots

If maple trees shade your neighborhood, you may have noticed a strange phenomenon this summer — black, raised spots forming on the leaves of the trees. In Tonquish subdivision, where I walk daily with my dogs, I have watched these ugly, tar-like blemishes riddle the maple population. I became curious as to what the spots are indicative of, whether they are dangerous to trees, and how we can stop them from infesting our maples. In this letter, I share what I discovered.

"Tar spots," as they are commonly known, signal a fungal disease in the genus Rhytisma. The disease first manifests itself in the form of tiny yellow spots on maple foliage in spring and early summer. Over the course of the season, the spots grow and become raised, eventually turning black.

Fortunately, neither tar spots nor the fungi they are indicative of seriously endanger the maples they affect. The harm is primarily cosmetic, although the fungus may lead to early defoliation.

The fungi causing tar spots can survive the winter on fallen leaves. Thus, the only way to eradicate this nuisance is to rake and properly dispose of all maple debris. I will take this opportunity to encourage my neighbors to please fully rake your yard this autumn and bag all leaves. If we work together, we can stop the spread of tar spots next spring.

References:  
• Roberts, David L., Ph.D., "Managing Tar Spot on Maples," available at <http://www.anr.msu.edu/robertsd/maple/index.html>. July 2004.  
• Sellers, Peggy, "Tar Spot on Maple," available at [http://www.ppd.purdue.edu/ppdl/expert/Tar\\_Spot\\_on\\_Maple/html](http://www.ppd.purdue.edu/ppdl/expert/Tar_Spot_on_Maple/html). March 2011.

**Bethany Stawaz**  
Westland

### 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](mailto:smason@hometownlife.com).

Read or comment online: [www.hometownlife.com](http://www.hometownlife.com)

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

Blog: You may also let your opinions be heard with your own blog at [www.hometownlife.com](http://www.hometownlife.com).

### Questions about cruise

I love cars. The Cruisin' Hines sounded so cool that it needed to be checked out. Without my own "classic car" of "hot rod," I chose to bike into Edward Hines to enjoy the day. As a spectator I was met with terrible conditions.

First, the rules of cars not allowed on the grass were broken from one end to the other. Cars were parked all over the place well behind the protective barriers. People sat behind their cars with tents and chairs on the bike path. In most cases forcing us to swing into the wet grass going around them. I asked a police officer and he said he was told by the promoter, Don Nicholson, it was allowable because of so many cars.

Secondly, when we tried to ride on the shoulder we were told that was not permissible.

Thirdly, does the taxpayer foot the bill for all the additional costs of Wayne County workers, police? Or does the promoter who stands to make money off the event? Seems only fair if someone is closing down the park, setting up new rules, rerouting family routines that the taxpayer should not be paying for a private (non-charitable) profit endeavor.

If this event is to continue, and I hope it does, it is kept in better perspective of what Hines Park can handle, the rules obeyed just like on any other day, taxpayers are not liable for the additional protection required.

**Lori Harris**  
Garden City

### Support repair act

The National Independent Automobile Dealers Association supports the Motor Vehicle Owners' Right To Repair Act (HR 1449) and strongly urges Congress to pass this important piece of legislation on behalf of its over 20,000 members and the motoring public.

As a national trade association representing independent automobile dealers, we believe that all vehicle service and repair information should be made available to consumers and all facilities that sell vehicles or pursue repair opportunities, and should not be restricted to just those who are affiliated with a manufacturer. Consumers benefit from

competition and are at a disadvantage when local auto repair facilities are denied ready access to nonproprietary service information and tools needed to properly maintain today's highly sophisticated motor vehicles.

The Right To Repair Act ensures that car companies provide full access at a reasonable cost to all service information, tools, computer codes and safety-related bulletins needed to repair motor vehicles so that our members' customers and all motorists can have their vehicles serviced at the repair shop of their choice.

We encourage you to join us and visit [www.righttorepair.org](http://www.righttorepair.org) to send a letter to each of your congressional representatives, urging them to support the Right To Repair Act.

**Michael R. Linn**  
CEO

National Independent Automobile Dealers Association

### Support president

This current Republican focus on debt and deficit reduction under Tea Party influence is certain to have a negative effect on the more urgent problem of a 9 percent national unemployment level. Common sense tells us that cutting state and federal workers can only increase job loss.

President Obama understands the need for action and will soon propose increased expenditures on infrastructure projects to stimulate short-term employment. Since an uphill battle in this Republican Congress is to be expected, all of us in Michigan should support the president with letters or e-mails to our senators and congressmen, and vote Democratic in 2012.

**Dr. Robert Katz**  
West Bloomfield

### Levin should retire

Just once I wish I could find something I agree with Sen. Carl Levin on. After reading his legislative update he still doesn't get it. The wealthiest (he may be one, but I'm not) already pay the majority of the taxes so don't tell me they need "shared sacrifice." With nearly 50 percent of all tax filers paying zero taxes, they are the ones that need the shared sacrifice. Everyone needs some skin in the game. Only in Washington do you think a household income of \$100k-plus needs a tax break. They don't and I'm tired of paying more taxes to give others tax credits they don't need. Most of these so-called programs that Levin claims benefit the middle class need to be slashed because we are over \$14 trillion in debt. The typical Democratic rhetoric of draconian cuts on American families is nothing but B.S. My only hope is that more Americans who actually pay taxes, will get out and boot out the current administration before this country is totally destroyed by the likes of Levin.

Levin needs to do the citizens of Michigan a huge favor and retire. He has been there way too long.

**Linda Sroka**  
South Lyon

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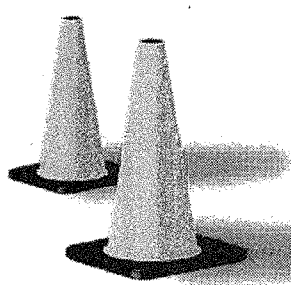
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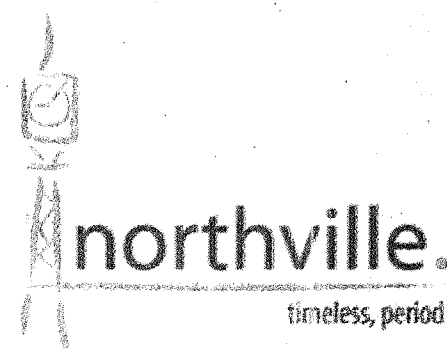
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# The 'Irish Hawk'

## Westland boxer Lally dead at age 48

By Brad Emons  
Observer Staff Writer

Brett "The Irish Hawk" Lally would be categorically be defined as a pugilist in every sense of the word.

The Westland native, who found his niche as a popular amateur and professional boxer, met an untimely death at age 48 on Monday night at Dearborn's Oakwood Hospital. Cause of death has not been determined.

Lally, known for his brawling and aggressive style, got his start at the Livonia Boxing Club with older brother Bradd, and eventually captured the 1980 U.S. National Golden Gloves 119-pound title as a teenager at Detroit's Cobo Arena.

In 1983, the John Glenn High grad, who also excelled as a diver, turned professional and won his first eight bouts.

In 1989 he hit the main stage at Bally's Hotel

& Casino in Las Vegas when he lost on a second-round TKO to highly-regarded Donald Curry, but bounced back in 1990 scoring a fourth-round TKO over Robert "Bam Bam" Hines to earn the vacant NABF light middleweight (154 pounds) title.

"That was probably Brett's biggest accomplishment, he was a huge underdog in that fight,"

Please see LALLY, B4



Brett "The Irish Hawk" Lally was all smiles the night he won the NABF junior middleweight belt after knocking out Robert "Bam Bam" Hines in 1990.

## Blazers stick 5 opponents

Livonia Ladywood coach Kris Sanders couldn't ask for a better start to the 2011 girls field hockey season.

The Blazers made it five straight Tuesday as seniors Kelly Campbell and Emma Ellswood each notched hat tricks in a 14-0 Catholic League victory over visiting Warren Regina.

Senior Erin Cronyn added two goals as Ladywood improved to 3-0 in the Catholic League.

Other goal scorers included seniors Andrea Villarreal and Molly MacLennan; juniors Lauren Kozlowski, Briana Sultana and Jaclyn Snyder; along with freshman Christina Meyer.

Goalkeepers Mackenzie Holme, a senior, and Stephanie Mackley, a junior, faced just one shot combined to earn the shutout.

On Saturday, Ladywood earned a 5-0 home field victory over Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook as Cronyn tallied two goals and one assist.

