

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME

Did you remember to set your clock ahead one hour?

Look inside for **MONEY SAVING Coupons**

UNCONVENTIONAL PLACES TO EXPAND YOUR NETWORK
CLASSIFIED, SECTION C

AMAZING DOGS!
USA WEEKEND



Reappointment

The Westland City Council has confirmed Mayor William Wild's reappointment of Sharon Scott to the Downtown Development Authority for a four-year term to expire Feb. 23, 2016. Scott is a longtime



Westland resident and wife of retired Westland Fire Chief Ted Scott. She served on the Wayne-

Westland Board of Education in 1982, the Westland City Council from 1992 to 2000 and was elected to the Wayne County Community College District's Board of Trustees in 2008.

In addition to the DDA, Scott also serves on the Wayne-Westland Credit Union Supervisory Board and the Wayne High Alumni Association Board. She is active in the St. John's Episcopal Church of Westland Vestry, Altar Guild, E.C.W., church social groups, Inreach and Foyers.

"Sharon and Ted have been active in the community for many years and Sharon is a tremendous asset," Wild said.

Still there

Ten weeks into the season and Wayne resident Allen "Buddy" Shuh is still at the Biggest Loser Ranch.

The connections pastor at Journey Community Church in Westland, Shuh posted a modest five-pound loss in Tuesday's show, dropping to 289 pounds. That brings his weight lost to 126 pounds since the start of season 13 of NBC's *The Biggest Loser*.

He's one of three Michigan contestants remaining on the show after Cassandra Sturos of Fowlerville was voted off. Still in the hunt with Shuh to be *The Biggest Loser* winner are Jeremy Britt and his sister, Conda Britt, both of Rockford.

Ticket contest

Enter our Facebook contest for a chance to win a family four-pack of tickets to the CCHA semifinals Friday, March 16, at Joe Louis Arena.

Share the contest link with a Facebook friend and get an extra five chances to win, if they also enter the contest.

Prizes will be awarded March 13 and the winners must be able to pick up the tickets on game day.

You can enter by clicking on the contest link in our Don't Miss module at [HometownLife.com](http://www.hometownlife.com) or by visiting our Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/OEHometown>.

WESTLAND OBSERVER

A GANNETT COMPANY

PRICE: \$1 • SUNDAY, MARCH 11, 2012 • hometownlife.com

Rezoning would offer alternate access to MJR

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

A driveway giving movie patrons an alternate access route from the MJR Westland Grand Theater is part of a rezoning request for the site of a former church.

Following a public hearing Tuesday, the Planning

Commission voted to recommend that the council approve the rezoning from R-5, single-family residential, to CB-1, low-intensity commercial business, for a 3.13-acre parcel on the northeast corner of Hunter and Wayne roads.

Located south of the theater, the property had

been the site of the Good Shepherd Reform Church and an adjoining home. A sign on the property also lists it as the home of the Canton Christian Fellowship. At one time, the building housed a pre-school program.

"The church has been closed and the property has been for sale for

sometime," Westland Planning Director Bruce Thompson said. "This was an opportunity for a secondary access to the theater. A lot of people come out of MJR to go to Hunter. Hunter is designed to funnel traffic for the residential and commercial corridor."

During a public hearing

held Tuesday by the Planning Commission on the rezoning and site plan, three residents — one living on Hunter, another residing on Pocahontas and a third who lives at nearby Westhaven Estates Condos — expressed concern about

Please see REZONING, A2

Shave and a haircut



PHOTOS BY TOM BEAUDOIN

At Dobozy's Barber Shop, Renee Juergens (left) cuts Wayne resident Jim Meloch's hair while Judy Gestrine gives John Krcmarik of Belleville a haircut. Juergens and Gestrine are co-owners of the Westland business.

New owners keep tradition alive at Dobozy's

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

Dobozy's Barbershop has been fixture on Wayne Road since 1962 and despite new owners, it's still not become a hair salon.

"We do straight-razor shaves and all the old barber shop stuff," said Renee Juergens, who owns the shop with partner Judy Gestrine. "We'll cut women's hair. Judy has a few women clients — some older ladies she does color on. Mainly it's men — we do basic barbering stuff."

With the traditional barber pole outside, Dobozy's Barbershop doesn't take appointments. There are four chairs and it's first come, first serve.

Juergens, a Westland resident, and Gestrine, who lives in Wayne, met while working together at a Canton hair salon. Founder John Dobozy, 77, had retired but had ended up taking back the business.

"I was working in the area and was looking for a shop. I met John's daughter and she said this place would be available, so I jumped on it," said Juergens, whose husband Kevin



Renee Juergens and Judy Gestrine, co-owners of Dobozy's Barber Shop, flank the business founder John Dobozy.

is the backer of the business.

Juergens and Gestrine took over the business in early December.

"It's going better than we expected," said Juergens.

Both women cut hair but Gestrine is the straight-razor

shave specialist.

"It's quite an operation with steam towels," said Dobozy.

"Some guys get a shave for a special occasion. Some have never had a straight-razor

Please see DOBOZY'S, A2

W-W board to interview 4 law firms

By Sue Mason
Observer Staff Writer

Representatives of four law firms will be in the Wayne-Westland Community Schools Monday and Tuesday to explain to the school board why they should be the district's general legal council.

After months of developing requests for proposals and reviewing the 12 that the district received, the school board will hold two special meetings on Monday and Tuesday, March 12-13, to interview what members determined as the top four law firms during the process.

The board will meet at 5 p.m. each day in the board meeting room in the district's administrative offices on Marquette, east of Newburgh. The interviews will be at 5:30 and 7:30 p.m.

The board last month agreed to interview the top four firms. Selected were Dickson Wright, Collins and Blaha, Clark Hill and Lusk and Albertson.

The board will interview two firms each night. The firms will have an opportunity to do a presentation, then the board will ask questions. The first round will be generic questions asked of all four firms, while the second round will be questions specific to each firm.

"We expect it to last from 45 minutes to one hour, but we've built in time in case there's something we run into and need to ask more questions," said board President Carol Middel. "There's extra time for more questions, if it's needed."

The board decided to seek proposals from law firms with experience in public school law after declining to reappoint Lusk and Albertson as the district's legal counsel during its organizational meeting last July. The firm has represented the district for more than 20 years.

Since the two meetings are special meetings, a decision won't be made until the board's next regular meeting on Monday, March 19, Middel said.

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

INDEX

Community Life..... B5
Crossword Puzzle C3
Education A4
Health B9
Homes..... C2
Jobs C1
Obituaries..... B8
Services C3
Sports..... B1
Wheels C4

© The Observer & Eccentric
Volume 47 • Number 84

Home Delivery:
(866) 887-2737

Return Address:
41304 Concept Dr.
Plymouth MI 48170



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Rodney Manning of Westland begins serving a two-year prison term April 10 for driving over a teenager and dragging him along a road.

Man faces prison in dragging case

By Darrell Clem
Observer Staff Writer

A Westland man who drove over a teenager and dragged him along a Canton road is facing a two-year prison term, though his defense attorney said he can keep the crime off his record as long as he stays out of trouble.

Rodney Manning, a 20-year-old father of two, was sentenced Thursday by Wayne County Circuit Judge Vonda Evans, but defense attorney Leon Weiss said Evans allowed

Manning to remain free until he returns to court April 10 to start serving his time.

Manning learned his fate after he pleaded no contest in January to assault with intent to do great bodily harm (less than murder), a charge that could have landed him in prison for 10 years for severely injuring 19-year-old Jahliil Wilson of Westland during a dispute last July 2 outside a house party near Beck and Woodlong.

"I just believe there are no winners in this case,"

Weiss said Thursday, though he called the outcome "a fair resolution" for both sides.

Sentence starts

Manning, who has been free on bond, begins serving his two-year term April 10 inside a Michigan prison for young offenders, Weiss said, but good behavior by Manning can allow him through the state's Holmes Youthful Trainee Act to keep the incident off his record.

Please see SENTENCE, A2

Council OKs marketing contract extension

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

A three-year contract extension to market Westland facilities events has been approved by the city council.

Reaction Direct, based in Livonia, was originally hired in 2010 to market and sell advertising

for the city. That includes businesses who advertise on city entrance signs, with banners on fences, under the ice at Mike Modano Arena and on golf carts at the municipal golf course or sponsorships.

Since the first contract was approved, the city has received nearly \$37,000 in revenue from the adver-

tising sales. That's the city's portion of nearly \$56,000 total gross revenue sold and is minus nearly \$19,000 in commissions.

The contract extension continues the agreement through Dec. 31, 2014. Either party can terminate the contract with 30 days notice.

"It is a way to bring new revenue and help local businesses, we expect that number (in revenue) to grow in the future," said Mayor William Wild.

The revenue generated by Reaction Direct goes into the city's general fund. Wild said that Reaction Direct will soon be marketing an expanded

portfolio of opportunities to potential clients.

"This is a terrific opportunity for the City of Westland to generate revenue and Westland businesses to get their name out in the community," said Wild. "Reaction Direct has done an incredible job working with the community and creating

advertising packages for every business budget."

Westland Parks and Recreation Director Robert Kosowski, whose department facilities have much of the advertising, also recommended extending the contract.

lrogers@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-5428

DOBOZY'S

Continued from page A1

shave and want to try it," said Gestrine. "I have one guy who comes in every Tuesday. He doesn't shave at home."

The straight-razor shave costs \$15 with a haircut or \$18 for a shave alone. How long a shave takes can depend on how often the barber does the shaves.

"We would do 10 or 15 people a day in barber college, then it would take 10 or 15 minutes. If you don't do it often, you get cautious and it takes longer," said Dobozy, who

recalled charging \$1.25 for shave when he started his career.

"When I was in barber college, you used to have to round people up to get a shave," said Gestrine.

Dobozy opened his barbershop in 1962 and noted there had been a barbershop on that block of North Wayne Road for over 100 years. For some years, Dobozy's then-wife operated a beauty salon next to the barbershop.

"When I started, there were more than 22,000 barbers. Now, I expect there are less than 5,000. Beauticians got in and barbers got out," said Dobozy. "I was very fortunate. I have an uncle, a cousin and three brothers who were barbers."

When the barbershop opened 50 years ago, Dobozy said Wayne Road was only three lanes — the middle lane was for passing. Across Wayne Road, just north of Cherry Hill, was an old farmhouse and the old Cady School. Still owner of the building, Dobozy is retired and spends his time doing other things, like being an extra in the Clint Eastwood movie *Gran Torino*.

"I'm on call, if there is a problem or someone can't make it in," said Dobozy.

Dobozy's Barbershop is open 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday.



Dobozy's Barber Shop co-owner Renee Jurgens trims the moustache of customer Jim Meloch, who lives in Wayne.



Canton resident Denise McLane had her hair washed before getting a haircut from Dobozy's Barber Shop co-owner Judy Gestrine.

lrogers@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-5428

PHOTOS BY TOM BEAUDOIN

FISHHER FUNERAL HOME
CREMATION SERVICES
Family Owned and Operated Since 1955

MICHAEL J. FISHER
Owner
Compassionate
Affordable
Caring

TRADITIONAL SERVICE WITH BURIAL
includes metal casket, outer burial container, viewing & service
\$2895

BASIC CREMATION
includes cremation process and county permit
\$695*
*\$200 additional for Memorial Services

TRADITIONAL SERVICE WITH CREMATION
includes casket facade, viewing & service
\$2195

Traditional funerals & alternatives tailored for any budget
24501 Five Mile Road • Redford
(Between Beech Daly and Telegraph)
313.535.3030
www.fisherfuneral.net

THINKING ABOUT... A NEW FURNACE? LENNOX

FREE ESTIMATES
(734) 525-1930

Our 36th Year!
UNITED TEMPERATURE
8919 MIDDLEBELT • LIVONIA
www.unitedtemperatureservices.com

BRITISH COLUMBIA BY RAIL

July 21-29 with **ELI ZARET**

FREE TRAVEL SHOWS **SOUTHFIELD**
Tuesday, March 13
10 AM, 2 PM & 7 PM
Holiday Inn Express & Suites
25100 Northwestern Hwy.

RECEIVE **\$300.00 OFF PER COUPLE THRU MAR. 13**
Holiday Vacations™
1-800-826-2266

SENTENCE

Continued from page A1

Manning accepted a plea agreement that prompted authorities to dismiss earlier charges of assault with intent to murder, reckless driving causing serious injury, felonious assault and operating a vehicle while intoxicated causing serious injury.

If he had gone to trial and been convicted as charged, he could have faced penalties ranging up to life in prison.

Wilson, saying he still has nightmares after being hit and dragged a considerable distance under a car, gave chilling testimony last November during Manning's preliminary examination in 35th District Court.

Wilson accused Manning of twice running over him and dragging him an estimated quarter-mile along Beck Road as Wilson struggled to survive by clinging to hot pipes underneath the car.

Violent clash
His testimony indicated the assault followed

a violent clash between two groups, one of them allegedly affiliated with a gang dubbed Loyalty Before Respect. Wilson denied any gang involvement.

Wilson had testified he was among a crowd of 25-30 people who crossed Beck Road after a car driven by Manning parked across the street and one passenger got out with a baseball bat. Wilson said the house-party crowd, some of them shouting gang letters "LBR," pelted Manning's car with cinder blocks and rocks, shattering

some of the windows. Wilson said Manning then drove toward the party, ran off the road, drove over him and dragged him until his buttocks were seared off and his spine exposed.

During the preliminary hearing, Weiss expressed sympathy for Wilson but also accused him of trying to "sanitize his own behavior" during an attack by "organized gang activity" against Manning and his passengers.

dclern@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-2238

REZONING

Continued from page A1

increased traffic. "It won't generate more traffic. It will mitigate Wayne Road traffic and reduce the number of left turns (onto Wayne Road)," Thompson said. "It is designed to make things easier, to address the access issue and provide additional access."

Along with providing an access driveway to Hunter, Thompson said MJR intends to market the corner property for commercial development. The church and home would be demolished. Under the site plan, a screening wall would be constructed along the eastern property line of adjoining homes.

The idea is provide easier access for MJR, which draws a lot of traffic,

Thompson said, but also to give better access to other nearby commercial businesses.

"A national chain restaurant (on Wayne Road and Hunter) would help MJR and feed off MJR. With this type of zoning change, that's what happens," Thompson said. "It creates more positive things."

While vacant, the church property had been main-

tained, but there had not been other buyers interested in the site, he said, noting the sale and redevelopment will get the property onto the tax rolls.

The recommendation to approve the rezoning and the site plan will be considered by the Westland city council at its March 19 meeting.

lrogers@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-5428

FOUR SEASONS REHABILITATION AND NURSING
GREAT STAFF. GREAT CARE.

In-House Dialysis | Cardiac Rehab | Respiratory Therapy
Secured Memory Care Unit | Short & Long-Term Care
Medicare and Medicaid Provider | Private Insurance

"Therapy was a lot of hard work but Manouf was not going to give up. He stood eye-to-eye with me until I finally made that first little hop."

Betty Noe, Dearborn, MI

Betty spent three months at Four Seasons recovering from fractures of the wrist, leg, and a shattered knee, and recently returned following knee replacement surgery. Her stay in the Sub-Acute Unit included physical and occupational therapy.

"When I first broke my leg and arm I was scared to death that I would be in a wheelchair the rest of my life, but with the help of three wonderful and skilled Four Season therapists, I am walking again.

God bless all of the caring people at Four Seasons Rehabilitation."