Seniors Ellswood, Claire McCarthy and Kozlowski also added goals in Catholic League victory with assists going to Meyer, Snyder and Sultana.

Holme and Mackley combined on the shutout.

Last Thursday, Ladywood came away with a 5-1 triumph over host Ann Arbor Skyline as Snyder, McCarthy, Cronyn and Kylie Birney each had one goal and one assist. Campbell tallied the other Ladywood goal from Kozlowski.

Brittany Brown scored for Skyline as Holme made four-of-five saves.

On Aug. 23, Cronyn tallied the game-winner from Kozlowski and Holme made nine saves in a 1-0 Catholic League win at Farmington Hills Mercy.

The Blazers opened their season Aug. 18 at home with a 4-0 triumph over visiting Novi thanks to three assists by Cronyn and goals by Birney, Snyder, Campbell and Kozlowski.

Once again, Mackley and Holme combined on the shutout.

## VOLLEYBALL

# Spartans win crown at Airport

The 2011 Livonia Stevenson girls volleyball team is off to one of its best starts in years.

On Saturday, the Spartans captured their second consecutive tournament and improved to 12-0 overall with a 25-21, 25-21 victory over host Carleton Airport.

Sophomore Katie Tomasic racked up a total of 44 kills on the day and senior Kelly Vellucci added 42 as Spartans won all six matches.

"It was an overall team effort leading into the finals," Stevenson coach Kelly Graham said. "With each match that we won I could see the added confidence the team showed. Kelly Vellucci totally came to play in the finals offensively, while Katie Tomasic put the ball down when we needed it."

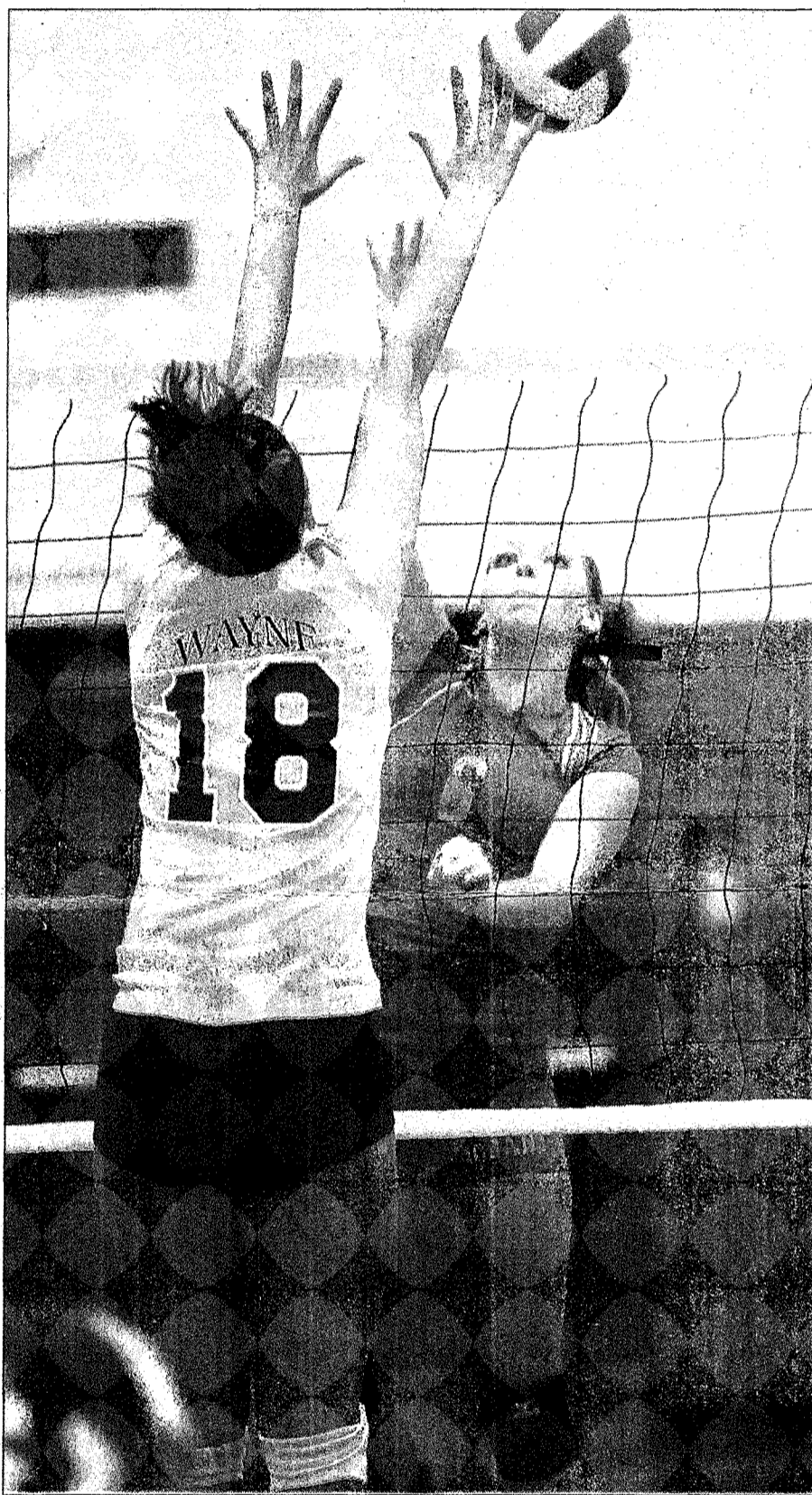
Stevenson also defeated Birmingham Groves (25-13, 25-12), Detroit Cass Tech (25-12, 25-9), Dearborn Divine Child twice (25-17, 25-20 and 26-24, 25-15), along with Lansing Christian (25-18, 25-11) en route to the finals.

Vellucci also contributed 40 assist-to-kills, 19 digs and seven solo blocks, while Tomasic added 26 digs, five blocks and five aces.

Allie Koesterer chipped in with 46 assists, 12 digs and eight aces.

Other Spartan stand-

Please see SPARTANS, B3



Wayne's Keri Horton (18) goes for the block against Clarenceville attacker Tonya Vernier (6) during Tuesday's match.

OBSERVER STAFF PHOTO

# Wayne spikers rally by C'ville

By Brad Emons  
Observer Staff Writer

It's still very early in the girls volleyball season.

So there's ample time to get things corrected for both the Wayne Memorial first-year coach Robert Kelsch and Livonia Clarenceville's sixth-year coach Wendy Merschman.

Wayne, playing its inaugural match of the 2011 season, was less stellar, but managed to earn a 21-25, 25-20, 25-14, 25-16 win Tuesday night over the host Trojans.

Wayne blew an 18-14 lead in the first set, but took control over the final three led by sisters Katie and Keri Horton, who recorded 17 and 10 kills, respectively.

"We came out of the game really struggling as far as being ready from the first serve," Kelsch said. "It was typical Wayne ball — we're slow starters. It's a part of our game that we really got to pick up. We got to get Katie and Keri, the two sisters, more involved. It all starts with being ready minute one."

Keri, a 6-foot-1 junior who has committed to

Please see SPIKERS, B3

## BOYS SOCCER

# Rockets orbit to title at Lincoln

By Brad Emons  
Observer Staff Writer

The Westland John Glenn boys soccer team got a second chance Saturday and made the most of it at the five-team Ypsilanti Lincoln Railsplitters Classic.

Beaten earlier in the day by Monroe, 3-0, the Rockets got eight saves from senior goalkeeper Austin Valentine and a game-winning penalty kick goal from junior Bobby Mason with only 5:12 remaining to beat the Trojans for its first tournament title in school history, 1-0.

Glenn, now 4-1 overall, opened tourney play with a 5-0 win over Milan thanks first-half goals from senior Justin Bean and Mason followed by

second-half tallies from juniors Jimmy Merandi, Tyler Simpson and Austin Hartford.

Valentine made three saves en route to the shutout.

"This was the highest scoring game of the tournament," Glenn coach Brian Tomlinson said of Round One. "Luckily for us we scored enough in this game to make our aggregate score high enough to allow us to play in the tournament's final game."

In the second round, Monroe scored three goals during the first 20 minutes to put the Rockets away despite 11 saves from Valentine.

"Monroe came out fast and aggressive to the

Please see ROCKETS, B4

# JV cage coach promoted

By Brad Emons  
Observer Staff Writer

Livonia Stevenson athletic director Lori Hyman didn't have to look far to find her new varsity boys basketball coach.

Brandon Sinawi, who has spent eight years with the program, including the past six as the Spartans' JV coach, was elevated to the position on Monday.