QUALITY CARE PROVIDED WITH DIGNITY AND COMPASSION BY OUTSTANDING STAFF

Drop in for a Visit Anytime! Any Day! ☎ 734 | 416 | 2000
8365 Newburgh Road | Just South of Joy Road | Westland 48185

Take a tour on our Website!
www.fourseasonsnursingcenter.com

OBSERVER NEWSPAPERS
WHERE HOMETOWN STORIES UNFOLD
GANNETT

HOW TO REACH US

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

visit us online at hometownlife.com
615 West Lafayette, Detroit, MI 48226

St. Michael's Parish presents
"ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT"
LENTEN FISH FRY
March 16, 23, and 30
4:30-7:00 PM

- Full Dinners
- Carry-Out Available
- Choice of Hand-Dipped Fried or Baked Fresh Atlantic Cod

Adults \$8
Seniors \$7
Kids 3-11 \$4
3 & Under FREE

11441 Hubbard Rd., S. of Plymouth Rd. • Livonia
734.261.1455
OE0877028

A-QUALITY CARE VETERINARY HOSPITAL
Newer State of the Art Facility
OPEN 7 DAYS
Emergencies Welcome
Boarding & Grooming

FREE OFFICE VISIT
(\$29.00 Value)
New Clients Only
With Coupon

Annual Dog/Cat Vaccine Pkg. \$79
Exam, Vaccines & Fecal Test
Ask For Details - New Clients Only, With Coupon

25% OFF Spay/Neuter Surgery
Ask For Details
With Coupon

HEARTWORM TEST SPECIAL \$20 to \$25
with purchase of 12 or 6 months heartworm tablets

11655 Farmington Rd. (Just N. of Plymouth Rd.) Livonia 734.421.PETS (7387)
www.aqualitycarevet.com

ACADEMY OF WESTLAND 2012-2013 OPEN ENROLLMENT APRIL 16-APRIL 30, 2012

Applications available at, and must be submitted to, Academy of Westland
300 Henry Ruff Rd.
Westland, MI 48186

Lottery, if necessary, May 4, 2012 at 4:00 p.m. at Academy of Westland at above address

Publish: March 11, 2012 OE0877021 2x2

NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATORY POLICY AS TO STUDENTS

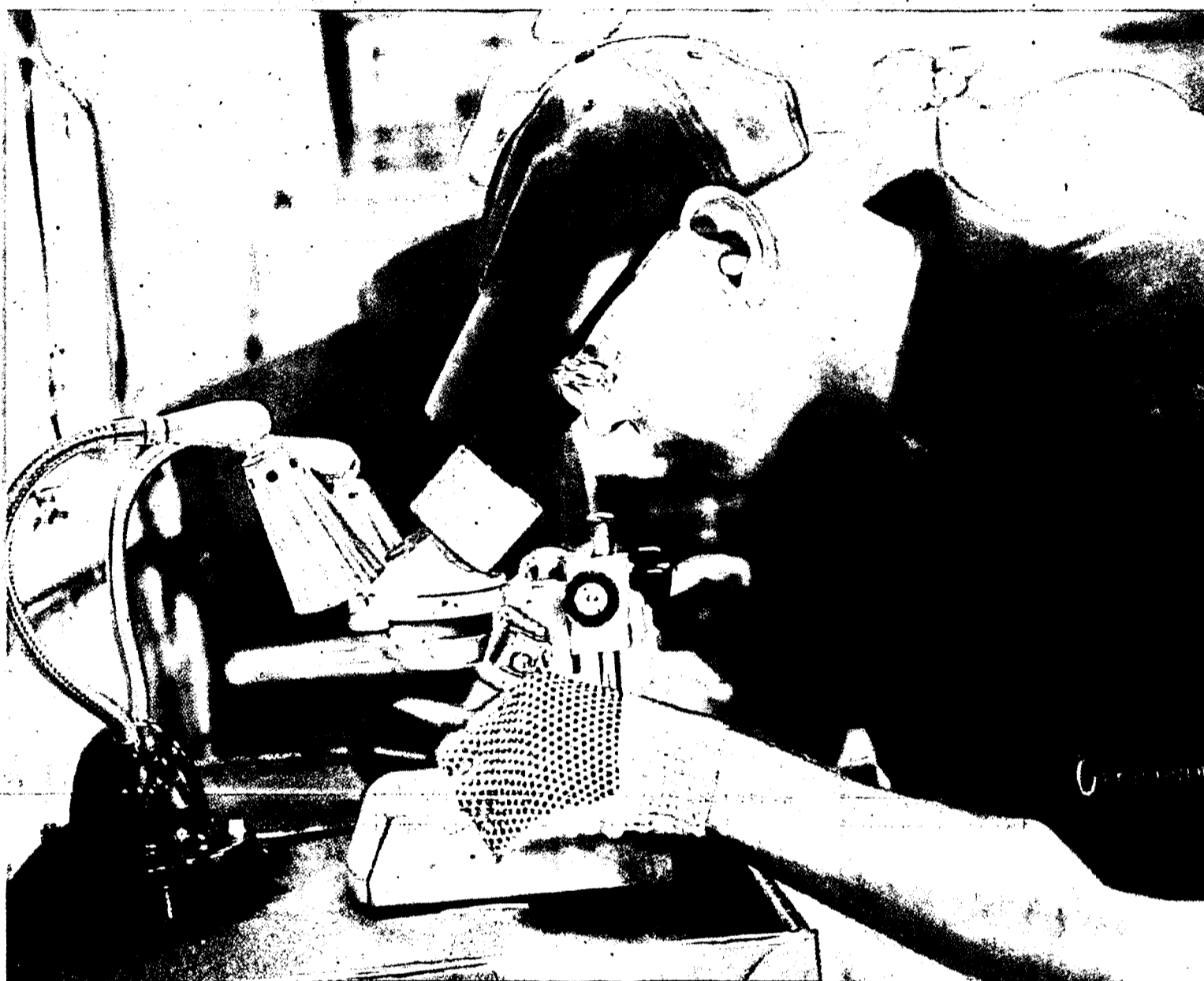
Manthano Christian College is a new Christian College in Westland, MI, Manthano admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.

Please visit our website at:
www.manthanochristian.org

Publish: March 11, 2012 OE0877026 2x2

Bank of America 

HOW A SPRING MANUFACTURER IS HELPING TO
BUILD DETROIT'S FUTURE.



As the largest independent spring manufacturer in the United States and a major provider of components for the automotive industry, Peterson Spring is a leading driver of Detroit's economy. They also supply springs and other parts to large manufacturers around the world. When Peterson Spring needed strategic assistance in preparing for future growth, they turned to Bank of America. We responded with flexible financial solutions, like equipment financing, to help them operate more efficiently and create more jobs.

Peterson Spring is another example of how we're working to help small businesses grow and hire in Detroit — and across the country. In 2011, we provided \$471.1 million in new credit to small businesses in Michigan — an increase of 7% from 2010.

To learn more about what we're doing to help strengthen local economies across the country, visit bankofamerica.com/facts

LPS board mulls all-day kindergarten

LIVONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

By Karen Smith
Observer Staff Writer

The Livonia school board is expected to vote March 19 on implementing full-day kindergarten next school year.

The move will cost the district an estimated \$1.5 million. However, administrators are concerned it will cost the district more than double that, \$3.3 million, if it doesn't implement it.

The state is expected to cut per-pupil funding in half for kindergartners attending half days starting in September, Superintendent Randy Liepa

said. Currently, Michigan school districts get a full day of funding for each kindergartner, regardless of daily class time. Livonia gets approximately \$8,200 per student.

Liepa said the district will need an additional 16.5 full-time elementary staff members, in addition to furnishing 11 new classrooms. He said space is available within the existing elementary buildings.

Liepa said he agrees full-day kindergarten is a good program, but calls it an unfunded state mandate.

"I don't believe we're going to have any choice unless something changes in the state aid bill," he

said. "We have to sort out where the 16.5 teachers are coming from because the state is not giving us money to pay for it."

He added that full-day kindergarten should be "a local control issue."

The board discussed the issue Monday. Offering the option would cost \$500,000.

Trustee Colleen Burton said she would prefer, if economically feasible, to offer parents the option of half-day or full-day kindergarten because some kindergartners, even within the same families, aren't ready for a full-day of school.

Andrea Oquist, director of elementary programs, said offering a half-day

program at just three elementary schools, one in each triad, would cost an additional \$500,000 on top of the \$1.5 million. She said parents seeking a half-day option could enroll their children in the district's developmental kindergarten program.

Liepa said parents always have the option of picking their children up after a half day, though he doesn't recommend that from an educational standpoint. He said his recommendation would be for a full-day program for all kindergartners except those in the developmental kindergarten program.

Trustee Dianne Laura, a retired principal, said she

favors all full-day or all half-day, not both. Offering both puts children in the half-day program "at an extreme disadvantage," she said. "This is starting from the get-go not giving them every opportunity."

Vice-President Greg Oke, an elementary principal in Center Line Public Schools, said parents in his district who start out the school year taking their kindergartners home in the middle of the day usually leave them in all day after several weeks. "Ultimately the kids get in there and they want to be there all day," he said, adding sometimes it's the parents, not the kids, who aren't ready.

President Patrice Mang said the \$500,000 for three half-day kindergarten classrooms would have to come from another program. A counselor for Allen Park Public Schools, she agreed offering both options would not be "educationally sound."

Oquist said of 36 of 38 surrounding school districts and all six local private and parochial schools offer full-day kindergarten. Nine of those offering both full- and half-day options are moving to all full-day, she said.

"The trend is to move toward the full day."

ksmith@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-2098

Schoolcraft looks for 50 Difference Makers

In celebration of its 50th anniversary, Schoolcraft College is paying homage to those who have helped make the college and the community what it is today.

Nominations are currently being accepted to recognize the 50 most influential Difference Makers from Schoolcraft College.

"The Difference Makers campaign is a great opportunity for us to honor the college's 50-year legacy of serving this community by recognizing the people who have created that legacy," said Dr. Conway A. Jeffress, college president. "With thousands of faculty and staff, and hundreds of volunteers, donors and friends of the college helping to build the college through the years, and more than 300,000

alumni who have gone out into the world spreading their influence, it is going to be very difficult to narrow it down to only 50 Difference Makers."

There are two primary categories — those who have made an impact on Schoolcraft College and those by virtue of their relationship to Schoolcraft College have had a significant impact on their community, professionally or personally.

Nominees can be current students, alumni or former students, instructors, staff members, donors, volunteers, board members, friends and community leaders.

Nominators need to provide contact information on themselves and the nominee, basic information about the nominee and their relationship to the college, including the

era in which they were influenced or had influence on the college, and a brief description on their impact on Schoolcraft College or how Schoolcraft College had an impact on their lives and their contribution to society.

The Difference Makers will be celebrated in a special section in the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers* and *Hometown Weekly Newspapers* in April. Their stories will also be shared on Schoolcraft's website and they will be honored at a reception later this spring.

"We have had an interesting mix of nominations so far," said Michelle Gaynier, communications coordinator. "Of course, there are some folks we would expect to see on the list like our former college presidents, all of whom have contributed in

their own unique way to the college. We also have had several alumni nominated, including those who have gone on to have tremendous professional success as well as those who are dedicated to community service, both locally and in other areas of the country."

Instructors and staff who have been instrumental in developing and expanding programs, a donor whose generosity has provided scholarships for several years for dozens of students, and several volunteers have also been nominated.

Nominations will be accepted through Saturday, March 31. Nomination forms are available on the college's website at www.schoolcraft.edu/50. For more information, call (734) 462-4412.



JENNY JOHNSON/WAYNE-WESTLAND COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

100 days

Last month youngsters in Wayne-Westland Community elementary schools participated in activities that focused on the number 100 in celebration of the 100th day of the school this year. With that milestone out of the way, they're thinking about spring break in April and the last day of school on June 14.

CHECK US OUT DAILY ONLINE

hometownlife.com

ESTABLISHED 1936

Join Us in Celebration!

25 YEARS
...ONE STUDENT AT A TIME

LSTI

Life Support Training Institute
Better Patient Care. One Student at a Time.

For more information or to register, please visit us on the web at:
www.lifesupporttraining.org
or call us at
866-FOR-LSTI (367-5784)
PAYMENT PLANS AVAILABLE
Now Accepting Registrations!

Course	Start Date	Days	Location
• EMS I/C	3/13/12	T-Th	Southfield
• EMT Day Class	3/13/12	T-Th	Southfield
• EMT	4/10/12	T-Th	Southfield
• Paramedic Day Class	4/10/12	T-Th	Taylor

Late Registrants Accepted

All Saints Catholic School Kindergarten

Our full day kindergarten program exceeds the curriculum standards set forth by the State of Michigan. It is designed to ensure that every student reaches his/her academic potential, and includes Math, Science, Language Arts, Social Studies, Religion, Art, Music, P.E. Computers and Library.

Other highlights of our program include:

- Book buddies
- After school clubs & activities
- Religious retreat
- Field trips
- Literacy & math coaches
- Smartboards

For more information, or to set up a personal tour, please call 734.459.2490

All Saints Catholic School
48735 Warren Rd. • Canton, MI 48187
Between Beck & Ridge Rd.
Email: ascos@hotmail.com

Schoolcraft College

Public Safety Career Expo 2012

Investigate a career in
Law Enforcement • Fire Fighting
Emergency Medical Technology

Resumes will be accepted

Wednesday, March 14 ★ 4-7 pm
at Schoolcraft College – Radcliff Center

Organizations attending include:

- ★ Bloomfield Township Fire
- ★ Dearborn Police
- ★ Livonia Fire and Police
- ★ U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency
- ★ Huron Valley Ambulance

No charge for admission • Open to the public

Schoolcraft College–Radcliff Center ★ Room RC 115 ★ 1751 Radcliff Street ★ Garden City, MI

For more information call 734-462-4421
or e-mail kcox@schoolcraft.edu

Woman charged with fraud in sale of two Westland homes

By LeAnne Rogers
Observer Staff Writer

Two Westland homes are among five homes a Detroit woman is accused of fraudulently obtaining and selling without the knowledge of the actual owners.

Ebony Crystal Malcom, 35, has been charged with multiple felonies over the scheme to sell the two Westland homes and three homes in Detroit. Malcom was arraigned Thursday in Detroit 36th District Court. A not guilty plea

was entered and bond set at \$15,000/10 percent for each of the five individual cases.

The Westland homes were identified as being located in the 30300 block of Marshall Court and the 30200 block of Marshall Court. Those homes are in the Fairfield Glade subdivision, a relatively new development located north of Van Born west of Middlebelt.

The charges filed by Wayne County Prosecutor Kym Worthy allege that between April 4,

2011, and Nov. 19, 2011, Malcom employed a scheme to sell five homes she fraudulently transferred into her business's name. Malcom registered the business, M Financial, LLC, on March 23, 2011, with the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs. It is alleged that Malcom hired unsuspecting real estate agents to begin selling the properties without the knowledge of the true owners.

Malcom is facing one count of conducting a

criminal enterprise, a 20-year felony; nine counts of forgery, a 14-year felony; nine counts of uttering and publishing, also a 14-year felony; 17 counts of identity theft, a five-year felony; one count of recording a fraudulent conveyance, a three-year felony; one count of false pretenses \$20,000 or more, a 15-year felony; one count of attempted false pretenses \$20,000 or more, a five-year felony; and two counts of false pretenses less than \$200, which are 93-day misdemeanors.

Malcom's arrest follows an investigation by Investigator Rodney Casarez of the Wayne County Mortgage and Deed Fraud Task Force. The task force is an ongoing collaboration between Worthy, Wayne County Register of Deeds Bernard J. Youngblood and Wayne County Sheriff Benny Napoleon, to combat the growing incidence of real estate fraud in Wayne County. The Task Force was created in 2005 by Worthy, Youngblood, and then-Sheriff Warren Evans.

"These recent deed fraud cases are examples that the Wayne County Mortgage and Deed Fraud Task Force is vigilant in protecting our constituents most basic property rights, the right to own property," said Youngblood. "This is the nation's first task force of its kind and it continues to lead and train other jurisdictions in Michigan and around the country in all aspects of this new crime wave."

rogers@hometownlife.com
(313) 222-5428

AROUND WESTLAND

Happy birthday

As Biggy Coffee celebrates another birthday, customers can enjoy a 99-cent tall hot or iced, sweet and creamy latte at participating locations on Thursday, March 15. The Westland Biggy Coffee, owned by Mo Elfakir, will be participating in the promotion.

Coupons for your 99-cent drink will be sent through e-mails, Biggy's free, weekly, e-mail couponing program. To sign up, visit www.e-wards.com.

Founded in 1995 in East Lansing, Biggy Coffee now has more than 140 stores in seven states.

Craft seminar

The Westland Friendship Center will host a craft seminar at 1 p.m. Friday, March 16. All supplies will be provided for making spring door wreaths for a fee of \$15.

The Friendship Center is at located at 1119 Newburgh, south of Ford. For more information, call (734) 722-7628.

Free check-ups

The Westland Fire

Department will offer free blood pressure checks in the computer room of the Westland Friendship Center, 1119 Newburgh, at 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, March 14, 2012 at 11:30 a.m. The checks are an excellent way to keep a record of blood pressure. Knowing if there is a problem is half the battle.

For more information, call (734) 722-7628.

Indoor garage sale

Space is available for an indoor garage sale that will be held 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday and Friday, March 22-23, at the Westland senior Friendship Center, 1119 Newburgh Road, south of Ford Road, Westland.

The sale is a fundraiser for the center. Six-foot-long tables are \$10 for two days, available on a first come, first serve basis. Sign up at the center's front desk.

For more information, call (734) 722-7632.

Coffee Hours

State Rep. Richard LeBlanc, D-Westland, will hold his next local coffee hour

9-10 a.m. Monday, March 12, at the at the William P. Faust Public Library, 6123 Central City Parkway. Citizens are welcome to visit with LeBlanc and discuss issues and/or concerns. The local coffee hour takes place on the second Monday of each month.

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

State Sen. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland, also will hold district coffee hours on Monday, March 12, in Westland and Redford. No appointment is necessary.

Anderson will be at the William P. Faust Public Library 9-10 a.m. and at the Redford Community Center, 12121 Hemingway, Redford, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Constituents who would like to address an issue with the Senator but are unable to attend may contact him by mail, at P.O. Box 30036, Lansing, MI 48933, by phone at (866) 262-7306 or by e-mail at SenatorAnderson@senate.michigan.gov.



Guest reader

In commemorating March as National Reading Month, Wayne County Commissioner Joan Gebhardt, D-Livonia, brings smiles to the faces of Westland students with her recent reading from *Raccoon Tunes*, a book written by Michigan author Nancy E. Shaw. Gebhardt said she supports the cause of elementary literacy in the United States and believes the highest form of learning begins with those skills gained through reading and listening.

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

Quick Lane
TIRE & AUTO CENTER

EXPERT MADE EASY! *St. Patrick's Day Celebration...*

Join us for **FREE** Hot Dogs, Pop, Chips & Popcorn
Thurs. March 15 • 11am-7pm and Sat, March 17 • 11am-5pm

Buy 4 tires, get a \$50 rebate.

MICHELIN BFGoodrich

Plus, receive a **FREE** TireCARE Road Hazard Package.*

Buy 4 tires, get up to a \$70 rebate.**

Extended

*TireCARE Road Hazard contract to be completed at the time of purchase. See terms and conditions for plan exclusions. Complimentary program not available in Ohio, New York and Florida. **Rebates range from \$40 to \$70 and vary by manufacturer. For all offers: Quick Lane-installed retail tire purchases only, limit one redemption per customer. Tire purchase must be made between 2/1/12 and 3/31/12. Rebate must be submitted by 4/30/12. See Quick Lane Manager for vehicle applications, program and rebate details through 3/31/12.

Extended

SAVE \$10

The Works.
An Oil Change and Much More.

\$29⁹⁵
After \$10 Rebate

No Appointment Necessary • Oil Change
Tire Rotation • Brake Inspection
Multi-Point Inspection • Fluid Top-Off
Battery Test • Filter Check
Belts & Hoses Check

Up to five quarts of Motorcraft® Premium Synthetic Blend oil and Motorcraft® oil filter. Taxes, diesel vehicles and disposal fees extra. Hybrid battery test excluded. See Service Advisor for vehicle exclusions and details. Offer valid with coupon. Expires 3-31-12.

Extended

Buy With Confidence.
Low Price
Tire Guarantee.

In the unlikely event you find tires for less, we'll beat that price up to 30 days after your purchase!

Offer available for all makes and models. Requires presentation of competitor's current price ad on exact tire sold by dealership. Offer valid with coupon. Expires 3-31-12.

○ We service all makes and models.

○ Our technicians are factory-trained and use Motorcraft® parts.

○ Service while you wait and no appointment necessary.

○ Quick Lane® offers evening and weekend hours.

Quick Lane at Bill Brown Ford

32230 Plymouth Road
Livonia, Michigan 48150
734.744.0400
www.quicklanelivonia.com
Quick Lane Hours: Mon-Fri 7am-7pm; Sat 8am-5pm

Use your Quick Lane® Credit Card on a qualifying purchase of \$250.00 or more (before tax) to receive a \$50.00 VISA Pre-Paid Card by mail-in rebate. See Service Advisor for details! Offer expires 3-31-12.

up to **\$35** **Reward Card**

After purchase of one or more qualified VPS Services. See dealer for details.

(Reward Card is made payable to the store location where you purchased your service, to use on your next visit toward any service)

Offer valid through April 30, 2012.

Life is better in the Quick Lane®

quicklane.com

Quick Lane and Motorcraft® are registered trademarks of Ford Motor Company

Healing Hearts hosts VIP's Jerry Dash

Hope 4 Healing Hearts, Inc., a non-profit organization providing group support for adults with an incarcerated loved one, will host a special presentation, "Finding Hope When There Is No Hope" by Jerry Dash from V.I.P. Mentoring in Detroit, Monday, March 26, at Kirk of Our Savior Church in Westland.

Dash is the chief executive officer of volunteers in Prevention, Probation and Prisons, Inc., also known as VIP Mentoring, in Detroit since 1989. His programs work to improve the lives of children who are at high-risk for involvement with the justice system with a special focus on children with incarcerated parents.

Dash is an ex-offender and served time in the federal penitentiary in Terre Haute, Indiana, in the early 1980s. He uses his experience to talk with inmates and families of inmates and tells about how that experience is now being used to help others affected by incarceration.



Dash is the chief executive officer of volunteers in Prevention, Probation and Prisons, Inc.

He will share his personal story about how he believed all was lost and how he was finally able, even in the darkest of situations, to find hope both in prison and returning home. He will speak from the heart as he shares some of the things that he feels might make a difference in the lives of inmates and their families.

The 6:30-8:30 p.m. presentation is open to the public. Kirk of Our Savior at 36660 Cherry Hill, west of Wayne Road, in Westland. For more information, contact Bonnie at (734) 646-2237 or go to www.hope4healinghearts.com. To learn more about Jerry Dash and his program, go online to www.vipmentoring.org.

Advice on disinheriting a child

By Rick Bloom
Guest Columnist

Q: Dear Rick: My son is gay and lives with his partner. I'm not happy with the arrangement and I've decided to disinherit my son from my estate. I have a will which leaves him everything. I also want to make



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

sure that if something happens to me he can't make decisions on my behalf. I have no other children and I am a widower. What actions should I take to accomplish this? Also, do I have to tell him what I am doing? I prefer at this point not to have any involvement with him. I should mention that it's just not because he is gay that I'm disinheriting him; it's for other reasons.

A: There are some specific things you should do to accomplish your goal. First, you need to amend your will. Under Michigan law, you do not have to leave any inheritance to a child. However, if you do not mention a child in your will, then it's presumed that you have forgotten about him/her and they can contest the will and potentially receive an inheritance. Therefore, it is important to amend your will and include a provision that mentions his name and the fact that you

have chosen to disinherit him.

You don't necessarily have to outline the reasons why you are disinheriting him, just the fact that he is being disinherited. This will prevent him from having any rights to your estate upon death. In addition, it is important to check whether you have named him as beneficiary on a life insurance policy, investments or anything else. Even if you disinherit him through your will, if he is named as a beneficiary, that would take precedent.

With regards to informing him of your decision, you are under no obligation to do so.

Power of attorney

The items outlined will disinherit your son from your estate. To assure that he is not involved with handling your affairs during your lifetime, it's important to prepare medical and durable power of attorney documents. In those documents you can name who you want to handle your affairs (if you cannot) and you can also name an alternative. In addition, you can include a paragraph in those documents stating once again, that you do not want your son involved in any of these matters.

Amending your will and preparing medical and durable power of attorney documents will protect you. Because you are disinheriting a child, I recommend that you have an attorney draft

the documents. Whenever you disinherit a child, there is a greater possibility that litigation could happen. Therefore, it is important to dot all of the i's and cross all of the t's. Having the documents drafted by an estate planning attorney will greatly reduce the chance of litigation.

Laws, similar to just about everything else in our society, have become much more complex and specialized. Lawyers have become more specialized. It is important to remember that the services of an attorney you would use to handle your estate, is not the same attorney that you would use to handle a personal injury claim. Most reputable and good attorneys won't handle a matter unless they have the expertise. However, like all professions, there are some bad apples that will attempt to handle issues regarding areas of law when they're not fully competent.

It is important that you always keep your guard up and never be afraid to ask questions. Doing your homework ahead of time and making sure that you're dealing with the right professional will save you and your family lots of grief.

Good luck!

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



ST. MARY MERCY LIVONIA
SAINT JOSEPH MERCY HEALTH SYSTEM



The Center for
Joint Replacement

Re-Discover Freedom

Learn more at our
FREE Education Seminar
6 to 8 p.m.
St. Mary Mercy Livonia

Thursday, March 22, Classroom 10
Wednesday, April 25, Classroom 10

To register call 734-655-2345
stmrymercy.org

Are you living in pain?
Now is the time to
Rediscover your mobility.

The Center for Joint Replacement at St. Mary Mercy Hospital has a comprehensive team approach which results in shorter hospital stays, better pain management and faster recovery.

A GOOD BANK TEACHES YOUR MONEY HOW TO MAKE MONEY.

GIVE YOUR SAVINGS AN EXTRA BOOST WITH A GUARANTEED RATE THROUGH 6/30/12.

Whether you're saving for the future or planning a vacation, a good bank can help you get there. So on top of competitive rates, you can expect a complimentary financial review and people when you need them, who value your time and are ready to listen. Plus, you're in control with online and mobile banking, 24/7 phone support and Sunday hours. Talk with us today.

PERFORMANCE MONEY MARKET

0.90% | 0.55%

GUARANTEED THROUGH 6/30/12 | ANNUAL PERCENTAGE YIELD

\$10,000 new money and active checking required. Available to new and existing customers for balances of \$10,000-\$2,999,999.

Isn't it time you switched to good banking?

CALL: 1-888-333-2373 | CLICK: charterone.com | COME IN: Any Charter One

GOOD BANKING IS GOOD CITIZENSHIP. **Charter One**

COMING SOON, TO YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

WRCJ 90.9 FM

presents the Detroit Symphony Orchestra

Neighborhood Concert Series

BEETHOVEN'S "EMPEROR"



Nicholas McGegan, *conductor*
Robert Levin, *piano*

Mozart Overture to *Don Giovanni*
Beethoven Piano Concerto No. 5, "Emperor"
Mozart Symphony No. 38, "Prague"

In Southfield
Thu., Mar. 22 at 7:30 p.m.

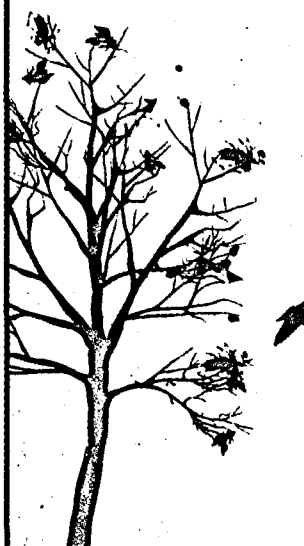
At Congregation Shaarey Zedek,
27375 Bell Rd.

In Dearborn
Fri., Mar. 23 at 10:45 a.m.

At Ford Community & Performing Arts Center,
15801 Michigan Ave.

In Beverly Hills
Sun., Mar. 25 at 3 p.m.

At Seligman Performing Arts Center,
Detroit Country Day School,
22305 W. 13 Mile



DETROIT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
LEONARD SLATKIN Music Director

A COMMUNITY-SUPPORTED ORCHESTRA

shoplocal
eatlocal
listenlocal

Buy tickets today at
www.dso.org/neighborhood
or call 313.576.5111



Member FDIC. Available with money not currently on deposit at Charter One. \$10,000 new money and active checking required to open an active checking account as defined as having 5 qualifying payment transactions that post to and clear your account within a statement period - qualifying payments from your account include ATM withdrawals and payments made in our branches, payments made using our Online Banking service, Debit Card purchases, checks paid and automatic electronic payments to a third party. Transfers to your checking, savings, and money market accounts are excluded. Online Banking transfers to Business loans or credit lines do not qualify. Personal accounts/Select markets. MMA: The guaranteed interest rate will be in effect through June 30, 2012. After that the rate may change at any time. Based upon a guaranteed rate for 3 months and 9 months at non-guaranteed rates in effect as of 2/13/12 (which may change) the Variable Annual Percentage Yield (APY) as of 3/1/12: APY is 0.55% for tiers of \$10,000+, \$25,000+, \$50,000+, \$100,000+, \$250,000+, \$500,000+, \$1,000,000+ (based on non-guaranteed interest rate of 0.38%); APY 0.30% tier \$3,000,000+ (based on non-guaranteed interest rate of 0.30%); APY 0.08% below \$10,000 (based on non-guaranteed interest rate of 0.10%). Fees may reduce earnings. Monthly maintenance fee of \$20 may be waived with minimum daily balance of \$1,000. Charter One is a brand name of RBS Citizens, N.A.

Weekend Warriors: Just do it . . . carefully

Professional athletes in every arena use team

physicians and trainers to keep them in action. Fortunately, the area's amateur jocks can turn to



Dr. Stanley Szczecienski

Dr. Stan Szczecienski, Sports Medicine specialist at Garden City Hospital for help.

He has a prescription for weekend warriors who want to avoid the pains and strains associated with summer sports.

Ban boredom

If you want to shape up, set limits. Like to train by running? Target a distance of three miles, three times each week. When boredom sets in, exercise doesn't seem as appealing.

A balanced training regimen can help you avoid

injuries. Focus on a balance of strength, flexibility and endurance exercises. This cross training provides variety and needed rest. Be sure to add some cardiovascular sessions, too. "I recommend 20 minutes three times a week for cardio work," said Dr. Szczecienski. "Your body needs that much for significant benefit."

"If you go to the gym, devote Monday, Wednesday and Friday for upper body work and the other days for lower body drills," he added.

Don't forget to hit the treadmill to get your heart going. Even those who want to get stronger should consider adding yoga or Tai Chi to increase flexibility.

Swing and stretch

If you play softball, hit the batting cages on "off" days and then jog for flexibility and muscle strength. Also plan some aerobic work; it may help

you beat out an infield single.

Szczecienski recommends players stretch every day. Warm up for about five minutes, then slowly and gently stretch, holding each stretch for 30 seconds. Continue until you feel some resistance. If it hurts, you're pushing too hard. Something as simple as deep knee bends at the office copy machine or your kitchen counter also work well, he said.

He offers a simple hip and back stretch: Keep your right leg straight, cross left leg over and keep both heels on ground. Rotate your upper body and look over your left shoulder. Gently push leg with arm to the right and hold 10 to 15 seconds. Repeat three times on each side.

Sport specific training

Each sport involves specific skills so it's impor-

tant to train appropriately.

"Our son is a catcher for his high school baseball team, so we have him do more upper body work on Monday, Wednesday and Friday," said Szczecienski. "On the other days, he does more cardio so he doesn't 'burn out' his shoulder. What's needed is an exercise routine that balances every physical aspect of the game."

For example, pitchers need strong arms to throw, but their legs should be in condition, too - for planting and throwing. Szczecienski said at minimum, athletes should spend 20 minutes three times a week following a specific exercise prescription.

Wearing proper gear is key. Athletic shoes should provide ample arch support. Invest in sport-specific footwear from a store whose salespeople are knowledgeable about your sport.

Bulletproof, plastic face guards are worthwhile

for select softball players. At just \$35, they provide ample protection for position players who 'cheat' too close toward the batter.

"We had a young girl who came in with face multiple fractures after getting hit by a softball," Szczecienski said.

Every male jock should wear an athletic cup. Protective chest plates and helmets are mandatory for kids in certain sports. Custom mouth guards, not "boil and bite" pliable models, should be the norm for anyone in a contact sport - like basketball or soccer. Your dentist might consider providing one free in exchange for your regular business.

Want to recover faster?

If you know you're going to overdo it during your weekend play, take a couple of nonprescription ibuprofen with a snack before you go to

your game. Be sure to ice down any previous injuries before the game, for example, with a chronic shoulder problem. You might want to ice the shoulder between innings - just press a cold beverage can to the shoulder. And remember to ice again immediately afterwards.

Of course, be sure you're thoroughly hydrated; it's a good way to revitalize your aching body. And if you're still hurting after the last out, Szczecienski recommends taking some nonprescription ibuprofen - if your physician says it's OK. Now you're ready to go out there and have fun - safely.

Dr. Stanley Szczecienski is Board Certified in Sports Medicine, Family Practice and Pain Management at Garden City Hospital. For Garden City Hospital's Find a Physician Information call (877) 717-WELL, or visit www.gchosp.org.

GARDEN CLIPPINGS

Open House

Garden City Co-op Preschool is holding an open house 6-7 p.m. Monday, April 16.

Garden City Co-op Preschool is one of the oldest cooperative preschools in Michigan. It was established in 1955 under the guidelines of the Greater Detroit Cooperative Nursery Council and the Michigan Council of Cooperative Nurseries. Their goal was to create a quality preschool environment for their children, with direct parental involvement. The preschool offers classes for children 18 months to four years of age.

Parents can visit the school and see what it has to offer.

Garden City Co-op Preschool is at 1841 Middlebelt, south of Ford, Garden City. For more information, call (734) 261-2838 or go online to www.gardencitycoopreschool.org.

Spaghetti dinner

Project Graduation 2012 is holding an all-you-can-eat spaghetti dinner 5:30-8 p.m. Saturday, March 24, at the Garden City Moose Lodge on Ford Road east of Middlebelt. Cost is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children age 12 and under.

Member luncheon

Reservations are due Monday, March 12, for the 5 Star Business Group Member Benefit Luncheon Thursday, March 15, at Joy Manor, 28999 Joy, east of Middlebelt, in Westland.

Join Dearborn Heights/Dearborn, Garden City, Redford, Westland and Wayne Chamber of Commercices for a presentation on membership benefits and a networking lunch. Registration and networking will be at 11:15 a.m., followed by a benefits presentation at 11:30 a.m. and lunch at noon. The cost is \$15.

Space is limited, and reservations are required. To register, call (313) 274-7480.

Travel show

Party Animal Travel is having a Senior Free Travel Fair 5-7 p.m. Wednesday, March 14, at Joy Manor, 8999 Joy Road, Westland.