Sinawi was one of six candidates interviewed to replace Mike Allie, a Stevenson grad who resigned last month after going 61-30 in four seasons. Allie guided the Spartans to back-to-back KLAA Central Division crowns (2010 and 2011) and a pair of Class A

district titles (2009 and 2011).

"Brandon brings continuity and consistency to our program," Hyman said. "He knows the kids and he's familiar with Stevenson High and the basketball program. His loyalty and pride for Stevenson runs deep."

"He's earned the opportunity to be varsity coach. He not only has the knowledge and dedication, but he relates well to the students, athletes and parents. The athletes are excited. They know the coach and they want that continuity."

Sinawi led the Stevenson JV team last year to an 18-2 record.

Two of the five starters return from last year's 19-4 varsity team including first-team All-Observer guard Jonathan Campbell, who may be eligible only for the first semester (pending an appeal by the school

to the MHSAA regarding the eight-semester rule).

"I'm excited," Sinawi said. "It's a great opportunity for myself because it's a great school and a great community for sure. We will emphasize team play, both offensively and defensively and will look to out-work whoever we are playing and put ourselves in position to win games."

Sinawi is a 1999 grad of Farmington Hills Harrison where he played basketball. He holds a degree in physical education and health from Eastern Michigan University and is currently employed with Henkel Surface Technology.

The 30-year-old Sinawi also served two seasons at Stevenson as an assistant under Bill Dyer (now at Novi-Detroit

Please see SINAWI, B4

## St. Mary 5K registration

Registration is on for the St. Mary Mercy Hospital's fifth annual Embrace Life 5-kilometer run-walk for cancer beginning at 9 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 11, in Livonia.

The entry fee is \$22 (until Sept. 2) and is \$27 (through race day). Awards will go to the first three male and female finishers in each age group.

Nearly 600 participated in last year's 5K while raising over \$20,000 for support cancer services at St. Mary Mercy. Lila Lazarus will be on hand along with Nickelodeon's SpongeBob SquarePants.

For more information, call (734) 655-1590 or visit [www.stmarymercy.org](http://www.stmarymercy.org) (click on 5Kforcancer).

**GIRLS GOLF RESULTS**

**BRIGHTON INVITATIONAL GIRLS GOLF TOURNAMENT**  
 Aug. 29 at Oak Pointe G.C.  
**TEAM STANDINGS:** 1. Brighton, 332 strokes; 2. Greenville, 341; 3. Holt, 350; 4. (tie) East Lansing and Northville, 352 each; 6. Grosse Ile, 356; 7. Saline, 359; 8. Traverse City Central, 374; 9. Ann Arbor Pioneer, 377; 10. Temperance Bedford, 382; 11. (tie) Dexter and Traverse City West, 391 each; 13. Livonia Churchill, 392; 14. Livonia Stevenson, 404; 15. Pickney, 413.  
**Individual medalist:** Hannah Pietila (Brighton), 72.  
**AREA TEAM SCORING**  
 Churchill (392): 11. Jordyn Shepler, 85; 35. Maggie McGowan, 95; 55. Jackie Burdette, 102; 66. Maddie Spooner, 110; 67. Nicole Kruse, 111.  
 Stevenson (404): 35. Becca Bubenheimer, 95; 51. Maddie Omietanski, 101; 58. Kelsey Duntley, 103; 61. Sarah King, 105; 67. Laura Shureb, 111.

**DUAL MATCH RESULTS**  
**STEVENSON 176 SOUTH LYON 179**  
 Aug. 30 at Fox Creek G.C.  
**Stevenson scorers:** Becca Bubenheimer, 36 (medalist); Kelsey Duntley, 44; Sarah King and Maddie Omietanski, 48 each; Mary Peitz, 52; Dana Smith, 57.  
**Stevenson's dual match record:** 1-0 overall, 1-0 KLAAS Central Division.  
**CANTON 179 LIVONIA FRANKLIN 238**  
 Aug. 29 at Hilltop G.C.  
**Canton scorers:** Kelsey McDougall, 41 (medalist); Chlyde Ryet, 43; Paige Osler, 44; Kayla Lagola, 51; Kaylie Lobb, 53.  
**Franklin scorers:** Alexis Smith, 56; Kayla Buchanczenko, 57; Jamie Buchanczenko, 61; Kelsey Gregorio, 64; Ana Mozota, 70.  
**Dual match records:** Canton, 1-0 overall, 0-1 KLAAS South Division; Franklin, 0-1 overall, 0-1 KLAAS South.

**LIVONIA CHURCHILL**  
**Head coach:** John McGreevy, 16th year.  
**League affiliation:** KLAAS Kensington Conference (South Division).  
**Last year's finish:** third (KLAAS South); seventh (Division 1 regional); eighth (conference).  
**Notable losses to graduation:** Tom Windle (second-team All-Area), Stephen Charney, Cody Rossler.  
**Leading returnees:** Promising newcomers: Ryan Wise, Sr. (second-team All-Area); Robert Howard, Sr.; Ben Yates, Jr.; George Bowles, Soph.; Sam Yurgil, Jr.; Derek Puihes, Sr.; Andrew Malik, Soph.; Peter Eri, Sr.  
**Promising newcomers:** Joe Hage, Sr.; Jonathan Alessandrini, Fr.  
**McGreevy's 2011 outlook:** "The guys really worked hard this summer with their off-season conditioning. The seniors and captains did a tremendous job of encouraging the younger runners. I am confident that we will improve on last year's record. We would like to be competitive for the division championship but it will be tough with both Plymouth and Canton returning some pretty good runners. Our region looks pretty formidable and it will be a challenge to make it out as a team or individual. At this time, seniors Ryan Wise and Joe Hage seem to have the best chance to qualify as individuals. However, they will have to continue to make significant improvements."  
**LIVONIA FRANKLIN**  
**Head coach:** Walt Reasor, eighth year.  
**League affiliation:** KLAAS Kensington Conference (South Division).  
**Last year's finish:** fifth (KLAAS South); 11th (conference); 12th (Division 1 regional).  
**Notable losses to graduation:** Austin Jones (second-team All-Area), Bobby Wilson.  
**Leading returnees:** Josh Beesmer, Sr.; Neil Culbertson, Sr.;

Kyle Mardeusz, Sr.; Gabe Martinez, Sr.; Jamie Otter, Sr.; Brian Riedy, Sr.; Chad Walters II, Sr.; Mitch Wittenberg, Sr.; Andrew Barnes, Jr.; Ian McCracken, Jr.; Josh Robertson, Jr.; Mike Witt, Jr.; Kevin Kerpet, Soph.; Kevin Kerpet, Soph.; Tyler McManman, Soph.; Graham Tyrell, Soph.  
**Promising newcomers:** Alex Mazur, Sr.; Andrew McGaughy, Sr.; Jack Newa, Jr.; Richie Wiczorek, Jr.; Mike Elrod, Soph.; Bryan Fetner, Soph.; Alex Perelli, Soph.; Noah Verellen, Soph.; Ross Cecil, Fr.; Jacob Forgacs, Fr.; Keenan Jones, Fr.; Finn Newcomb, Fr.; Kyle Perelli, Fr.; Nick Robertson, Fr.; Paul Sturgis, Fr.  
**Reasor's 2011 outlook:** "I am confident that we will be a better team this year. The number of runners is among the highest we've ever had which is leading to great competition for the varsity spots. We also have a very talented group of first year runners, most of which are underclassmen, which is a tremendous boost to our program. I look forward to a really good season where I know that our student athletes will do us proud in both their running performance and in the achievement in the classroom."  
**LIVONIA STEVENSON**  
**Head coach:** Chris Inch, second year.  
**League affiliation:** KLAAS Kensington Conference (Central Division).  
**Last year's finish:** third (KLAAS Central); fifth (conference); eighth (Division 1 regional).  
**Notable losses to graduation:** Matt Williams (first-team All-Area); Joe Urso (second-team All-Area); Adam Chludzinski (second-team All-Area).  
**Leading returnees:** John Lynch, Sr.; Ryan Petrul, Sr.; Jacob Colley, Jr.; Stephen Fenech, Soph.  
**Promising newcomers:** Ben Lambert, Sr.; Matt Garon, Sr.; Alex Chase, Jr.; Ryan Paulus, Jr.; Erik Grisa, Fr.  
**Inch's 2011 outlook:** "The kids did a really nice job condition-