There will be a meet-and-greet for seniors who may want to travel, but need a travel buddy. Party Animal has museum, casinos, restaurants and summer tours set up for the older and still active crowd. The cost of the fair is free and seniors could win a trip at the show.

Shamrock Shuffle

If it's March, it's time to do the shuffle, the Shamrock Shuffle, at St. Raphael Parish. The church is holding its annual card party at 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 14, in the Activities Building on Merriman, north of Ford Road.

The donation is \$8. Cards will be provided and there also will be a raffle, door prizes, Barney bags, 50/50 drawing, door prizes and coffee and dessert. Maurice salads, hot dogs, sloppy joes and sub sandwiches will be available for purchase.

For more information, call 74 844-1801, (734) 427-1533 or (734) 425-8981.

Charity bowl

The Garden City Lions Club is holding a bowling benefit 6-11 p.m. Saturday May 19, at Town & Country Lanes, 1100 S. Wayne Road, Westland. The cost is \$15 per person and includes three games of 9 pin no tap, pizza, pop, raffles and shoe rental.

For more information please contact Cindy at (313) 407-0239, Larry at (734) 660-0920, Terry at (734) 686-8786 or Vicky at (734) 502-7951. Call now to reserve your team of four or come by yourself and they will team you up. Either way it's a night of fun entertainment.

Livonia Franklin Annual



Craft SHOW

Saturday, March 18th
10 am- 4 pm

All Kinds of Crafts!
ART • PET ITEMS • JEWELRY
HOME DECOR • CLOTHING
and much more!

\$1

ADMISSION



Livonia Franklin High School • 31000 Joy Road • Livonia

No Strollers Please!

OE08769791

Internal Medicine

BETTER HEALTH CLINIC

Now Open...
and Accepting
New Patients

Offering These Complete Medical Services:

- Adult Internal Medicine
- Allergies
- Arthritis
- Blood Diseases
- Cancer
- Chronic Disease Management
- Cognitive Assessments
- Diabetes

- Digestive Diseases
- Heart Conditions
- Hormonal Disorders
- Immunizations
- Infections
- Kidney Diseases
- Respiratory Disorders
- Women's Health



Dr. Hasan F. Hasan
Board Certified Internal Medicine Physician with Hospital Privileges at:
St. Mary/Mercy - Livonia
Providence Park - Novi



Cherryhill Road

Wayne Road

Ford Road

Warren Road

Newburgh Road

Accepting Most Insurances
849 N. Wayne Road • Westland
Across from Le Cakery

248-476-8600

OPEN: Mon.-Fri. 9-5; Sat. 10-3

OE08769879



FREE
Fridays

That's right
EVERY
FRIDAY
in March is free!

60 minutes.
Up to 600 calories burned.
Start today.

Jazzercise Fitness Center
of Livonia

19241 NEWBURGH ROAD
NW corner of Newburgh & 74 Mile Roads
248-767-4490

jazzercise.

jazzercise.com • (800)FIT-IS-IT

OE08769388

Doors Stuck?

Not Shutting Properly?
Drafty Door Seals?
Need a New Door Installed?

Got New Carpeting and
Now Your Doors Won't Shut?

JT Doors & Repairs

Sales • Service • Installation
INTERIOR & EXTERIOR DOORS
Over 12 Years of Experience with Home Depot

Honest • Dependable • Great Prices

25% OFF YOUR SERVICE CALL!

Up to \$100 off
with this coupon

OE08769886

Call John at... **734-732-2048**

'Groundbreaking' new ministry caters to families with autistic children

By Diane Gale Andreassi
Staff Writer

Karen and Paul Schmid know what it's like to watch an autistic son struggle with sitting through a mass and they wonder about other families who avoid church altogether, because it's just too hard.

They know how hard it is when the sounds, sights and perfumes in the church can make children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) anxious and feel the need to make noise, move about and just want to flee.

Karen has joined forces with Patti Banks, who also has an autistic son, to begin "All God's Children Autism" ministry at St. Joseph Catholic Church in South Lyon.

They want to give families like their's a place to go and feel welcomed.

"Catholics have autism as well, where are these kids?" Karen asked. "Families need support and the perfect place for that should be from their church. I want to start with a catechism program to bring back families who have left and a sensory friendly room for them to attend mass and not feel like they're being disruptive. The parents don't have to be concentrating on their kids the whole time and missing out on mass."

Karen has provided a questionnaire on Facebook, at www.facebook.com/agcmin, to gauge whether or not there is a need. Initially it drew responses from eight families and seven of

those said they didn't go to church because of their child's autism. Schmid and Banks are looking for more Facebook visits.

"We are just getting started and we're trying to get the word out there," Karen said. "I know there are people who have stopped going to church. Our hope is that we can make this successful at our church and then teach other people to do it at their churches so we aren't missing people out there who really need it."

Easily distracted

Karen describes her son as "amazing, he's just amazing." But learning to deal with his behavior that results from the autism has been a challenge. Paulie is six, is brilliant at math and has been promoted to second grade at Salem Elementary School. He was diagnosed with Asperger's syndrome, a high-functioning form of autism that causes a lot of behavior issues. Little tasks can become overwhelming. When Paulie walks into a grocery store, for instance, his heightened senses accentuate the humming of the fluorescent lights; the odors from the bakery and fish counter are maximized. Autistic kids also tend to process every comment as literal. There are no blacks and whites.

"He was our first (Paulie has a brother, Frankie, 4 and a sister, Clara, nine months) and we had nothing to compare him to," Karen said. "We realized that



HAL GOULD | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

From left in back, Karen Schmid, the Rev. Stan Tokarski and Patti Banks and (front left) Paulie Schmid, 6, and Geno Banks, 6, at St. Joseph Catholic Parish. The women are putting together a ministry to help families with autistic children attend Mass and receive religious instruction.

there was more than him being a strong personality and quirky. We would give his brother time out and it would work. Just a time out with him would take two hours and it never seemed to help."

Teachers and staff at Salem have taught Paulie and the Schmid's how to deal with his behavior. "I don't know what we would have done without them," Schmid said. "We've been so blessed with all the people there. They have changed his life and ours."

Volunteers teaching catechism, however, don't always know these

techniques and an autistic child's behavior can escalate.

Banks explains that her son, Geno's behavior at church was so distracting and difficult.

"I had to stop going to church," Banks said. "I hope to get other parents and families comfortable in a church setting."

Banks tried getting Geno in a catechism class, but he couldn't deal with the classroom setting and began running up and down the halls looking for his two siblings.

"It was so exhausting

AUTISM MINISTRY

Where: St. Joseph Catholic Parish, 830 S. Lafayette St., South Lyon
More info: Call St. Joseph Church at (248) 446-8700 and ask for Karen Schmid or Patti Banks; www.facebook.com/agcmin

to take him and bring him home it wasn't worth it," Banks said. "Families need to feel accepted and not feel ashamed."

Not only are noises louder, odors stronger and lights brighter for autistic children, but their balance can be off-set, too.

Religious education

Schmid and Banks are investigating if a room at St. Joseph can be designated for families who need a controlled atmosphere. Another part of the ministry is to develop religious education programs where autistic children can more easily participate in classes and in some cases finding different ways to integrate them into existing classes. Paul Schmid is a Novi teacher and is Paulie's catechism teacher at St. Joseph's this year.

The ministry would give autistic children resources to the catechism program for the preparation of the Holy Sacraments and possibly support groups; a babysitting program and even a vacation bible school. Schmid and Banks aren't limiting the

possibilities.

St. Joseph Pastor Fr. Stan Tokarski describes the "All God's Children Autism Ministry" as groundbreaking.

"I am excited about this," Fr. Stan said. "I think it's a wonderful opportunity for more people to be aware of this. Karen is starting something that is remarkable and laying the foundation for something that hasn't been tried before."

Banks and Schmid believe there are likely many other Catholics in South Lyon and the surrounding communities experiencing similar challenges.

"We're learning as we go, but if we can employ the same techniques that are used at school, therapy and home to reach fellow Catholics with autism, we can ensure that they will have a Christian home and a community to grow in and feel supported," Banks said. "At the same time, parishioners will benefit from autism awareness and ideally, acceptance."

For more information visit "All God's Children Autism Ministry at St. Joseph Catholic Church" on Facebook and fill-out the survey provided. Hard copies of the survey are also available at St. Joseph's.

Call St. Joseph Church at (248) 446-8700. Schmid and Banks can be contacted by e-mail at allgodschildrenministry@yahoo.com or www.facebook.com/agcmin.

dandreassi@hometownlife.com
(248) 437-2011, Ext. 262



Waltonwood Senior Living

Because you deserve a carefree retirement

Residents enjoy the independence they desire with the support they need.

Spacious apartments • Housekeeping & maintenance • Delicious, home-cooked meals • Activities and transportation
Personal care services delivered by our own Licensed Assisted Living caregivers • Pet friendly

Two locations in Canton. Call and schedule your personal tour today.

The Sandwich Generation

Making Health Care Decisions for Your Parents

Thurs., Mar. 15th
1:30 - 2:30 p.m.

at Waltonwood at Carriage Park
RSVP today

WALTONWOOD

Redefining Retirement Living®

SINGH

CARRIAGE PARK

Independent Living & Licensed Assisted Living
(734) 386-0811

2250 N Canton Center Road

CHERRY HILL

Independent Living, Licensed Assisted Living & Memory Care
(734) 335-1554

42600 Cherry Hill



www.Waltonwood.com

Library for Blind hosts tax preparation day

The Wayne Metropolitan Community Action Agency will be at the Wayne County Regional Library for the Blind and Physically Challenged in Westland on Friday, March 30, to prepare 2011 tax forms free of charge for eligible residents.

Families and individuals who make less than \$50,000 are available for the service.

The agency will be at the library, at 30555 Michigan Ave., east of Merriman, in Westland from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Appointments can be made calling (734) 284-6999. Walk-ins are

also welcome, however, appointment will be served first.

People who utilize the service will need to bring:

- Their original Social Security card and the original cards for all claimed dependents.

- Valid picture identification, like a driver's license of state ID.

- Proof of income - all forms for wages, unemployment, gambling/lottery winnings, miscellaneous income, pensions, Social Security benefit, Supplemental Social Income with letter from the Social Security Administra-

tion, Social Security Disability, VA total monthly benefit or sum from the Department of Veterans Affairs, Interest and dividends, DHS Assistance (annual statement) and other relevant information about income.

- Proof of expenses - Energy Efficiency appliances and improvements (receipts should show Energy Star ratings), insulation; windows, furnace, water heater, refrigerator, clothes washer, dishwasher; medical or HMO premiums paid for self and/or family dependents; total amount paid for day care and the day

care provider's tax identification number (the individual's Social Security number); student loan interest, tuition and course materials.

- Home and heating credit - Total amount of residential electric/heating costs paid in 2011 (DTE bills).

- Homeowners - Proof of taxable value of your home and bills of summer/winter property taxes paid in 2011 and mortgage interest (Form 1098).

- Renters - Lease or rental contract and rent receipts for 2011 and landlord's name, address and zip codes.

For direct deposit of refunds, people should bring the name of their bank or credit union, routing number and account numbers and a copy of a checking/saving deposit slip.

This is the second year the tax preparation service is being offered in Wayne County. Edith Killins, director of the Wayne County Department of Health and Human Services, and Maria McCarville, Wayne County Director of Libraries, began this tax preparation volunteer program last year, utilizing the skills and commitment of Wayne

County employees.

The first class began in December 2010. In all, 35 people were trained and certified last year. They all agreed to volunteer at least 24 hours during the tax season. Many volunteered even more hours to prepare taxes for Wayne County families with limited incomes.

The response from Wayne County employees was so positive that a second annual class was offered for the 2012 tax preparation season.

For more information about the tax program or to make an appointment, call (734) 284-6999.

Wayne Rec offers kids plenty to do in March, April

A "Dive-in" theater and other activities on the schedule of upcoming events hosted by the Wayne Parks and Recreation Department.

A Kids Night Out at the Wayne Community Center is scheduled for 6-10 p.m. Saturday, March 17. Children age 6-11 years old can enjoy a showing of the movie *Luck of the Irish* and enjoy "Dive-in" theater in the pool. There will be many other activities, including snacks and games. The cost is \$13 per person for Wayne and Westland residents, \$16 for non-residents.

Registration for Spring swim lessons at the Wayne Community Center will be taken March 15-23. Classes are held every Tuesday and Thursday eve-

ning from March 27 through April 19. The cost is \$43 for Wayne and Westland residents, \$57 for non-residents. The classes are open to all children six months and older.

The 33rd Annual Marshmallow Drop, sponsored by CrossPointe Church, will be held at 10 a.m. Friday, April 6, in Attwood Park, located next to the Wayne Community Center. The event is free and no advance registration is required.

After youngsters work up an appetite chasing marshmallows, they can stay for the Bunny Breakfast at the Wayne Community Center 10:45 a.m. to noon Friday, April 6. The cost is \$4 for Wayne and Westland residents,

\$5 for non-residents. Included are pancakes, sausage, juice, arts and crafts and balloons. Pictures with the Easter Bunny will be available for \$3.

Take-A-Break Days day camp for kids will be open 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday, April 10-12, at the Wayne Community Center. The program is open to youngsters in kindergarten through seventh-grade. Activities will include ice skating, arts and crafts, swimming and more. The cost is \$26 per day for Wayne and Westland residents, \$33 for non-residents.

The Wayne Community Center is at 4635 Howe in Wayne. For more information about programs and events, call (734) 721-7400.

County parks program features maple sugaring

The calendar says it's almost spring, and the sap is flowing up the maple trees.

Bundle up and join naturalists at Cass Benton Park on Saturday, March 17, for a Maple Sugaring program. There are three different time slots to choose from - 10 a.m., 11 a.m. or Noon - and the program lasts approximately 1 1/2 hours.

Cass Benton is located in Northville, off Northville road between Six Mile and Seven Mile roads.

Learn how Native Americans were the first to discover that sap was a tasty treat, and taught early settlers how to collect and boil it. A short hike in the woods for a hands-on demonstration of tree tapping, sap collection and boiling is



Naturalists will demonstrate maple sugaring during a program at Cass Benton Park in Northville March 17.

part of the fun. Information for backyard hobbyists will be presented. Bring the whole family for a celebration of this enjoyable spring ritual. All ages welcome, but trail is not stroller friendly.

Advanced registra-

tion and pre-payment are required. The cost is \$6 per child and \$4 per adult for Wayne County residents. For more information, call Wayne County Parks at (734) 261-1990 or visit the parks' website at www.waynecountyparks.org.

Professional
Tax Preparation
at a Discounted Price

Worry Free

New
Client
Special

Tax Return Preparation

\$49

Federal
Returns

\$20 State Returns

Seniors Ages 50+

Basic Tax Return:

Includes Form 1040 and Schedules A&B

Non Senior Basic Tax Returns \$139.95

GRANITE TAX SERVICE

www.49tax.com

734-394-9660

41081 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth, MI 48170



Mike is a 29-year-old young professional. He says he's not as smart as his smartphone - yet.

Do you know what Mike likes?

(We do.)

With our audience expertise and targeting, we can help your business reach more Young Professionals like Mike. Find out how the Observer & Eccentric and Hometown Weeklies Newspaper Group's solutions — enhanced by partnerships with companies like Yahoo! — make us the local leader in digital marketing.

Call Observer & Eccentric at 734-582-8363 and Hometown Weeklies at 248-437-2011

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC HOMETOWN
NEWSPAPERS WEEKLIES
www.hometownlife.com

In partnership with

YAHOO!

ATTENTION BUSINESSES!



9th Annual Spring SENIOR EXPO

Tuesday, May 22, 2012

9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Schoolcraft College
Livonia Campus

Vis TaTech Center - Haggerty Rd.
between 6 and 7 Mile Roads

**Limited exhibit
space available.
Sign-up before we
are sold out.**

SIGN UP NOW!

If your business or organization serves seniors,

you'll want to be part of this exciting event!

Exhibitor Benefits:

- **Special Section Promotion**
- **Print Advertising**
- **Web Presence**
- **Exhibitor Listings**
- **Expo Table**

For more information about this event
and to reserve your space, please contact:

Choya Jordan

313.222.2414

Fax: 313.496.5303

Email: cbjordan@hometownlife.com

Important Date:

○ **Registration Deadline: April 23, 2012**

Gold Sponsor

HERE'S LOOKIN'
AT **YOU**

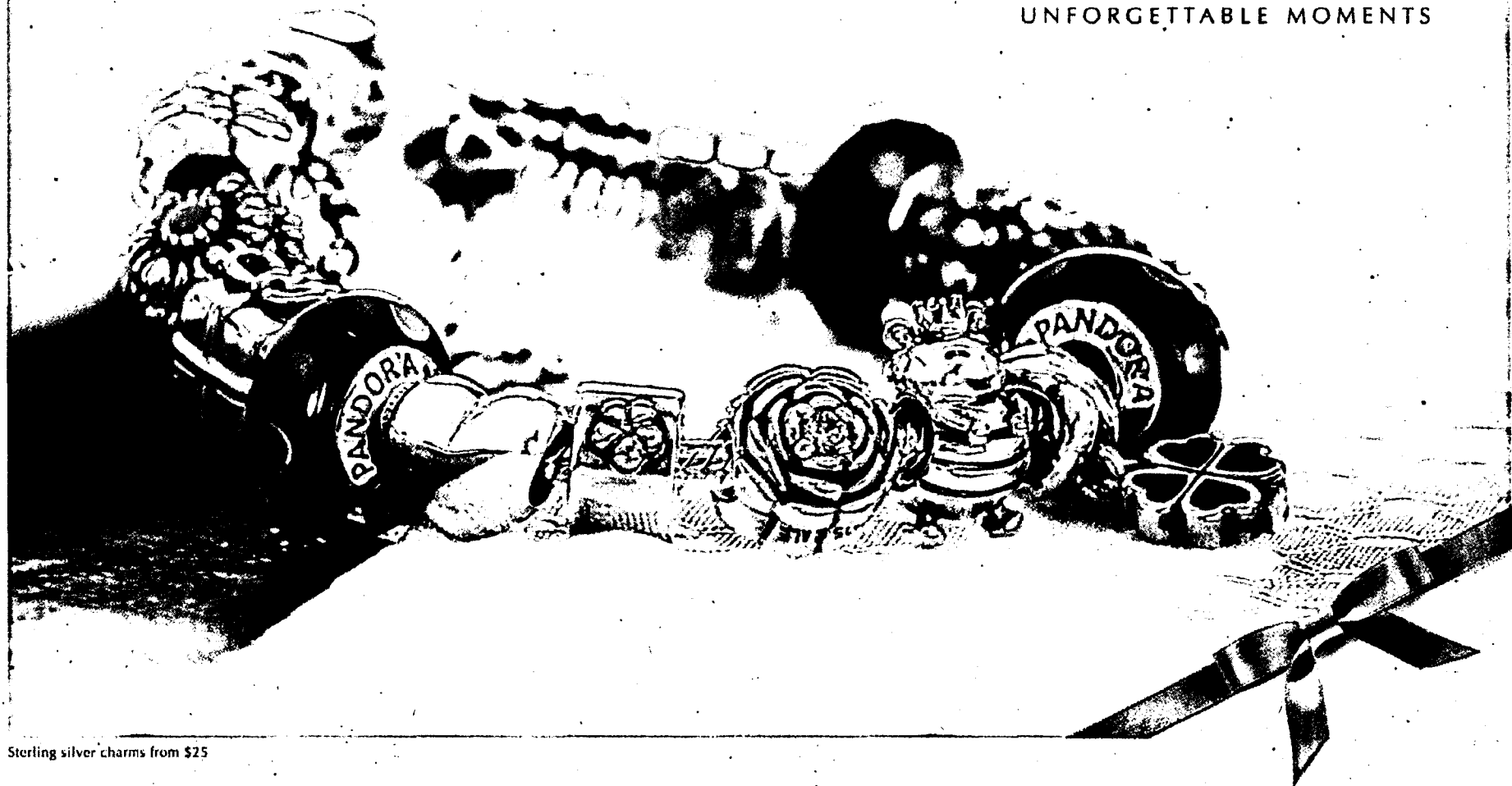


Comfort Dental Spa is not affiliated with Comfort Dental Center in Southfield, MI or Dr. Halmaghi

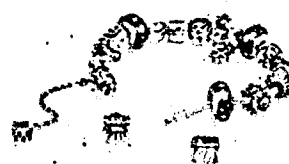
Presented by: hometownlife.com
**OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC
HOMETOWN
WEEKLIES**
A GANNETT COMPANY



PANDORA
UNFORGETTABLE MOMENTS



Sterling silver charms from \$25



Free Gift With Purchase
March 15th-18th

Receive a PANDORA clasp bracelet (a \$65 US retail value) with your purchase of \$100 or more of PANDORA jewelry.*

*Good while supplies last, limit one per customer. Charms shown on bracelet are sold separately.

BENSON
DIAMOND JEWELERS

Located In the Westland Mall next to KOHL'S
734.525.4100
Monday thru Saturday 10:00am-9:00pm • Sunday 11:00am-6:00pm

Find us on
f Facebook

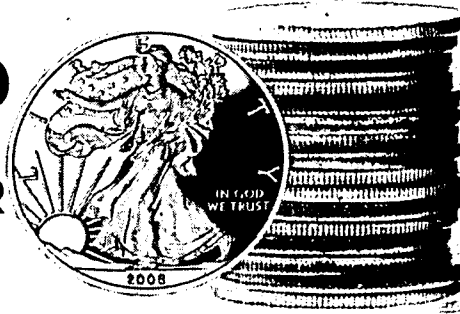
U.S. Pat. No. 7,007,507 • © 2011 Pandora Jewelry, LLC • All rights reserved • PANDORA.NET

OE08770245

WANTED
COINS

SILVER-GOLD
SELL NOW!
GOLD AND SILVER
AT AN ALL
TIME HIGH!

25 Years Since Gold and Silver
Have Been This High!
INSTANT CASH FOR GOLD
All forms needed!



SILVER
DOLLARS
WANTED

SILVER DOLLARS
MINTED BEFORE 1935

BU Silver Dollar rolls minted
before 1921 wanted.
Top Dollar Paid for all rare
coins!



SMALL & LARGE
QUANTITIES WANTED
No Appointment Necessary

SILVER COINS
1964 & OLDER



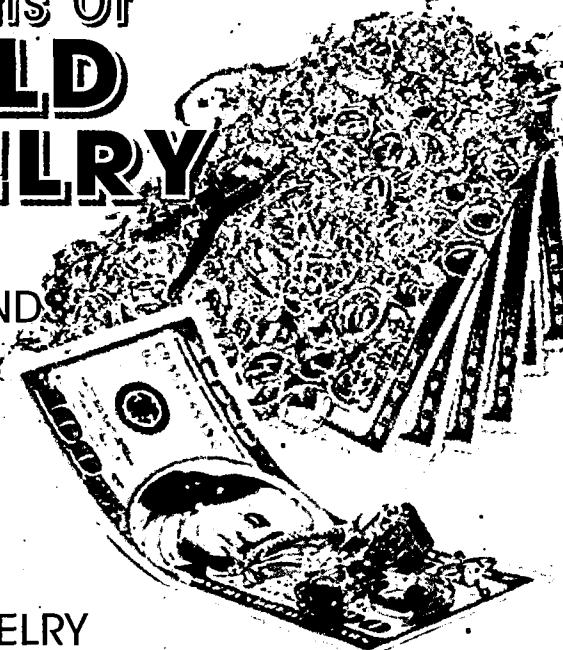
Benson
Diamond Jewelers

30 Years In Business
Located In the Westland Mall Kohl's Corridor
734-525-4100
Open 7 Days a Week

INSTANT CASH

All Forms Of
GOLD
JEWELRY

- CHAINS
- WEDDING BANDS
- CLASS RINGS
- BRACELETS
- EARRINGS
- CHARMS
- WATCHES
- DENTAL GOLD
- ANTIQUE JEWELRY



The Price of Gold is
at an all time high!

Bring it in! We buy Gold, Silver,
Diamonds, and Platinum
EVEN BROKEN or DAMAGED ITEMS ARE ACCEPTED

Don't be misled

by mailing your gold to people not knowing what
they will pay you for it.

**Bring it to us for a free estimate and then
decide if you're ready to sell.**

WE GUARANTEE TO
PAY MORE THAN ANYONE!

Benson
Diamond Jewelers

30 Years In Business
Located In the Westland Mall Kohl's Corridor
734-525-4100
Open 7 Days a Week

BOYS HOCKEY

Churchill busted in quarters by North

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

Records can be deceiving and the regular season apparently doesn't mean a thing.

Just ask Grosse Pointe North, which evened its record Wednesday night at 14-14 with a 3-0 victory over Livonia Churchill in the MHSAA Division 1 boys hockey

quarterfinal at Trenton's Kennedy Arena.

The Norsemen will make their first state semifinal appearance since 2009 when they face off against East Kentwood (19-9) beginning at 8:30 p.m. Friday at Plymouth's Compuware Arena.

"The MIHL (Michigan Interscholastic Hockey League) is so tight it prepares us for the playoffs," North

coach Scott Lock said. "We'll take those tight games we lose and trade them for wins in (state) playoffs. How we define ourselves is how we do in the playoffs. Right now we have four (MIHL) teams in the Final Four.

"The kids have been playing great in the playoffs for two weeks. The guys are having fun right now."

Second-period goals by Joseph

Aluia and Jack Stander proved to be more than enough as Churchill was ousted in the Elite Eight for the second straight year.

Aluia ripped a top-shelf laser shot in between the circles past Churchill netminder Alex Estes at 3:21 of the second, while Stander's shot, coming from the left

Please see HOCKEY, B3

MU's Scott adds forward

Madonna University men's soccer coach Eric Scott added another piece to his recruiting puzzle for the 2012 season with the recent signing of Almont forward Aaron Schapman to an NAIA letter-of-intent.

The 6-foot-2 forward is a four-year letter winner who earned Division 3 All-State honors as a senior.

Schapman was also a three-time All-Blue Water Athletic Conference selection who helped the Raiders earn a spot in the Division 3 state semifinals as a junior.

"Aaron is a player that likes to get others involved, and will help us in the attack over the next few years," Scott said. "He's good on the ball, understands how to move off it, and I am looking forward to seeing how he impacts our program over the next four years."

MU captured the 2011 Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference playoffs and advanced to the NAIA National Championship for the third time in program history.

GIRLS HOOPS

Warriors lose 65-38 to 'D' champ Lakes

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

Lutheran Westland finally met its match Thursday night after enjoying its best state girls basketball tournament run in school history.

Two-time defending Class D champion Waterford Our Lady of the Lakes shot the lights out during the first half en route to a convincing 65-38 regional final win over the visiting Warriors, who bowed out with a 15-9 overall record.

The Lakers, 20-4 overall, advance to their third straight quarterfinal Tuesday at Waterford Kettering to face Saginaw Michigan Lutheran Seminary.

Host Lakes connected on 11-of-18 first-quarter shots (61.1 percent), including five three-pointers en route to a 28-11 lead over the Warriors.

Waterford Our Lady continued its assault during the second quarter by outscoring the Warriors 16-7 — going 6-of-12 from the field — as the lead ballooned to 44-18 at half-time.

"We played really well tonight in the first half," Lakes coach Steve Robak said. "I was extremely happy with that half of play. Now we get ready to the quarterfinals and that never gets old. We've been there before and we're very excited to be there."

All told, Lakes made 10 three-pointers on the night.

"It's a good night, a little above average," Robak said. "We've been shooting it better of late, which is nice to see because we've really struggled most of the season as a team shooting the 'three.' But it's been coming together lately and that's good timing."

Lutheran Westland second-year coach Sandi Wade tried three different defenses in an attempt to slow down the Lakers.

"We started in 'man' because our backbone all season has been 'man,'" she said. "We're a good, sol-

Please see WARRIORS, B2



John Glenn junior guard Nick Daniels (left) feuds off Romulus defender Aveon Simmons during Wednesday's Class A district semifinal thriller at Wayne.

PHOTOS BY ROB WIDDIS | SPECIAL TO THE FREE PRESS

Heartbreaker

Romulus eludes Glenn upset bid, 66-64

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer



John Glenn's Eric Covile (left) and Wes Clark (right) of Romulus battled for the rebound during Wednesday's Class A district semifinal thriller at Wayne.

Westland John Glenn's boys basketball team laid it all on the line Wednesday night against No. 2-ranked Romulus in the Class A district semifinal at Wayne Memorial.

Before a packed gym, the underdog Rockets went toe-to-toe for fourth quarters with the favored Eagles, only to come up two points short, 66-64, thanks to a 12-foot fadeaway jumper by Wes Clark with 2.1 seconds left.

"We played so great," said Glenn coach Dan Young, whose team bowed out with a 17-5 record. "We played as good as we could play. It was one of the best games I've ever been a part of other than the last two seconds. They'd make a run, we'd make a run — the entire game. It was a great high school game."

After Glenn missed a pair of free throws with 55.66 seconds left with the game tied at 64-all, Romulus used a pair of

Please see GLENN, B4

CYO football

Registration for 2012 St. Michael CYO ball football will be from 4-8 p.m. Thursday, March 15 at the grade school cafeteria, 11311 Hubbard, Livonia.

Teams offered include Varsity (grades seven-eight), JV (grades five-six) and Freshman (fourth grade). Official practice begins the second week of August (through Oct.) with in-season practices from 5:30-7:30 p.m.

The registration fee is \$160. The St. Michael program is offered to registered members or students currently in grades three-seven of the St. Damian, St. Robert Bellarmine, St. Theodore and registered families of St. Genevieve parishes. (No waiver is required.)

For more information, call Paul Tripp, director of football and varsity coach, at (248) 563-0858; or athletic administrator Kate Barczuk at (734) 421-7360, Ext. 205.

Hodgson inks 2 MU recruits

Madonna University women's soccer coach Jeff Hodgson announced the signing of two players for the 2012 season including Jennifer Jurcak, an outside midfielder from Utica Eisenhower, and Blaire Schmalenberg, a goalkeeper from Warren Cousino.

The 5-foot-3 Jurcak is a three-year letter winner to helped Eisenhower to three straight Macomb Area Conference and Division 1 district titles.

The honor roll student also earned All-MAC Red first-team honors as a junior.

"Jennifer is a very quick player and that is what I have been trying to bring in the last couple of years," Hodgson said. "She is also a possession type player with a knack for the goal."

The 5-11 Schmalenberg posted a 9-1-2 record last season while leading the Patriots to the MAC Blue Division title as a junior.

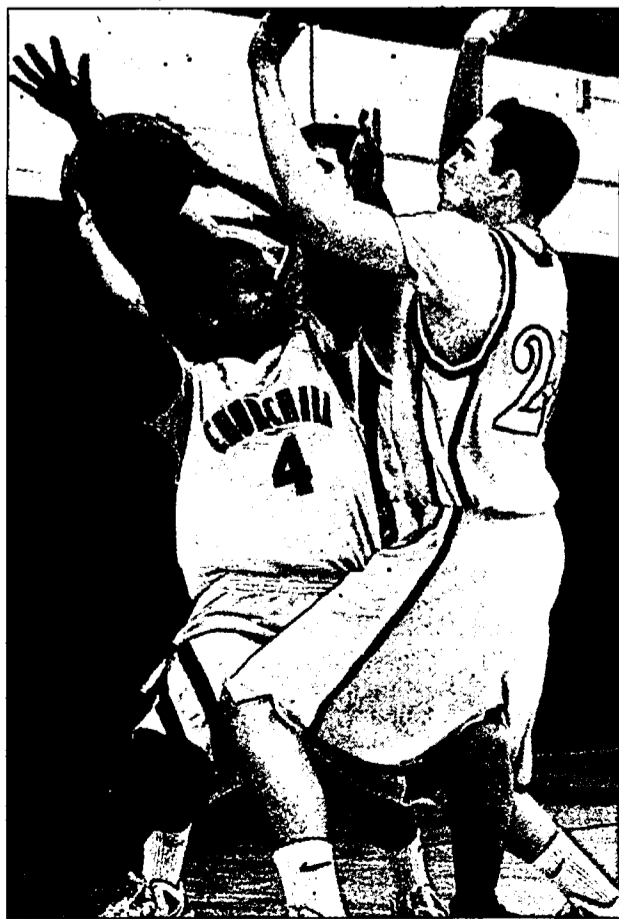


PHOTO BY ED WRIGHT

Churchill's Karl Tiama (4) is trapped by Garden City defenders Jeremiah Vera-Burgos (back) and Jay Sheppard (right) during Wednesday's Class A district semifinal at Livonia Franklin.

Orange Crush

Upstart GC ousts Churchill in district

By Ed Wright
Observer Staff Writer

Fear the orange. Just a few weeks removed from being one of those teams you'd want to schedule for homecoming, Garden City's boys basketball team has become very dangerous — and it couldn't have picked a better time.

On Wednesday, the suddenly surging Cougars repelled a late Livonia Churchill rally to win 59-52 in a Class A district semifinal at Livonia Franklin. Improving to 8-14 overall and working on a four-game winning streak, the Cougars met Western Wayne Athletic Conference Red Division rival Redford Thurston for Friday's district championship.

The Eagles, who advanced to the champi-

onship game with a 55-48 triumph over Redford Union, swept the two-game regular-season series — but that was before Garden City decided to turn its season into a script for a Disney movie.

"We're playing more as a team now and we're much more confident in ourselves," said Garden City senior Tyler Steele, who racked up 12 points and a team-high 14 rebounds. "It's just all coming together."

"We feel like we're the underdog," added senior guard Matt Stark, "and that we have nothing to lose."

Stark was phenomenal down the stretch when he chalked up eight of his team-leading 24 points. He also contributed nine rebounds.

Steele and Stark needed to play well to help

off-set the career night of Churchill's Robert Foster Jr., who blew up for 31 points, including 11 in the fourth quarter.