ing this summer. The size of our team continues to grow. Last year we had 36 kids - this year we have 47. A large team doesn't necessarily equate to success, but it shows distance running at Stevenson is thriving and well. This season we are looking to capitalize and build upon the gains made in both cross country and track. We aim to improve our dual meet record, win a second consecutive city championship, and finish top three at conference meet. (John Lynch and Stephen) Fenech will represent us up front. (Ryan) Petrul and (Jake) Colley will be close behind. We have a number of kids who will compete for five-through-seven. I have been very pleased with our freshmen class. The new kids we picked up are doing a great job as well. We look to continue to continue to build on our recent successes. The more success the more momentum for the team and program."  
**WESTLAND JOHN GLENN**  
**Head coach:** Jess Shough, 23rd year.  
**League affiliation:** KLAAS Kensington Conference (South Division).  
**Last year's finish:** fourth (KLAAS South); ninth (Division 1 regional); 11th (conference).  
**Notable losses to graduation:** Steve Shak.  
**Leading returnees:** Ruben Maya, Sr.; Jason Suarez, Sr.; Keven Wacker, Sr.; Mike Dalton, Jr.; Chris Todd, Soph.  
**Promising newcomers:** Micah Orr, Soph. (transfer from Wayne Memorial); Ed Maya, Soph.; Jessie Osoria, Soph. Kamren Bracy, Fr.; Brian Davis, Soph.  
**Shough's 2011 outlook:** "By the first meet, Ruben (Maya) will have put in a 1,000 miles this summer. That's the first to do that for us since Matt Maybauer did it in the early 1990s. He (Maya) has done well and already PR'd in the 5K. Suarez will be our number two runner and Orr will be a big help as

our number three. We'll be improved. We've already beaten Garden City, (Dearborn Heights) Crestwood and (Dearborn) Fordson in a scrimmage."  
**WAYNE MEMORIAL**  
**Head coach:** Thomas Gibson, first year.  
**League affiliation:** KLAAS Kensington Conference (South Division).  
**Last year's finish:** sixth (KLAAS South); 12th (conference); no team score (Division 1 regional).  
**Notable losses to graduation:** None.  
**Leading returnees:** Daniel Malcolm, Jr.; Avery Barron, Sr.  
**Promising newcomers:** Zack Williams, Soph.; Michael Gibson, Fr.; Devin Gibson, Fr.  
**Gibson's 2011 outlook:** "This year's team is very young and inexperienced in cross country. Only one senior, Avery Barron, returns. However, this team has the potential to do well with Daniel Malcolm leading the way, a returning junior who ran a 4:46 mile and a 10:46 two-mile last track season. The key to this team's success is the development of the newcomers."  
**LUTHERAN HIGH WESTLAND**  
**Head coach:** Alli Unger, second year.  
**League affiliation:** Michigan Independent Athletic Conference.  
**Last year's finish:** first (Division 4 regional); third (conference).  
**Notable losses to graduation:** Matt Erickson.  
**Leading returnees:** Jacob Fairbairn, Sr.; Eric Smith, Jr.; Caleb Kempf, Sr.; Philip Weite, Sr.; Daniel Bunge, Jr.; Joshua Kirk, Sr.  
**Promising newcomers:** Ian O'Banion, Fr.  
**Unger's 2011 outlook:** "I'm looking forward to my second season at Lutheran Westland. Most of last year's team is returning, so I am hoping to have similar success as last year. I'm pretty optimistic. We'll see how they do."

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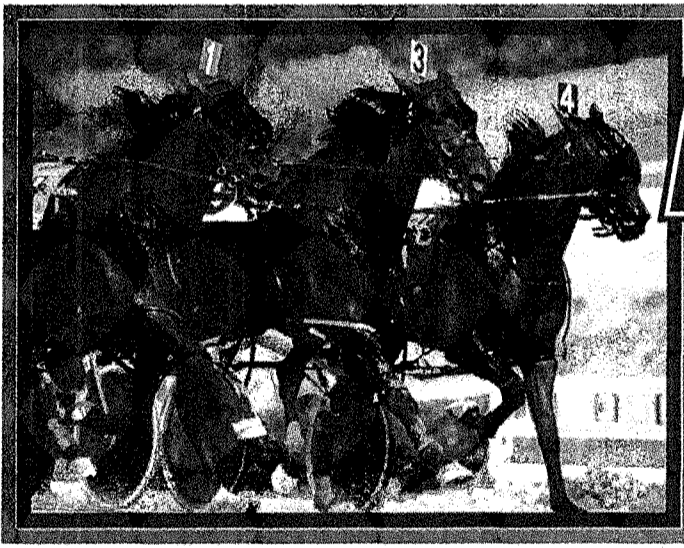
**PREP FOOTBALL**  
 Thursday, Sept. 1  
 Clarenceville at Cranbrook, 4 p.m.  
 Luth. N'west at Luth. Westland, 5 p.m.  
 Franklin at Hartland, 7 p.m.  
 Waterford Mott at Stevenson, 7 p.m.  
 John Glenn at Brighton, 7 p.m.  
 Wayne at Milford, 7 p.m.  
**Friday, Sept. 2**  
 Churchill at Pinckney, 7 p.m.  
**BOYS SOCCER**  
**Thursday, Sept. 1**  
 Crestwood at Franklin, 4 p.m.  
 Thurston at Wayne, 4 p.m.  
 Huron Valley at Parkway, 4:30

Churchill at W.L. Central, 5:30  
 S.L. East at Clarenceville, 6 p.m.  
**GIRLS VOLLEYBALL**  
**Thursday, Sept. 1**  
 Clarenceville at Thurston, 7 p.m.  
**Friday, Sept. 2**  
 Bedford Invitational, 8:30 a.m.  
 Dearborn Invitational, TBA.  
**GIRLS SWIMMING & DIVING**  
**Thursday, Sept. 1**  
 G.P. North at Stevenson, 6:30 p.m.  
**BOYS & GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY**  
**Friday, Sept. 2**  
 Old Skool Classic at Wolcott Farm, 10 a.m.  
**GIRLS GOLF**  
**Thursday, Sept. 1**  
 Ladywood vs. Notre Dame Prep at St. John's G.C., 3:30 p.m.  
**BOYS TENNIS**  
**Thursday, Sept. 1**  
 Franklin at Churchill, 4 p.m.  
 Stevenson at Northville, 4 p.m.  
 Wayne at John Glenn, 4 p.m.  
**GIRLS FIELD HOCKEY**  
**Thursday, Sept. 1**  
 Dearborn at Ladywood, 4:30 p.m.  
**WOMEN'S COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL**  
**Friday, Sept. 2**  
 Schoolcraft at Owens CC, 2 p.m.  
**(Embry-Riddle, Fla. Tourney)**  
 Madonna vs. Jamestown, 2 p.m.  
 Madonna vs. Embry-Riddle, 7

**Saturday, Sept. 3**  
 Schoolcraft at Owens CC, 10 a.m.  
**(Embry-Riddle, Fla. Tourney)**  
 Madonna vs. Ashford, 2 p.m.  
 Madonna vs. Rocky Mountain, 7 p.m.  
**MEN'S COLLEGE SOCCER**  
**Friday, Sept. 2**  
 Lakeland (Ohio) at Schoolcraft, 4 p.m.  
**Saturday, Sept. 3**  
 Cuyahoga at Schoolcraft, 1 p.m.  
**WOMEN'S COLLEGE SOCCER**  
**Saturday, Sept. 3**  
 Waubensee at Schoolcraft, 11 a.m.  
**TBA** - time to be announced.

**THE WEEK AHEAD**

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## Artist dresses her dolls in vibrant colors, beads, shells

by Sharon Dargay  
 O&E staff writer

Michele Sapp says she felt the urge to create art one day about 10 years ago.

The Farmington Hills resident — and at that time a stay-at-home mom caring for her blind son — found a few objects around the house and fashioned a doll.

Three days later she had three more dolls. And by the end of the week she had booked her first craft fair.

Within a few years the self-taught artist and former florist started supplying her one-of-a-kind, African-inspired dolls to galleries. She began showing at art fairs and festivals, including Arts, Beats & Eats, which is where she'll be Labor Day weekend. Fans can find her in booth #90, Friday-Monday, Sept. 2-5, at the art fair portion of the downtown Royal Oak festival.

"I do about seven or eight fairs a year. This is my sixth or seventh time at Arts, Beats & Eats. All in all, it has grown rather quickly," she said, referring to her doll business, Annie's Girls. "It's really just kind of weird because this was not in my plans. This was God's plan for me. I was feeling the need to be a little creative and literally sat down one day and made a doll."

Sapp, an Immaculata High School graduate with a sociology degree from Wayne State University, is self-taught in the art of turning bottles into embellished and dressed dolls. She sews their clothing — sometimes painting the fabric first — makes their jewelry, accessories and hair. Heads are either fiber-filled or made of clay. All of the figures stand and some are suitable for hanging. None of them have faces.

### Inner beauty

"I don't put facial features on them because I want people to see their inner beauty. I have this thing about people looking at physical features and making judgements," Sapp explained. "Their personalities come through in the shape of the head, their hair, their poses. It's about representing inner beauty, inner spirit and connecting with people that



African-inspired dolls by Michele Sapp of Farmington Hills, will be on display Friday-Monday, Sept. 2-5, at Arts, Beats & Eats in Royal Oak.

way. I think that's the sociologist in me."

Sapp said she owned dolls as a child, but didn't play with them much. She often stood by her paternal grandmother's easel to watch her paint. Her grandmother also worked in clay and metal.

Like her maternal grandmother, who quilted and repurposed thrift shop items "long before it was trendy," Sapp finds doll-making ingredients everywhere from garage sales to resale shops to nature.

### Making smiles

"I try to use strong, vibrant colors. I find people are attracted to the colors. People say the dolls make them smile," she said. "When I did the exhibit at U of M Hospital in the Taubman Gallery last year, the dolls were on display for 45 days. People who were waiting for treat-

ment, who weren't feeling well, said they'd sit there and look at the dolls and they would forget that they were there for treatment.

"The fact that they can bring joy is why I do what I do."

Her husband, a systems engineer at Wayne State University, and her 24-year-old son, help her set up and take down her booth when she attends art fairs like the one at Arts, Beats & Eats. She generally staffs it herself and enjoys meeting other artists and shoppers.

"I thought there was a new vitality at Arts, Beats & Eats last year. There was a great energy. I hope everyone comes out and enjoys the music, the food and the art."

Her dolls range from \$30-\$500. They're also available from the gift



PHOTO BY STEVE VACHON

Farmington Hills artist Michele Sapp shows her dolls in the Orchard Gallery of Fine Art in Fort Wayne, Ind., in addition to galleries in Michigan and South Carolina.

### ARTS, BEATS & EATS

**What:** Downtown Royal Oak festival includes art show, musical entertainment, food from area restaurants, displays, hands-on activities

**When:** Art Fair hours are 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Friday-Sunday, Sept. 2-4 and 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday, Sept. 5

**Festival admission:** \$3

**Details:** Michele Sapp of Farmington Hills is among more than 153 artists showing and selling their works at the festival. The juried fair includes ceramics, pastels, fiber and leather works, glass, jewelry, mixed media, digital art, metal, wood, sculpture, painting, photography and 3D mixed media. Look for Sapp at booth #90.

**Contact:** www.artsbeatsats.com

store at the Detroit Institute of Arts and the Art-Is-In-Market gallery at Twelve Oaks Mall, Novi. Look for Sapp at the Funky Ferndale Art Fair, Sept. 16-18 in downtown Ferndale and Common Ground's annual Birmingham Street Art Fair, Sept. 24-25, in downtown Birmingham.

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Art

NORTHVILLE ART HOUSE

Time/Date: Through Sept. 24; gallery hours are 1-5 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday; reception and artist's talk 6-9 p.m. Friday, Sept. 2

Location: 215 W. Cady, Northville
Details: Works by the late Russell Keeter, a teacher at the Center for Creative Studies for 27 years, and several of his former students

Contact: (248) 344-0497

PLYMOUTH COMMUNITY ARTS COUNCIL

Time/Date: 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Thursday

Location: 744 N. Sheldon Road, Plymouth

Details: Works by internationally acclaimed photographer, Allen Brooks, are on display

Contact: (734) 416-4278

VILLAGE THEATER

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Monday-Friday, Sept. 1-25

Location: 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton

Details: Art by Michael Griffin

Contact: (734) 394-5300

Comedy

THE ARK

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Sept. 16-17

Location: 316 South Main, Ann Arbor
Details: The Second City with sketches and improvisation; \$25

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

Go Comedy!

Time/Date: Various show times Wednesday thru Sundays

Location: 261 E. Nine Mile, Ferndale
Details: Improv most nights. Open

Keeter art



"Anatomy Students" and other works by Russell Keeter are on display this month at Northville Art House.

mic/jam session show for improvisers is 10 p.m. Wednesdays

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

JD'S HOUSE OF COMEDY

Time/Date: Various show times Wednesday-Saturday evenings

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

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

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

JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB OF LIVONIA

Time/Date: 8 p.m. Mondays, open Mic; 8 p.m. Tuesdays, Local Legends; 8 p.m. shows Wednesdays, Thursdays; 8 p.m. & 10:30 p.m. Fridays, Saturdays

Location: 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia

Details: Dave Landau with Cory Latarski, through Aug. 27; Collin Moulton with Nate Fridson, Aug. 31-Sept. 3; Sheila Kay with Darnell

Anderson, Sept. 7-10; Nick DiPaolo, Sept. 16-17; Mike Malone with Ricardo Flanagan and Jeff Scheen, Sept. 21-24; Justin Leon with Joe Zimmerman and Bill Bushart, Sept. 28-Oct. 1

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

MARK RIDLEY'S COMEDY CASTLE

Time/Date: Nathan Macintosh, Aug. 25-27; Michael Kosta, Sept. 8-10; James P. Connolly, Sept. 15-17, Auggie Smith, Sept. 22-24; Gary Gulman, Sept. 29-Oct. 1; The Amazing Johnathan, Oct. 3; Reno Collier, Oct. 6-8; John Heffron, Oct. 13-15; Bobby Collins, Oct. 20-22; Tim Giather, Oct. 27-29

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

Concerts

Contact: (734) 455-1453

THE ARK

Time/Date: The Fishtank Ensemble, Sept. 1; Orpheum Bell & The Red Sea Pedestrians, Sept. 2; Chris Thile & Michael Daves, Sept. 8; The David Wax Museum, Sept. 9; John McCutcheon, Sept. 10; Carbon Leaf & Chamberlin, Sept. 11; Bernard Allison, Sept. 13; Ben Sollee & John Whitaker, Sept. 14; Ember Swift, Sept. 15; Willy Porter with Seth Glier, Sept. 18; Joy Kills Sorrow, Sept. 19; Maria Muldaur & Her Red Hot Bluesiana Band, Sept. 20; Eilen Jewell, Sept. 21; Mavis Staples, Sept. 23; Red Horse, Sept. 24; Patrizio, Sept. 26; Match by Match & Hannah Winkler, Sept. 27; Asleep at the Wheel, Sept. 28; Fleet Foxes with The Walkmen, Sept. 29; The RFD Boys, Sept. 30

Location: 316 South Main, Ann Arbor
Contact: (734) 763-8587; www.theark.org



Youngsters in a previous Plymouth Uptown Players (PUPS) cast are costumed and ready to rehearse. The program gives youngsters a chance to learn about theater and to perform.

Everyone will earn a role at auditions

Drop in auditions for the Plymouth Uptown Players (PUPS) will be held 5-9 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 8, at the Plymouth Community Arts Council, 774 N. Sheldon Road, Plymouth. Katelyn Sigworth directs PUPS, with help from assistants Cara Bosco and Kimmy Elliot.