"He wasn't even on our scouting report," Steele said.

The biggest problem for the Chargers (7-14) was that Foster Jr. didn't have much help. Next on the Churchill scoring ledger was Dwayne Scott, who netted five points.

"The boys have started believing in themselves the past couple of weeks," said Garden City coach Greg Williamson, whose team lost an earlier meeting (Dec. 13) to Churchill, 53-50. "It's been kind of magical to see. We're playing with more of an edge than we did earlier in the season. We're playing more physical and get-

Please see ORANGE, B4

COLLEGE BASEBALL

Crusaders pick up 2 more wins on Florida spring trip

The Madonna University baseball team is finding Florida to its liking at the tail end of its 10-day spring trip.

On Friday, the Crusaders traveled to St. Petersburg and chalked up two wins at the Walter Fuller Complex with a 7-6 victory over Olivet Nazarene (Ill.) and a 7-4 triumph over Grace College (Ind.) in the RussMatt Central Florida Invitational.

MU scored three times in the fifth, two more in the sixth and one in the top of the seventh to rally past Olivet Nazarene and improve to 13-9 overall.

Right fielder Josh Deeg went 3-for-3, including a solo homer, to pace MU's 11-hit attack. Drew Adamiec and Dan Harder each added two hits in the win.

The Crusaders used four pitchers with reliever Randall Stempek going the final 1.1

innings to improve his mark to 2-0.

The loss dropped Olivet Nazarene to 9-5 overall.

Earlier in the day, MU broke a 4-4 deadlock with three runs in the top of the seventh to beat Grace (1-1).

MU starter Erik Wright (Canton) worked the first 5.1 innings, allowing four earned runs on seven hits and five walks. He struck out five.

Middle reliever Travis Schuba (1-0), who got two outs in the sixth, picked up the victory, while Stempek pitched a scoreless seventh to pick up his second save.

Designated hitter Matt Cook went 2-for-3 with three RBI, while Garrett Rebain (Plymouth) added two hits and an RBI. Spencer Sarel also knocked in two runs.

Josh Petty belted a 3-run homer in the first inning for Grace, while reliever Mike

Reitz suffered the loss.

The Crusaders ended their trip Saturday with a single nine-inning game against Grace in Winter Haven.

Thursday recap

The Crusaders split their Thursday double-header with Point Park University (Pa.) dropping the opener, 4-2, before hanging on for a 4-3 victory in the nightcap at Pat Thomas Stadium in Leesburg, Fla.

Steve Pelletier (Farmington) led MU (11-9) with five hits on the day while Victor Barron added two hits and a pair of RBIs in the RussMatt Invitational win.

Josh Deeg (1-2) picked up the victory in Game Two, throwing 5.2 innings and striking out three before Randall Stempek closed out the final 1.2 innings for his first career save.

Javier Marticorena went 2-

for-4 with two RBI for Point Park (12-3).

In the opener, Point Park starter Nathan Spohn (2-0) and reliever Mike Tullio combined to scatter nine hits over seven innings.

Losing pitcher Jeremy Gooding (1-3) went all seven innings, allowing one earned run on seven hits and three walks, while fanning five.

Pelletier went 3-for-3, while Dan Harder added two hits. Drew Adamiec knocked in both MU runs.

Marlon Leyva went 2-for-4 and Rob Novia had two RBI for Point Park.

Wednesday split

On Wednesday, Madonna split a pair against Olivet Nazarene (Ill.) winning the opener, 13-1, while losing the nightcap, 12-0, at Chain of Lakes Park in Winter Haven, Fla.

The Crusaders collected 14

hits to captured Game One led by Barron, who went 3-for-4 with one RBI.

Other offensive contributors for MU included Deeg (2-for-3, three RBI); Billy Hardin III (2-for-3, two RBI); Pelletier (2-for-3) and Garrett Rebain (two RBI).

MU starter Matt Cook (2-0) went all seven innings to pick up the win while striking out eight and not allowing a walk. He scattered seven hits.

Olivet Nazarene (9-3-1) got two hits and five RBI from Daniel Hall, while Adrian Perez went 3-for-3 with three RBI.

Winning pitcher Ben Heller pitched six scoreless innings, allowing just two hits and three walks.

MU starter Aaron Saarela was roughed up for seven runs on seven hits in three innings, while reliever Travis Schuba fared no better giving up four runs on four hits.

Warriors get by stubborn Hawks

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

Lutheran High Westland had its eyes fixated on a spot in the Class D district boys basketball finals, but first the Warriors had to get past next-door neighbor Westland Huron Valley Lutheran.

Senior Dawson Davenport scored 15 points and junior Brandon Wymann added 10 Wednesday night as the Warriors completed the task with a 60-52 win over the host Hawks.

The victory put Lutheran Westland (12-9) in the championship final Friday at HVL to face dis-

trict favorite Detroit Westside Christian (14-6). *See related story.*

Westside also advanced Wednesday night with a 75-54 win over Plymouth Christian Academy.

Sophomore Ryan Schaffer scored 11 of his 17 points during the second half for HVL, which rallied to within three in the final period after trailing 36-21 at halftime.

"They (Huron Valley) did a nice job of jumping on us in the middle of the third quarter," said Lutheran Westland coach Doug Haller, whose team beat HVL for the third time this season. "Give them credit. They got the

ball inside and got some easy shots.

"When it got down to crunch time I think we started looking around for somebody else to make something happen. But we were able to make enough plays and made some shots."

Nate Kemppainen and Milan Monk chipped in with 14 and 10 points, respectively, for Huron Valley (6-15).

The Hawks connected on 10-of-18 free throws, while Lutheran Westland fared better going 11-of-15.

bemons@hometownlife.com (313) 222-6851



PHOTO BY ANDREW KIELTYKA
Karl Moore (42), a 6-foot-5 forward, has been Schoolcraft's leading scorer and rebounder all season long for the 19-12 Ocelots.

GIRLS HOCKEY

North 8-goal surge trips Blazers

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

Livonia Ladywood jumped out to a 3-0 lead, only to have Grosse Pointe North storm back for eight unanswered goals Wednesday night for a 8-4 victory over the Blazers in the Division 1 state girls hockey semifinals at Edgar Arena.

Ladywood ends its season at 10-14 overall, while North improved to 21-3 and secured a spot in Saturday's state championship final at Edgar.

The Blazers scored twice in the opening minute of play on goals by Rana Freij (from Erin Cronyn) and Cronyn (from Freij).

Lane Kolpacke's goal from Rachel Fradette with 10:26 remaining in the first period put Ladywood up 3-0.

But the Norsewomen tied it by the end of the first period 3-all on goals by Sara Villani (from Jennifer Cusmano); Cusmano (from Catherine

McCarthy); and Julia Henderson (from Melissa Mermiges and Bryn Moody).

North then scored three more times in the second period to take a 6-3 advantage - Katelyn Bowles (from Henderson); McCarthy (from Villani and Cusmano); and Villani (from Cusmano).

Mermiges made it 7-3 from Bowles and Natalie Skorupski to start the third period before Ladywood's Katie Folk scored to stop the bleeding.

Bowles then capped the scoring with her second of the night from Skorupski and Henderson.

Ladywood goalie Sarah Koch stopped 31 shots, while North's Emma Huellmantel made 15 saves.

North finished 18-2 in the Michigan Metro Girls High School Hockey League, while the Blazers wound up 8-12.

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

WARRIORS

Continued from page B1
id 'man' team. I knew coming in it was going to be rough matching up against them. We tried it the first quarter and it didn't work. We tried a 3-2 zone. Then, at halftime we went over and did like a matchup zone for them. It seemed to help a bit, but the hardest thing is boxing out. But I think we did a pretty good job matching up. That's the best we could do going against them."

The Warriors were only outscored 21-20 in the second half, but the damage had been done over the first 16 minutes.

Senior guard Carlee Cottrell scored 18 points to surpass the 1,000-point mark in her career to lead Lakes.

Junior guards Ava Doetsch and Lexie Robak added 15 and 14, respectively, while senior guard Tori Duffey added 11.

All four had scored in double figures by halftime.

"We had an idea they'd play man (defense) and zone," Robak said. "Our team is pretty well geared to play either. We did a nice job in transition

of attacking them and hitting some go-behinds for some open 'threes.'

"They're good and unselfish, willing to pass to a teammate that's open. Someone makes a shot or two — that's the girl we're looking for and her time will come."

The Warriors committed a total of 21 turnovers and shot 15-of-46 from the floor (32.6 percent).

Meanwhile, seven of the 10 Laker triples came during the opening half.

"I was just hoping they'd miss one," said Wade with a laugh.

"They're a good three-point team. We knew that coming in they'd be a good three-point shooting team. We did the best we could. That was a faster-paced game than what we were used to playing."

Lutheran Westland once again relied on the one-two scoring and rebounding punch of 6-foot senior center Amanda Terranella, who finished with 19 points and nine rebounds, and 5-10 junior forward Aldreanna Fikes, who added 10 points and 11 boards.

"She's a great player, a good kid who works hard," Wade said of Terranella. "So many people

and other coaches have told me she's one of the best post players they've seen. She does a really good job holding her seal, posting up well and hits her free throws. She's just a good leader for the team."

Wade was pleased with her team's progress this season, which included its first-ever regional victory.

"It was an amazing turnaround," she said. "If you look back to where we were ... it was an amazing journey. Not just from this year, but from last year when we were 2-19 my first year of coaching."

The Warriors lose four seniors including Terranella, Hannah Conley, Taylor Wiemer and Erica Killian — all starters.

"They really bought in and started believing in what we were doing," Wade said. "They showed a lot of confidence playing this year. They stepped up. It's going to be rough losing them a little bit, but we've set up a good foundation for my program and I'm excited."

bemons@hometownlife.com (313) 222-6851

No. 1 Bears end S'craft's season

By Brad Emons
Observer Staff Writer

So much for these Bears hibernating in the winter.

Mott Community College, the nation's top-ranked junior college team in Division II, got out of the gate quickly and racked up its 30th win of the season Friday at the expense of visiting Ocelots, 91-72, in the NJCAA District 9 semifinals in Flint.

The Bears (30-1) were tied at 11-all after a layup by Schoolcraft's Karl Moore with 12:09 remaining in the first half, but then woke up and took command by going on a 39-17 run to lead 50-28 at intermission.

Mott never let Schoolcraft get closer than 18 the rest of the way.

Guard John Taylor paced Mott and all scorers with a game-high 28 points, including 5-of-12 from three-point range.

Mott, which led by as many as 27 in the second half, also got 20 points from forward Ralph Eason on 8-of-9 shooting from the floor. Jacob Perry came off the bench to added 12 points, while starting guard Darryl Marshall chipped in with 11.

The Bears shot 52.6 percent from the

floor (30-of-57), including 9-of-21 from three-point range (42.9 percent).

Moore, a 6-foot-5 forward, ended a stellar season for the Ocelots with 22 points and 11 rebounds. He was 7-of-12 from the floor and 8-of-9 from the foul line, but committed nine of Schoolcraft's 28 turnovers on the afternoon.

Lydell Mason (Westland John Glenn) added 12 points and eight rebounds for Schoolcraft.

Sophomore forward Daniel Hill (Wayne Memorial), also playing his final game as an Ocelot, finished with 11 points, while second-year point-guard Mohamed Elhaj dished out six assists.

Schoolcraft shot 47.1 percent from the floor (24-of-51) and 88.5 percent from the foul line (23-of-26).

The Ocelots, who lost to Mott for the third time this season, enjoying their best campaign under fourth-year coach Randy Henry with a 19-12 record.

Mott, meanwhile, advances to the District 9 title game 1 p.m. Saturday at home against MCCA Eastern Conference runner-up Oakland CC (26-4) with a trip to the NJCAA Division II Tournament at stake, March 20-24, in Danville, Ill.

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

Hunger project

Many make packing quick, easy

By Sharon Dargay
O&E Staff Writer

Susan Magner of Farmington Hills and her three daughters recently donned hair nets and gloves for a lesson in helping others.

"That's what I really liked. It was hands-on. I'm trying to get my girls more involved in community and with church," said Magner, who home-schools her daughters, ages 10, 7 1/2 and 6.

With her husband watching the couple's preschooler at home, Magner and her three oldest daughters joined approximately 100 other volunteers at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church in Livonia to pack 10,000 meals for needy children.

Wearing plastic gloves, hair nets and aprons, they worked assembly line-style in small groups, measuring ingredients and filling meal bags for Kids Against Hunger, a Minnesota-based humanitarian food-aid organization, with satellite packing sites throughout the United States, including



the Great Lakes Coalition satellite in Oak Park. The local branch takes packaging supplies and equipment to churches, schools and other venues where volunteers pitch in to pack meals.

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans and Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church partnered on the recent packaging session in Livonia.

"We have a couple members who work for Thrivent. They introduced us to this organization for helping to feed the needy," said Linda Hollman, church outreach director.

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church first volunteered for Kids Against Hunger last October. Members measured and packaged ingredients for Rice-Soy Casseroles, the meal that Kids Against Hunger distributes locally and abroad. Recipients



Sam Puterbaugh keeps mom Heather company while she fills food bags at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church in Livonia.

mix the contents of each six-serving bag with boiling water to create a hot, nutritious entree.

"It can be prepared in

20 minutes and for families it has been ideal," Hollman said. "In October we made up some bags and had people

Volunteers Nora Hollman (left) and Annelisa Leonard help pack food at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church.



Noah Greiner measures food.

sample it. It's good. We thought we might as well understand what people (recipients) are tasting. We have a food pantry at church and we've given out bags to people in need.

"It was a joy this time to know we not only had it for the food pantry at church, but also to help Livonia Goodfellows and Head Start."

Local, global

One-third of the meals packaged at a volunteer event are shared locally. Another third is distributed nationally and the last third is shipped overseas. The local volunteers decide where to send their portion of the meals.

"Our church has gotten involved with the Livonia Cares program — Christian congregations in Livonia coming together to help people from Livonia who are hurting and in need. I had gone to a meeting with other clergy and Bill Heaton (Goodfellows president) was there. He said he had a use for the meals. We were glad to make the connection."

Christ Our Savior Lutheran raised \$2,800 to

help pay for the meals, which cost 28 cents each. Thrivent Financial for Lutherans also provided funding.

All 10,000 meals were bagged within 90 minutes on Saturday, March 3.

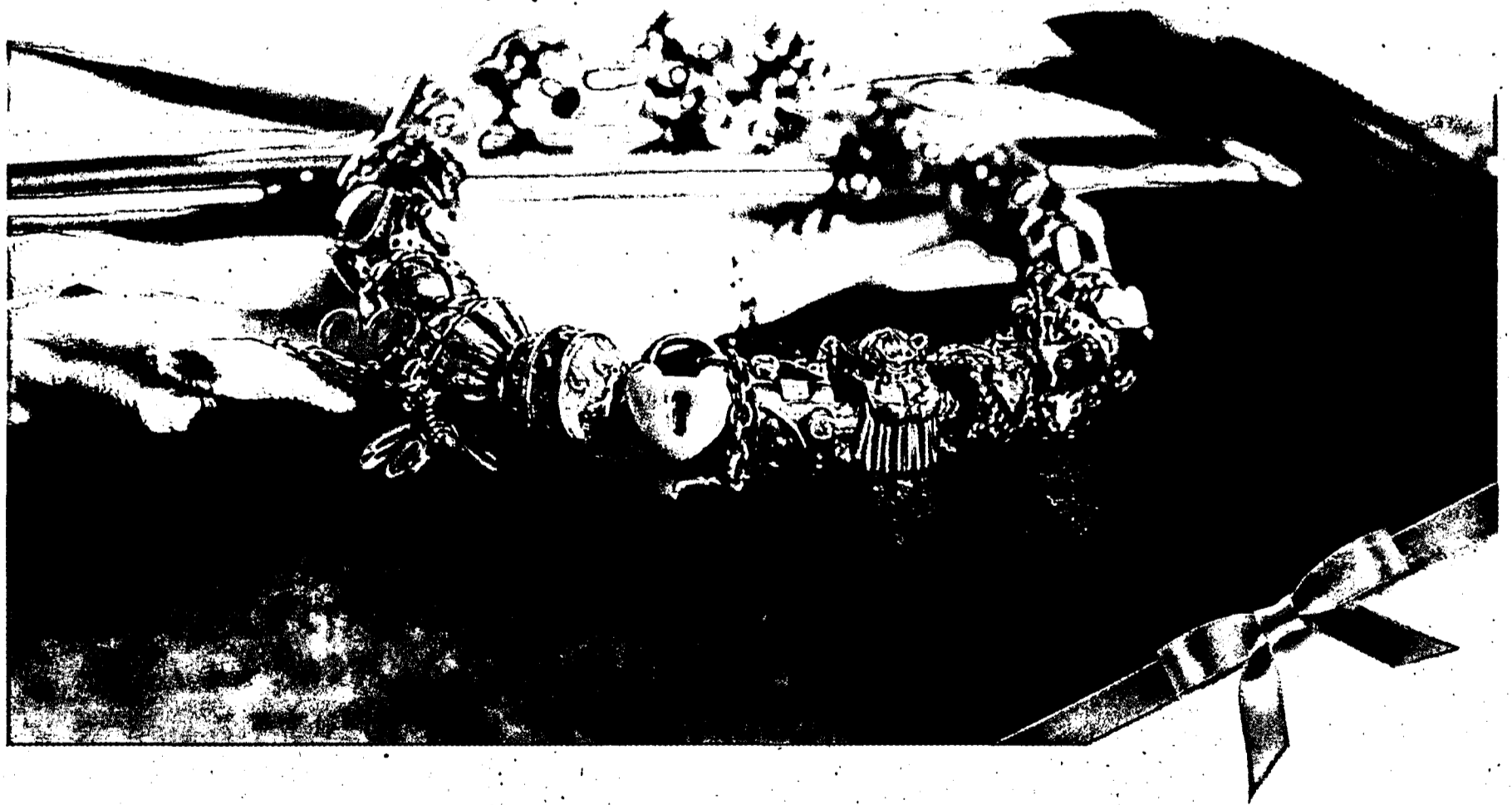
"Once you set it up, it zips along. Kids Against Hunger has it extremely well organized," Hollman said. "For me the joy is seeing kids, from 5 through 105, be able to work together at something so positive and help others in Jesus' name."

Magner liked the mix of ages, too.


Adults, two teenagers and several children worked together with Magner at one of 10 meal-assembly tables at the church.

"It's a good thing to see older and younger generations together," she said.

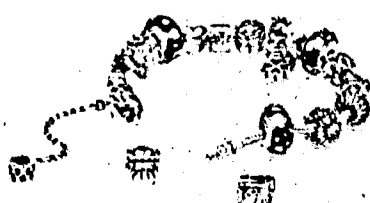
The church's next outreach project will be a resource fair, 6:30-8:30 p.m. March 29. Representatives from community agencies, utility companies, religious organizations and groups designed to help individuals in need will be on hand. The church is located at 14175 Farmington Road.



Discover the PANDORA Shop inside:

Golden Gifts Jewelers 

33300 W. 6 Mile Road
Livonia, MI 48152
734.525.4555



PANDORA[®]
UNFORGETTABLE MOMENTS

Free Gift With Purchase
March 14th-17th

Receive a PANDORA clasp bracelet (a \$65 US retail value) with your purchase of \$100 or more of PANDORA jewelry.*

*Good while supplies last, limit one per customer. Charms shown on bracelet are sold separately.

Livonia couple celebrates 70 years

By Sharon Dargay
O&E Staff Writer

Betty Campbell was 10 years old when she first met John Schaar.

His family lived on the third floor of a house on Ferry in Detroit. Her family moved into the first floor apartment.

"We grew up together," said Betty, who relocated to Highland Park four years later. "He came to visit my brother and we kind of hit it off. From then on it was just him and I, and my brother was out of the picture."

After graduating from high school — he attended Northwestern and she was at Highland Park High School — the couple tied the knot, writing the first chapter of a life-long love story.

The Schaars, Livonia residents since 2003, celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary on Feb. 3. They were married in 1942 at First



Methodist Church of Highland Park.

John became a district manager in the circulation department of the *Detroit Times* newspaper and Betty took on homemaking, as the couple settled into married life.

Nearly a year later John was drafted into the U.S. Army and began a three-year assignment with the 744th Railway Operating Battalion, serving overseas. Betty got a job working at a pneumatic tool company.

"He was all over Europe on the railroad. He was a fireman on the

railroad," she said.

He returned to civilian life in early 1946, about six months after the war ended, and went back to work for the *Detroit Times*, where he stayed for 20 years before joining the *Detroit Free Press* circulation department. He retired from the *Detroit Free Press* in 1988.

"He never missed a day of work because of the weather in 48 years," said Betty, who was a stay-at-home mom.

The couple raised two children, John Jr., who now lives in Pala, Calif., and Julie Skrent, also a Livonia resident. They have four grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

When her husband retired, Betty went to work in the cafeteria at Salem High School in Canton for 12 1/2 years.

The couple had moved to Canton when a relative's riding stable went



John and Betty Schaar of Livonia celebrate 70 years of marriage.

out of business.

"My brother had a ranch and through the years the kids bought their horses. My daughter gave riding lessons at the ranch," Betty said, adding that when the stables closed "we were stuck with all our horses."

"That's why we found five acres in Canton. We had it for about 36 years. Neither one of us rode. We fed and took care of the horses."

These days, John, 90, spends more time with feathered friends than

horses. He enjoys feeding backyard birds and stocks a pond with fish every summer.

Betty, who will be 87 in November, enjoys reading murder mysteries.

"We have Friends of the Library in Livonia. They sell paperback books for 50 cents. I go there every month and buy \$5 worth of books and read them," she said. Betty, who has volunteered for Friends, donates the books back to the organization.

The couple also enjoys spending time with fami-

ly. They celebrated their milestone anniversary at their grandson's home in Pinckney.

"My daughter and grandson gave us a dinner. Julie had a beautiful cake made for us."

Betty said "patience" has helped to make the couple's marriage last for 70 years.

"We stayed married because I was patient and he probably overlooked a lot in me, too," she said. "If more young people had patience they probably wouldn't run to lawyers."

REUNIONS

DEARBORN HEIGHTS ANAPOLIS

CLASS OF 1982

For information about the 30-year reunion on Saturday, Oct. 20, at Fr. Patrick O'Kelley Knights of Columbus in Dearborn, visit the "AHS Class of 82" page on Facebook, or contact Diane Goodreau at dianeschofield@sbcglobal.net or (313) 363-0523; Jim Linaras at godofouzo@yahoo.com; or John Zadikian at zman6754@aol.com.

DETROIT MACKENZIE

CLASS OF 1962

Planning class reunion in 2012. Seeking classmates

and contact information. E-mail the committee at mackenzie1962@gmail.com.

FARMINGTON HIGH SCHOOL

CLASS OF 1967

Organizers of the 45th reunion on July 21 are looking for classmates. Send your e-mail address to Susan (Himmelspach) Whittaker at s.whittaker@comcast.net or Fred Gregg at fredge1@comcast.net to receive a reunion packet.

GARDEN CITY HIGH SCHOOL EAST

CLASSES OF 1968-1973 Reunion Sept. 22. Look-

ing for classmates. Check out the "Garden City High School (East) Reunion 2012" on facebook.

Or e-mail to Cindy Eads Frens at irish4200@hotmail.com, Debi Cassidy Haller at debi.haller@gmail.com, Doris Fugaban Williams at doris1226@wowway.com, Lee A Gilligan at ee.gilligan@att.net, Sue Cook at stasselmyer@charter.net, Suzie Wright Rogiero at suzierogiero@yahoo.com, Jackie Kalifut at jackieideson@gmail.com or Jeff Fordell at jeff.fordell@comcast.net.

LINCOLN PARK HIGH SCHOOL

CLASS OF 1962

Planning for 50-year reunion, set for Sept. 15, is under way.

For more information or to RSVP e-mail Jean Badoud-Riddell at fictionweaver@sbcglobal.net, Marilyn Roy Snyder at Marilyn@MarilynJSnyder.com, Jim Barton at jbarton@genesisfinancial.com or Carol Jehle at jehlecarol@yahoo.com

NORTHVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

CLASS OF 1971-75

The classes are joining together to celebrate with a reunion on Aug. 4. Reunion organizers are searching for class-

mates from those years. Send your name, address, phone and e-mail to nhs40yearreunion@gmail.com. The organizers will send more details after receiving your information.

REDFORD THURSTON HIGH SCHOOL

CLASS OF 1962

Looking for classmates for reunion on Sept. 8. Contact: nikkiwestberg@yahoo.com or Sue (Hughes) Morman at (734) 414-9941 for more information.

WAYNE MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL

CLASS OF 1957

Looking for classmates for the 55th class reunion to be held May 19. For more information contact Wanda Putman Boice at boice@aol.com or polly-girl219@aol.com. Or call Richard Smith at (248) 747-6817.

CLASS OF 1962

Looking for classmates for 50th class reunion on May 19. E-mail to Judy (Ramsey) Oleson at joleson@sbcglobal.net or call her at (586) 268-1663 or e-mail to Kathy (Quinn) Hayes at bustchr@aol.com.

Care & Love are the greatest things we provide

STATE LICENSED

Full Assistance with Bathing, Dressing & Hygiene in a Small Home-like Setting for Active/Alert, Memory Impaired, Frail/Recovering & Alzheimer's residents.

- Highly Competitive Inclusive Rates
- 24 Hour Professional Staffing
- Private/Semi-Private/Barrier-Free
- 3 Home-Cooked Meals a Day
- On-Call Nurse Practitioner
- Medication Management
- Daily Housekeeping & Laundry
- Beauty & Barber Shop
- Wander Secured/Enclosed Courtyard

Crystal Creek
Assisted Living

8121 Lilley Road
Canton, Michigan 48187
(Located between Joy & Warren Roads)

(734) 453-3203
www.CrystalCreekAssistedLiving.com

Coming April 19th in the Observer and Hometown Newspapers
And April 22nd in the Eccentric Newspapers

hometown life inspire Featuring

Spring Home & Garden



Space and Ad copy deadline is March 26th

Ask about our Photo Advertorial Special, if you book your adspace before March 19th.

hometownlife.com
OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC HOMETOWN WEEKLIES

To Advertise in:
Observer & Eccentric Newspapers
call 734-582-8363
to advertise in Hometown Weeklies
call 248-437-2011

Don't leave your college test scores to chance...

Class starts March 24th

Success in any situation requires preparation and we can help!

Our test preparation workshops are of the highest quality, convenient and most affordable workshops around. In these workshops students will receive:

- Diagnostic testing and personal assessments
- Remedial review
- In-class problem solving, concepts and strategies
- Practice test reinforcement

Schoolcraft College

JOIN US ON FACEBOOK @ www.facebook.com/schoolcraftcepd

Go blue: Yellow flame should be blue

By Joe Gagnon
Guest Columnist

Peter and Beverly West moved back here to Michigan after spending the past 30 years living in Florida in order to take care of an ailing mother up in her years. They purchased a brand new manu-



Appliance Doctor

Joe Gagnon

This really helped with the dryness that causes stuffy noses

and the like. They have a new gas range in this home and really enjoy the quick response when cooking on the top burners but one day noticed that the flame was more orange than blue. Peter knew that a yellow flame doesn't give you the high heat you desire when cooking and he couldn't find any type of adjustment you could do on the air inlet to the burner.

He agreed with me that on newer ranges of today compared to those of the past there isn't much that a homeowner can do for this kind of problem so he called for factory service as the product was still under warranty. The service technician checked out gas pressures on the manifold and everything was according to factory specifications. He suggested that they move the humidifier away from the range to another loca-

tion and try it for a few days, but that didn't help. They called me and I suggested that they shut off the humidifier completely, but I couldn't understand how a humidifier could affect the burner flame. This they did and lo and behold the flames on the burners were a nice blue color again. This went on for a week. They turned on the humidifier and the flame became yellow again.

We began to play the game of stump the appliance doctor and I certainly didn't have any answers to this perplexing problem. I had never heard of this before. One day Beverly came home with a couple of jugs of bottled water, dumped out the city water from the bucket and filled it with bottled water. She turned on the humidifier and the flame on the range has been blue ever since. She had the question in

her mind that minerals in regular water might be the cause of their problem and proved her theory correct. They created the solution on their own and I must admit that I wasn't much help but I thought this might be a story that could help one of our readers.

This whole episode brings to mind when I was on big-time radio years ago and announced the gas ranges can create carbon monoxide in the kitchen. A group of engineers in Ohio sent me documentation to prove this fact and I then started telling the listening audience to open a kitchen window when cooking. I had many letters and calls from homemakers who thanked me for that little tip because they no longer felt nauseated or had running eyes or headaches while cooking a family dinner.

The gas utility companies were not too happy with me and

made their feelings known. I still prefer gas over electricity in a kitchen range and if it's only a matter of opening a window while cooking, it's worth it. I recently complained to my darling Valorie that it took a long time for me to boil a pot of water in my attempt at cooking a box of macaroni and cheese. I blamed it on her because she is the one who wanted that nice smooth top electric range in our kitchen. I must say that this smooth top still looks like brand new after four years of use.

If you see Valorie you might ask her how much work is involved in keeping the range top clean. Get ready for a seminar. Stay tuned.

Joe Gagnon can be heard at 8 a.m., Saturdays on WAAM 1600. You can e-mail your problems and questions on appliances to appldr@twmi.rr.com

Man's best friend: Rescues gain pet food, special needs pups

Filling bellies

Tail Wagger's 1990 received a windfall in the form of kibble, canned food and treats last month.

Three schools and one business collected items for the Livonia-based rescue's Pantry 4 Paws program that assists individuals and families in financial need with food for their pets.

Market Strategies International, a Livonia-based marketing company, donated more than 700 items to the pantry. St. Genevieve School, Johnson Upper Elementary School and Randolph Elementary, all in Livonia, also held pet food drives.

Barb Johnson, a second grade teacher at Randolph, used the collection process as a math lesson for students, encouraging them to collect 100 items for their classrooms within 100 days.

Nolan Finley, a second grader at St. Gene-



Guardian Angels Animal Rescue found these Shepherd mix puppies - both have deformed feet - with their mother in a Detroit back yard.



Cory Routen shows some of the pet food his school collected for Tail Wagger's 1990.

vieve and a member of Tail Wagger's 1990 cadet program, sparked a food drive at his school and arranged for a presentation with animals.

Sixth grader and Tail Wagger's 1990 volunteer, Cory Routen, decorated the hallways with posters at Johnson Upper Elementary and set the food

drive goal at 1,500 pounds of pet food. The final count from his school was 2,606 pounds of food.

Families in need of assistance can contact the Tail Wagger's office at (734) 560-4660 or e-mail to tailwaggers.1990@yahoo.com.

Surgery needed
Guardian Angels Animal Rescue spent a busy,

successful Tuesday night rescuing four dogs from Detroit. At least one of the dogs, a Yorkshire terrier that was found on the street, will face surgery — and likely amputation of a damaged back leg. The rescue named the 2-year-old pup "Luna."

Volunteers also rescued a mother dog and her two pups from a yard. One of the shepherd-mix pups has a deformed or broken leg. The other sibling has two front deformed or broken legs. The organization planned to take the pups, "Thelma" and "Louise" to the vet for a closer look at their legs last week.

Anyone interested in helping out with vet costs, fostering or adoption, can e-mail to Sandy Mezza at guardian_angel_rescue@hotmail.com. Visit the group's Web site at www.gaarmichigan.org. The site includes a PayPal link for donations.

— Compiled by Sharon Dargay

ONLINE PHOTO GALLERIES
hometownlife.com

Arthritis Today
JOSEPH J. WEISS, M.D.
RHEUMATOLOGY
18829 Farmington Road
Livonia, Michigan 48152
Phone: (248) 478-7860

A DILEMMA IN FIBROMYALGIA
The dilemma is treatment. Investigators in the field of Fibromyalgia believe that the cause of the condition is a pain center in the midbrain that is like a thermostat set too low. The effect is that usual touches, scrapes, light pushes and even winds that are hardly noted by most of us, are felt by patients with Fibromyalgia as sharp and heavy blows.
Science is working with pharmaceutical companies to develop medicines that would target the midbrain pain center and reset the thermostat to a more realistic pain standard. However, as yet such a medication awaits discovery.
Instead, medication at hand goes to treating depression, anxiety, difficulty sleeping and stopping pain. But the individual with Fibromyalgia experiences depression because of the Fibromyalgia; as long as the Fibromyalgia remains so will the depression. It is as if a car got poor gas mileage because of a flat tire. Putting in new spark plugs won't result in a return to gas efficiency; nothing but fixing the tire will do.
The same problem comes with poor sleep. The answer does not come from sleeping pills. The only way to have the patient return to restorative sleep is to successfully treat the Fibromyalgia.
The only proven therapy in Fibromyalgia is exercise. The best time for exercise is in the morning, in effect: "get to your muscles before your muscles get to you." Daily exercise for a patient with Fibromyalgia is as much a medication as a daily aspirin is to a patient who suffered a heart attack.
If a patient cannot accept exercise as therapy, there is little left for a physician to offer.

SOCIAL SECURITY

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

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

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

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

In addition to practicing only Social Security disability law attorney Bieske has written a book for attorneys about the

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

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

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

www.ssdfighter.com

ALL DEALERS PAY THE SAME PRICE FROM THE MANUFACTURER — IT'S HOW WE STRUCTURE THE DEAL THAT MAKES IT BEST FOR YOU!

Chevy Runs Deep

MALIBU MADNESS NEW 2012 CHEVY MALIBU LS
LEASE FOR 24 MONTHS \$146*

NEW 2012 CHEVY TRAVERSE LS
LEASE FOR 24 MONTHS \$263*

734-425-6500 NOW OPEN SATURDAY 9 AM - 3 PM
www.TennysonChevy.com
32570 Plymouth Rd. • Livonia • Just East of Farmington Rd.

*See dealer for details. All prices have had rebates deducted from price. Leases require a 800+ credit score. Lease for 24 months, 10,000 miles per year, \$999 down, no security deposit required, 1st payment, taxes & plate fees required up front. GM family. Pictures may not represent actual vehicles. Expires 3-31-12.

Subscribing has REWARDS...

The following subscribers have won a complimentary pass for two to any of the area's Emagine Theaters just for being a subscriber.

- Galen Wickersham Birmingham
- David Gilbert Canton
- Bernard Jurek Farmington Hills
- Floyd Griffith Garden City
- Elaine Cornellier South Lyon
- Steve Stevens Livonia
- Peter Wright Northville
- Barbara Wernimont Plymouth
- John Polson Redford
- Ben Swaine Novi
- Daniel Gerych Westland
- John Czernel Milford

SUBSCRIBE NOW...

Start enjoying the rewards of being a subscriber to your local Hometown Observer or Eccentric Newspaper!

Call or log on today and save up to 20% and receive a \$10 Gift Card!

Click: hometownlife.com/bestoffer or call: 866.887.2737 and ask for the REWARDS offer.

hometownlife.com
OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC HOMETOWN WEEKLIES

New subscriber only.
Offer Expires: 6 - 30 - 12

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day with healthy greens

Thoughts of traditional St. Pat's fare doesn't always conjure up the healthiest of choices. From salty corned beef to sugary scones and cookies to excessive amounts of green beer, this holiday can wreak havoc on a healthy diet. The American Heart Association is offering a few tips to keep your celebrations heart-healthy this year.

"It can be really tempting to over-indulge on St. Patrick's Day, but your body will thank you for celebrating in moderation," says Cindy Conroy, a registered, licensed dietitian. "I advise my clients to add green to their meals in ways that are healthy, yet still fun and festive."

Here are a few things you can do to put your heart first this St. Patrick's Day:

- **Get your green on.** Add dark green vegetables to each meal for a boost of vitamins and fiber to help you feel full and energized. Try a spinach and egg white omelet at breakfast, a raw cabbage salad for lunch, and a hearty helping of baked kale chips with your fish for dinner. The American Heart Association recommends you eat at least 4.5 servings of vegetables each day. With green being the theme for St. Patrick's Day, March 17, this week is the perfect time to start.

- **Stay away from the salt.** Traditional treats like corned beef, shepherds' pie and thick stews can contain hidden salts far above and beyond the daily limits recommended by the association. "Try making your own versions of these heartier fares and substituting spices and herbs to add flavor instead of blood pressure-rising salts," Conroy says.

- **If alcohol will play a role**



in your festivities, limit your intake to one drink. With increased intake of alcohol, there are increased health dangers including high blood pressure, obesity and stroke.

- **Butt out.** Taverns are smoke-free, but you'll likely see many atypical smokers outside on St. Patrick's Day. Even if you "only smoke when you drink," it's enough to increase your risk for heart disease and stroke.

- **Running of the green.** Get active this St. Patrick's Day with a walk around the neighborhood, quick run at the gym or family game of basketball. You'll enjoy our warming weather and reduce your risk for cardiovascular diseases. Research has shown that for every hour of vigorous exercise, life expectancy increases by two hours.

For more information on how you can keep your heart healthy year-round, visit www.MyLifeCheck.org.

Put a little healthy "green" on your dinner plate this week:

Fruited Cabbage Salad

½ medium head cabbage, shredded
2 medium bananas, sliced ½
cup fat free mayonnaise-type salad dressing
1 tablespoon sugar 3 table-
spoons skim milk

Combine dressing, sugar and milk. Pour over cabbage and stir. Chill. Just before serving, slice bananas and stir into cabbage.

Serves 8. Nutrition content per serving: 60 calories, 1 gm fat, 1 gm protein, 14 gm carbohydrate, 134 mg sodium, and 2 gm fiber. Provides 35 percent recommended daily value of Vitamin C.

Move, breathe, do a good deed

Stress affects everyone at some time, but the key is to recognize it and learn how to stay balanced.

"Often, we don't realize that we are locked into a stress response that results in higher levels of stress hormones, increasing blood pressure, muscle tension, headaches and back pain," said Dr. Steven Thiry, a physician with IHA, a group practice with offices in Canton, Plymouth and Ann Arbor. "Stress can definitely affect a person's mood."



Thiry

Thiry, who has more than 25 years in family medicine, offers practical tips for how to help reduce stress:

- **Move to help balance out the stress response in the body.** The movement can be as simple as walking indoors or outdoors. During the winter, if it's safe and sidewalks aren't icy, get engaged in your neighborhood and breathe a little fresh air.

"All kinds of movement are good options such as dancing, taking an exercise class, going for a swim, or riding a bike, if weather permits," Thiry said. "Before beginning any exercise program, consider discussing it with your health provider."

- **Consider diet, which can have an impact on the effects of stress.** Try to eliminate unhealthy food habits and eat a balance of fruits and vegetables. Try eating in a quiet and undistracted way. After eating, notice the effects of what you ate on how you feel.

- **Be aware of how you are feeling.**

"I encourage people to take five minutes twice a day, sit quietly and turn off stimulation from the radio, television, telephone or computer," Thiry said. "People can let the focus turn softly to something like their breath, a classic way to practice meditating."

- **Practice sitting quietly and breathe softly.**

"I teach people in the office to breathe like a child would breathe with a soft belly," Thiry says. "It really releases a lot of tension in the body and as I'm fond of saying, 'As goes the breath, so goes the body and the mind.' If you can relax your breath, your body will relax and often you can slowly learn to let your mind just float along a little bit so you're not being dragged along by your thoughts."

- **Altruism is helpful for stress management.** Thiry recommends "reaching out, being kind" and helping others. Such positive actions can help lower stress hormones.

- **Stay connected to others.** "Many people are somewhat isolated socially or a lot of their interactions are online. They are connecting, but may not experience warmth, support and friendship. We need each other."

For more information about Thiry or IHA, visit www.ihacares.com.

NEW YOU BariatricSolution™

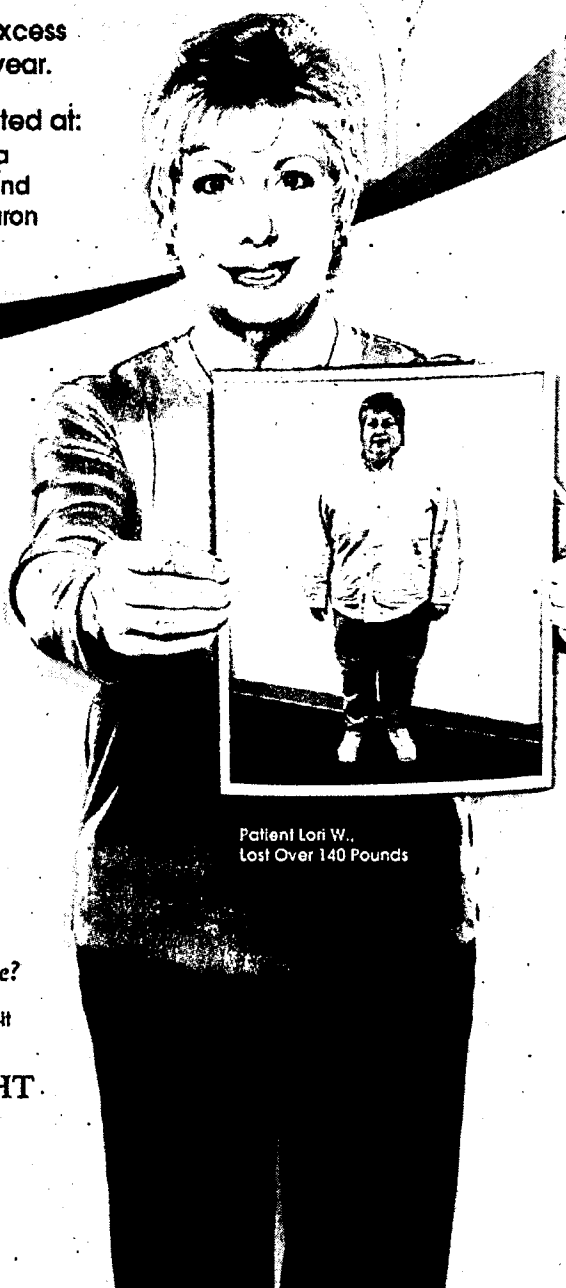
SAINT
JOSEPH
MERCY
HEALTH SYSTEM
A Member of Trinity Health

Michigan Bariatric Institute A Bariatric Surgery Center of Excellence™

Lose up to 70% of your excess
body weight in the first year.

Surgery Centers are located at:

St. Mary Mercy Livonia
St. Joseph Mercy Oakland
St. Joseph Mercy Port Huron



Patient Lori W.,
Lost Over 140 Pounds

Free Educational Seminars

6 - 7:30 p.m.

St. Mary Mercy Livonia
Auditorium

March 1 • April 5
May 3 • June 7



Isn't it time you
Discover Remarkable?
Scan the QR code on
your smartphone, or visit
mbi-whyweight.com

Call 1-877-WHY-WEIGHT

DR. STAN'S COACHES EVENT

Whether you're a coach, athlete, parent of an athlete, or just a weekend warrior, injuries are not part of your gameplan. When they happen, and they will, are you prepared? Do you have the latest information regarding concussions, dehydration, nutrition and more? Are you able to effectively recover, properly heal and get back in the game? Attend Dr. Stan's Coaches Event and gain the competitive edge needed to win.

"Dr. Stan" Szczeciński, metro Detroit's leading physician of Sports Medicine, has assembled an elite panel of medical experts to speak on a variety of health issues affecting today's athlete...in EVERY SPORT.

THE GAMEPLAN

Westland Specialty Center
March 24 - 9 am to 3 pm

35600 Central City Parkway
Westland, MI 48185
(Adjacent to Dick's Sporting Goods)

9:00 - 10:00 James M. Moriarity, MD
Notre Dame University
Head Physician

10:00 - 11:00 Paul Drouillard, DO
Upper & Lower Extremity Injuries

11:00 - 11:30 Marie Sharp, RD
Proper nutrition and hydration

11:30 - 12:00 Emmanuel Papisifakis, DO
Sudden Cardiac Death Syndrome

12:00 - 1:00 LUNCH

1:00 - 3:00 Taping Workshop

To register or for additional information contact
Wendy Fairchild at:

734.458.4259 | email: wfairc@gchosp.org

This event is FREE. Spaces are limited....
register now!

GARDEN CITY
HOSPITAL
Great Health. Generation to Generation.

Concussions

Dehydration

Separated Shoulder

Bruised Ribs

Hip Pointer

Broken Thumb

MCL Sprain

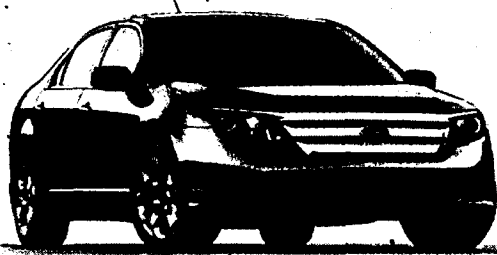
High Ankle Sprain



**MATCHING
DOWN PAYMENT
SALE EVENT**
UP TO \$**500** for everyone...

**WHEN YOU BUY OR LEASE
MOST FORD VEHICLES!¹**

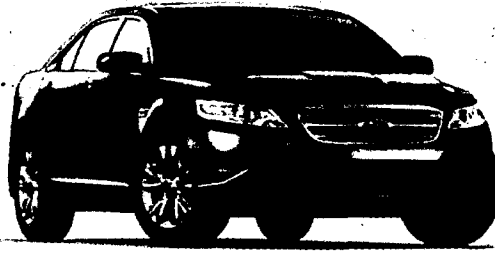
2012 FUSION SEL FWD
Great Lakes Special Value Package
MSRP: \$28,985²



23 city / 33 highway MPG²

\$169 For 24 months for current A/Z plan lessees⁴
PER MONTH LEASE * \$1,223 Cash Due at Signing
Security Deposit Waived. Taxes, title and license fees extra.

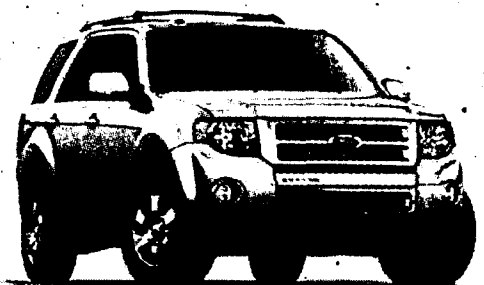
2012 TAURUS SEL FWD
MSRP: \$29,250⁵



18 city / 28 highway MPG²

\$199 For 24 months for current A/Z plan lessees⁴
PER MONTH LEASE * \$2,507 Cash Due at Signing
Security Deposit Waived. Taxes, title and license fees extra.

2012 ESCAPE LTD 4x4
MSRP: \$30,995⁵



20 city / 27 highway MPG²

\$169 For 24 months for current A/Z plan lessees⁴
PER MONTH LEASE * \$1,892 Cash Due at Signing
Security Deposit Waived. Taxes, title and license fees extra.

2012 FOCUS SE FWD
MSRP: \$19,820⁵



\$2,000 CUSTOMER CASH
OR
1.9% APR Financing for 60 months for everyone!³

OR

\$149 For 24 months for current A/Z plan lessees⁴
PER MONTH LEASE * \$1,702 Cash Due at Signing
Security Deposit Waived. Taxes, title and license fees extra.

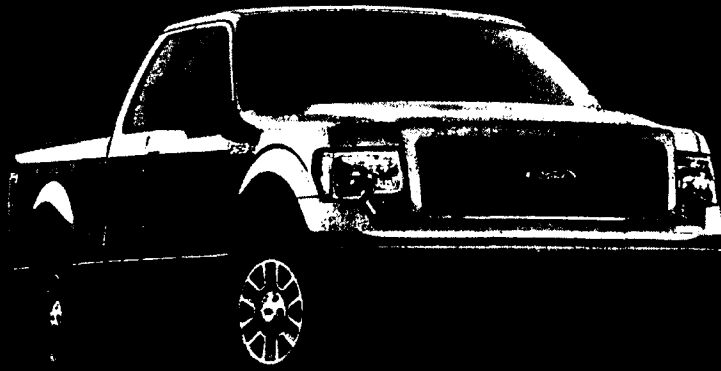
Offers Up To 40 highway MPG²

• 2.0L Ti-VCT direct-injection I-4 engine • AM/FM Single Disk CD Player with MP3 • AdvanceTrac® Electronic Stability Control System • MyKey™

DURING TRUCK MONTH, LEASE THE FORD F-150!

2012 F-150 SUPERCAB XLT 4X4
MSRP: \$38,660⁵

FORD F-SERIES
35 YEARS
AMERICA'S BEST-SELLING TRUCK



Offers Up To 22 highway MPG²

\$189 For 24 months for current A/Z plan lessees⁴
PER MONTH LEASE * \$3,310 Cash Due at Signing
Security Deposit Waived. Taxes, title and license fees extra.



Available on most vehicles.⁷
Check out Syncmyride.com



Southeast Michigan Ford Dealers
ThinkFordFirst.com

Check Us Out At
ThinkFordFirst.com
24 Hours a Day!

(1) \$500 Matching Down Payment on 2012 Fusion, Escape, Explorer (purchase only), Mustang V6, Mustang GT (purchase only), Edge, Taurus SEL, Taurus LTD, Taurus SHO, Fiesta (purchase only), Flex, Expedition, \$250 on Fiesta lease. (2) MPG estimate based on 2012 Fusion SEL 2.5L I-4 Engine with 6-speed automatic 23 city/33 hwy mpg, 2012 Taurus SEL 3.5L Duratec V-6 Engine 18 city/28 hwy mpg, 2012 Escape 2.5L I-4 Engine 4x4 20 city/27 hwy mpg, 2012 Focus SE Sedan with SFE package – EPA estimated 29 city/40 highway mpg, and 2012 F-150 Supercab 3.5L V-6 EcoBoost 4x2 16 city/22 highway. (3) Not all customers will qualify for 1.9% APR Ford Credit Financing, \$19.19 per month per \$1,000 financed for 60 months at APR of 1.9% on the 2012 Ford Focus. (4) Not all lessees will qualify for Ford Credit Red Carpet low mileage lease. Residency restrictions apply. Some payments higher, some lower. Special lease rates are for eligible A/Z Plan lessees. You must currently lease a Ford product through Ford Credit and re-lease through Ford Credit. Payments include \$500 Renewal Bonus Cash on all vehicles with the exception of the Focus (\$250 renewal). (5) MSRP, A-Plan price is for qualified, eligible A-Plan customers and excludes document fee, destination/delivery charge, taxes, title and registration. Optional equipment not included. See dealer for qualifications and complete details. Take retail delivery from dealer stock by 4/2/12.