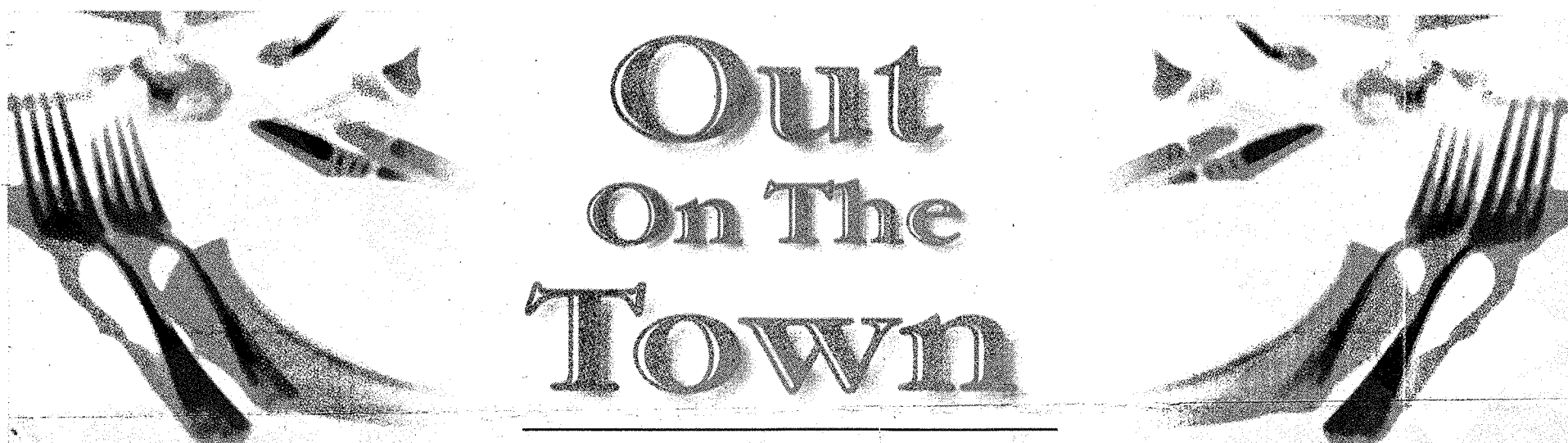
The PUPS program, designed for students in middle school and elementary school, aims to make the participants feel comfortable and confident in front of a live audience. Children will learn stage direction, cues, blocking, voice projection,

role play, characterization and improvisation. Youngsters who join PUPS can expect to participate in games and exercises that will stimulate their inner performer.

Everyone who auditions will get a part. Rehearsals are every Sunday beginning Sept. 11, with the times dependent on age and cast.

The season will conclude with a weekend of performances Dec. 9-11 at the Plymouth Community Arts Council.

Visit the PCAC Web site at www.plymoutharts.com, or call (734) 416-4278.



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## Old-time grain a source for gluten-free cooking

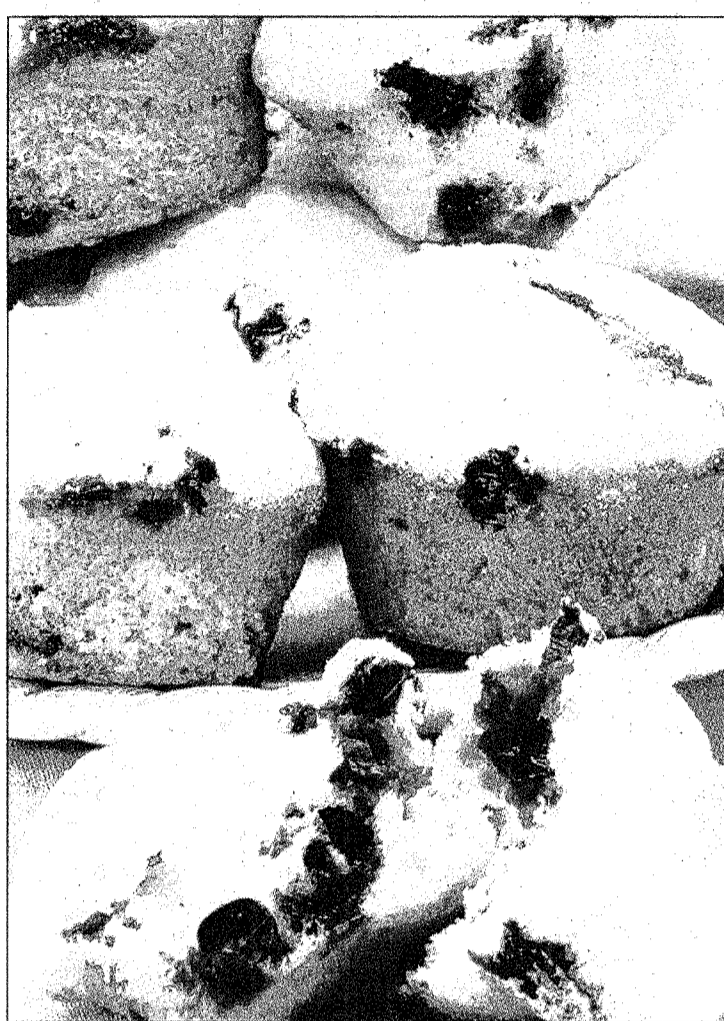
Anyone looking for delicious new ways to enjoy whole grains or bring gluten-free recipes to the table can do both at the same time, thanks to something called sorghum.

Sorghum has been around for a very long time, but is just now coming back into popularity in the U.S. It has a hearty, chewy texture and is a great gluten-free substitute for couscous, bulgur and pearly barley. Sorghum flour has a light color and mild flavor that is perfect for breakfast muffins or even pizza dough.

Rich in fiber, sorghum has high levels of antioxidants, as well as iron, calcium, potassium, protein and polyphenols, which helps lower serum cholesterol. You can find sorghum products in some grocery stores and online.

For more about sorghum, and more recipes, visit [www.healthysorghum.com](http://www.healthysorghum.com).

Courtesy of Family Features with recipes from Carol Fenster, author of "Gluten-Free 101: Easy, Basic Dishes without Wheat"



### Sorghum Blueberry-Lemon Muffins

Makes 12 muffins

#### Dry Ingredients

- 2 ½ cups Sorghum Flour Blend (see below)
- ¾ cup granulated sugar
- 1 tablespoon baking powder
- 1 ½ teaspoons xanthan gum
- ¾ teaspoon salt

#### Wet Ingredients

- 1 cup milk of choice, at room temperature
- ½ cup canola oil
- 2 large eggs, at room temperature
- 1 tablespoon grated lemon peel
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

#### Add-Ins and Topping

- 1 cup fresh blueberries
- 1 tablespoon sugar for sprinkling on muffins

Preheat the oven to 375°F. Generously grease a standard 12-cup nonstick muffin pan.

Whisk dry ingredients together in large bowl. In separate bowl, whisk wet ingredients thoroughly until smooth.

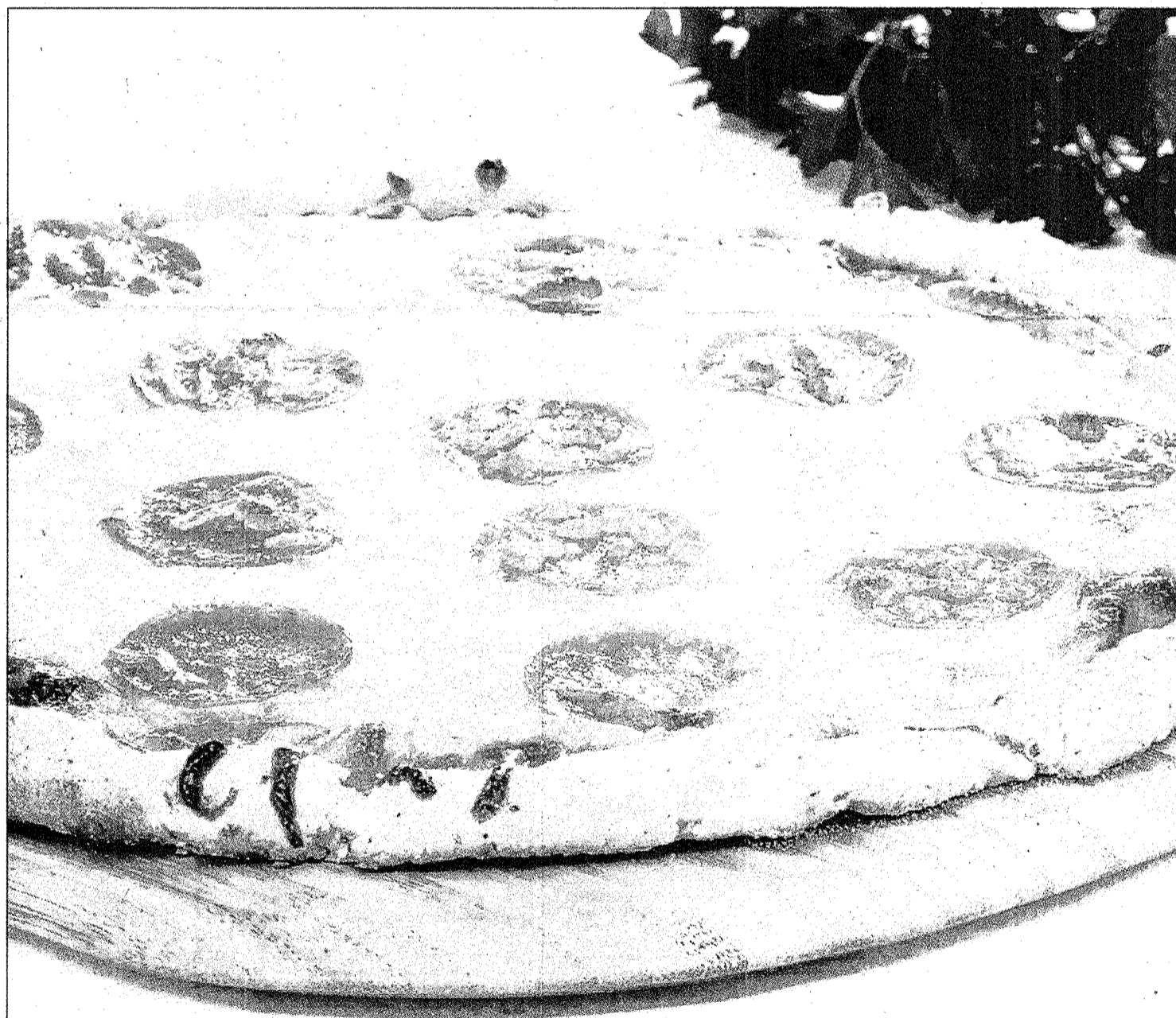
Make a well in dry ingredients and add wet ingredients. Combine with a spatula until just moistened and then gently stir in blueberries. Divide batter evenly in pan and sprinkle each muffin with a little sugar.

Bake until muffin tops are lightly browned, approximately 20 to 25 minutes or until a toothpick inserted in center of a muffin comes out clean.

### Sorghum Flour Blend

- 1 ½ cups sorghum flour
- 1 ½ cups potato starch or cornstarch
- 1 cup tapioca flour

Whisk together and store, tightly covered, in a dark, dry place.



### Sorghum Pizza Crust

Makes 1 crust

- 1 tablespoon active dry yeast
- 1 teaspoon sugar
- ¾ cup warm milk of choice (110°F)
- ½ cup sorghum flour, plus more for sprinkling
- ½ cup tapioca flour
- 2 teaspoons xanthan gum
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon Italian seasoning
- 2 teaspoons olive oil
- 2 teaspoons cider vinegar
- Your favorite pizza sauce and toppings (such as cheese and pepperoni)

Place oven racks in bottom and middle positions. Preheat oven to 425°F.

Dissolve yeast and sugar in warm milk for five minutes. In food processor, process all ingredients, including yeast mixture, until well blended. Or mix in a medium bowl on low speed with an electric mixer. The dough will be soft.

Place dough on a greased (not cooking spray) 12-inch nonstick pizza pan. Liberally sprinkle sorghum flour on dough; then press dough into a smooth layer with your hands, continuing to dust with flour to prevent sticking. Make the edges somewhat thicker to keep the toppings in place.

Bake pizza crust 10 to 12 minutes on the bottom rack. Remove from oven and add sauce and toppings. Bake on middle rack until top is nicely browned, about 15 to 20 minutes. Remove from oven and cut into 6 slices. Serve warm.

Sorghum Pizza Crust

### Sorghum Tabbouleh with Shrimp and Sherry Vinaigrette on Mixed Greens

Serves 6

#### To cook the sorghum:

- 1 cup uncooked whole grain sorghum (soaked overnight in water to cover)
- ¾ teaspoon sea salt, divided
- 3 cups water

#### Dressing:

- 2 tablespoons freshly squeezed lemon juice
- 3 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
- 1 tablespoon sherry vinegar
- ½ teaspoon white pepper

#### Vegetables:

- ¼ cup shelled raw pumpkin seeds or pine nuts
- 1 English or hothouse cucumber, unpeeled and chopped
- 3 green onions, chopped
- 1 small red bell pepper, chopped, or 12 grape tomatoes, halved
- 1 small yellow bell pepper, chopped
- ½ cup cooked edamame
- ½ cup chopped seasonal fruit (figs, pears, apples, oranges, or dried cranberries)
- ½ cup chopped fresh parsley, plus extra for garnish
- ½ cup chopped fresh cilantro
- ¼ cup chopped fresh mint
- ¼ cup crumbled feta cheese or queso fresco

#### (optional)

- Mixed Greens
- 12 cooked large whole shrimp, peeled (or more to taste)

Drain soaked sorghum and discard water. In heavy medium saucepan, combine sorghum, ½ teaspoon salt, and 3 cups water. Bring to boil. Cover and reduce heat, simmering for 40 to 45 minutes. Transfer to strainer and drain well. Set aside.

Make dressing: In screw-top jar, shake lemon juice, oil, vinegar, remaining ¼ teaspoon sea salt and pepper until thoroughly blended and creamy. Set aside.

Toast pumpkin seeds in a skillet over medium heat, stirring constantly until lightly browned, about 5 minutes. Set aside.

In large bowl, combine sorghum and vegetables and toss to blend. Add dressing and toss until all ingredients are well coated. Let stand for 20 minutes before serving.

Arrange mixed greens on a large platter, top with tabbouleh, arrange shrimp on top, and serve, garnished with fresh parsley.



# Golfers gather for fun-filled outing

The Western Wayne Oakland County Association of Realtors held a bowling benefit earlier this year, which went well and supported Warm Hearts and The ARC of Northwest Wayne. Thursday, Aug. 11, was more of a social time at WWOVAR's annual golf outing.

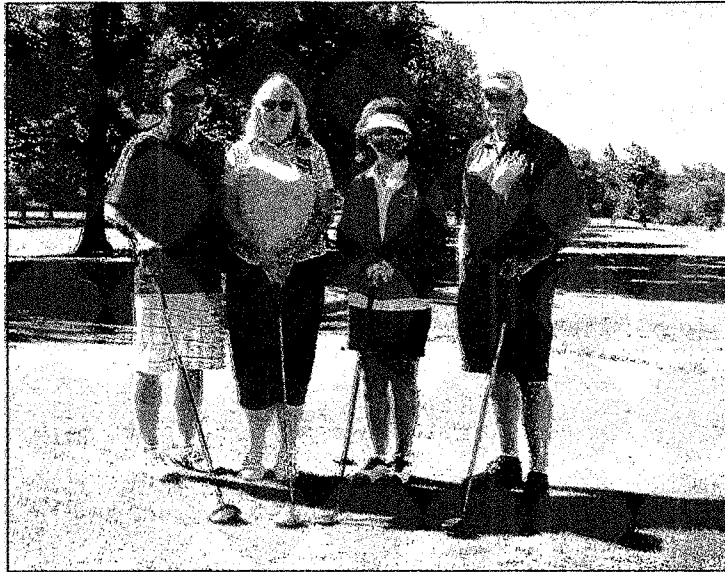
The event at Fellows Creek Golf Course in Canton drew 125 golfers, said Pauline Olszewski, staffer for the Farmington-based Western Wayne Oakland County Association of Realtors, which is merging with the Metropolitan Consolidated Association of Realtors.

"Beautiful" weather came for the social outing in Canton, which also has a charitable component. "It's held every August. They had a great time."

Visiting and relaxing were the purposes of the day. "It's just for the Realtors to network between the affiliates and the others in the business," she said.

Golfers who registered were up around 30 from last year. "To me, it seems like it's getting a little bit better out there," Olszewski said.

By Julie Brown



Dave Cloutier, Sue Thorn, Kathy Coon and Mike Coon visit at the golf outing Aug. 11 at Fellows Creek Golf Course.



Rick Carter, Mark Elais, Rob Holton and Bill Law golfed Aug. 11 at the WWOVAR outing.



Jim Mariani, Dennis Myers, John Blake and Rebecca Mariani enjoy each other's company at the WWOVAR golf outing.

## Nod from FHA essential

By Robert Meisner  
Guest Columnist

Q: I am on the Board of Directors of our condominium and the board claims that we do not have the money to seek FHA certification. How can I convince them otherwise?

A: Tell the board that they have a legal and fiduciary responsibility to seek to obtain FHA certification in order to allow co-owners to be able to market their units more successfully. With the difficulty in obtaining financing, FHA certification, which allows purchasers to get FHA insured mortgages, is indispensable and the board may have legal liability if it fails to seek to obtain FHA certification. When a condominium board says that the association doesn't have the money, what the board is really saying is it chooses not to increase assessments to raise sufficient funds!

Q: I have heard from some real estate experts that one should take much care, if not more, in checking out a condominium that is a single family home prior to purchase. What do you think about that?

A: That is generally the case because you are not only confronted with the issues concerning the purchase of real estate, but you also have the extensive condominium documents to review, as well as being responsible, perhaps, for a portion of the maintenance, repair, and/or replacement of the entire project. This concern goes double for small associations with less than a dozen units because it is unlikely that a small association can afford to hire a professional management company that will help protect its owner. The success or failure of the association will depend upon the few owners working closely together, a tricky proposition. It requires them to check and verify, just like you would do if you own a single family home. Even more dangerous is when a small association and the developer are in financial straits. There may not be adherence to keeping the strict formalities of the non-profit corporation or, for that matter, they may not have adequate insurance, among other things. That, of course, does not mean that a larger condominium association cannot share the same problems, but it is unlikely that the smaller Association will have legal counsel assisting it when, in fact, that is even more the reason for legal counsel to be involved, particularly if there is no professional management to in any way guide the board as to its responsibilities in regard to the management of the condominium.

Robert Meisner

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.

## Detached condos make for pleasant living

By Nancy Austin  
Seniors Real Estate Specialist

After my last column appeared regarding detached condos, several senior readers called me with additional information about some detached condos that I hadn't mentioned. Another called me about regarding co-ops. I had more than one person call expressing a desire for the Del Webb company to build in the Canton area. More on that after I do more research. Several comments have been made about how helpful and informative this column is to you. I'm so glad to hear it because the more information you have about senior living, the easier it is to make a decision, and that decision will be an informed one.

One reader called to let me know about the Briarbrook condos in Westland near Joy and Newburgh. These are detached condos with garages, but no basement. This small

complex isn't designated as a senior condo complex, but it is mostly seniors living there. It is just one street with the condos lining either side. I have been in most, and they are a very nice floor plan. It is a small, quiet, pleasant setting.

Also brought to my attention were the senior co-ops, such as Colonial Acres and Colonial Village in South Lyon as well as Kings Mill in Northville and Holiday Park in Westland. All of these complexes are quite large numbering well over 400 units, some having one bedroom but most have two.

In purchasing a co-op you do not receive a deed. You receive a share of stock and voting rights in the cooperative. Each cooperative has a board of directors with advisory committees comprised of residents of the cooperative. Owners are permitted to claim mortgage interest and real estate home- stead tax deductions.

The prospective buyer must pay the current owner the equity they have in the condo and then you finance the rest. There is only one mortgage for the entire complex that encumbers the assets of the community. This is unlike a condo complex in that each condo owner gets their own separate mortgage, pays their own taxes and a separate maintenance fee.

In a co-op, the owner pays a monthly fee which includes everything except electricity, phone and cable. Mortgage interest and homestead taxes are allowed to be deducted on your personal income tax. For additional information on coops, you may contact the individual coop or I may have additional information available.

One kind of senior living that is a category unto its own is the apartment-style living quarters that you buy into. These are the Henry Ford Village units in Dearborn and Fox Run Village in Novi. To live here, you pay a substantial equity to the corporation prior to moving in and a monthly fee thereafter. You have your choice of floor plans, which of course depends on how much you can pay monthly

and how large a unit you desire.

Both Henry Ford Village and Fox Run are, for lack of a better term, huge. Fox Run has several buildings and all are connected by lighted, heated walkways. There is even a shuttle bus you can take from one building to another. Social activities abound and are run mostly by the senior occupants. You never lack for something to do. The environment is quite pleasant, the grounds pleasing, the food is quite good and people living there seem to enjoy the amenities that both places offer: I would be willing to bet that the average age of residents is slightly lower than the "standard" retirement community. I have not researched that fact, but in my tour of Fox Run, it appeared to be so.

There are many choices. It's up to you to assess your wants and needs and make a decision.

Always feel free to call me with questions, and/or contribute information. Feel free to browse my website as well: [www.nancyaustin.com](http://www.nancyaustin.com).

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

### HOMES SOLD-WAYNE

These are the area residential real estate closings recorded the week of May 23-27, 2011, at the Wayne County Register of Deeds office. Listed below are cities, addresses, and sales prices.

#### CANTON

43680 Amber Ct \$171,000  
2393 Arcadia Dr \$62,000  
43327 Barchester Rd \$108,000  
7982 Brampton Dr \$266,000  
1588 Centennial Dr \$383,000  
44947 Forest Trail Dr \$108,000

\$195,000  
6802 Fox Path \$225,000  
48814 Greenwich Cir \$260,000  
4741 Grove Ct \$74,000  
1592 Peninsula Ct \$175,000  
894 Roosevelt St \$200,000  
496 Sheffield Ct \$160,000  
4263 Sherwood Cir \$182,000  
4495 Sherwood Cir \$186,000  
47080 Woodlong Dr \$285,000

#### GARDEN CITY

31537 Pierce St \$40,000  
29664 Rosslyn Ave \$85,000  
614 Susan Ct \$70,000

#### LIVONIA

15151 Alexander St \$29,000  
15161 Alexander St \$25,000  
14243 Barbara St \$131,000  
14275 Beatrice St \$106,000  
33002 Brookside Ct \$286,000  
36281 Dover St \$110,000  
14063 Harrison St \$115,000  
37607 Ladywood St \$195,000  
39025 Orangelawn St \$118,000  
11347 Sunset St \$115,000  
15457 Sunset St \$117,000  
14100 Susanna St \$126,000  
14219 Woodside St \$166,000

#### NORTHVILLE

41944 Baintree Cir \$290,000

44725 Broadmoor Cir N \$464,000  
19674 Cardene Way \$143,000  
47471 Manorwood Dr \$500,000  
49131 Rainbow Ln N \$300,000  
735 Randolph St \$93,000  
47390 W Main St \$210,000  
16451 Westminister Dr \$314,000  
17454 Willow Ridge Dr \$458,000  
20350 Woodcreek Blvd \$350,000

#### PLYMOUTH

368 Ann St \$155,000

#### REDFORD

19947 Beech Daly Rd \$25,000  
15854 Delaware Ave \$30,000  
20566 Denby \$35,000  
11407 San Jose \$28,000

#### WESTLAND

35523 Avondale St \$51,000  
30839 Bennington St \$27,000  
1675 Elias St \$17,000  
8208 Huntington St \$20,000  
35070 Lewis St \$48,000  
29841 Lonnie Dr \$85,000  
8065 N Middlebelt Rd \$300,000  
730 Rahn St \$13,000  
8280 Vista Ln \$30,000

### HOMES SOLD-OAKLAND

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

#### BEVERLY HILLS

17464 Kinross Ave \$170,000  
22722 N Nottingham Dr \$215,000  
31140 Old Stage Rd \$290,000  
32300 Plumwood St \$217,000

20600 Smallwood Ct \$535,000

#### BIRMINGHAM

32824 Outland Trl \$215,000  
832 Emmons Ave \$120,000  
1939 Fairview St \$700,000  
795 Lake Park Dr \$70,000  
1365 Southfield Rd \$197,000  
1708 Washington Blvd \$196,000  
988 Westchester Way \$565,000

#### BLOOMFIELD HILLS

4380 Pine Tree Trl \$295,000  
1711 Huntingwood Ln \$60,000

200 S Cranbrook Cross Rd \$233,000  
431 W Long Lake Rd \$920,000

#### BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP

1936 Bayou Dr \$400,000  
878 Dursley Rd \$263,000  
5546 Kingsmill Dr \$190,000  
4775 S Chipping Gln \$669,000  
5131 Tootmoor Rd \$560,000

#### COMMERCE TOWNSHIP

9373 Boncrest St \$172,000

#### FARMINGTON

33054 Annwood St \$160,000  
32718 Grand River Ave Unit

#### FARMINGTON HILLS

27414 Beacon Sq \$155,000  
27840 Berrywood Ln \$38,000  
22797 Shadowglen Dr \$220,000  
29870 W 12 Mile Rd \$36,000  
30255 Wicklow Ct \$190,000

#### NOVI

24484 Bonnie Brook Dr \$120,000  
21022 Chase Dr \$380,000  
41534 Cypress Way \$130,000  
22601 Deerfield Rd \$180,000  
22712 Mondavi Dr \$50,000  
23016 Mondavi Dr \$50,000  
24553 Olde Orchard St

#### SOUTH LYON

21534 Sunrise Blvd \$225,000  
1128 Colt Dr \$221,000  
61164 Greenwood Dr \$45,000  
25915 Hunters Ln \$213,000

#### SOUTHFIELD

28430 Brooks Ln \$93,000  
21310 Glenmorra St \$45,000  
21431 Mahon Dr \$55,000  
24030 Tamarack Trl \$70,000

#### WHITE LAKE

1284 Bayview \$60,000  
1162 Castlewood St \$148,000  
231 Teggedine Rd \$71,000





