

8/7

American dream

Young people share views

OBSERVER LIFE, SECTION C



Peter's Principles

Fitness expert answers readers' questions
HEALTH, PAGE C8



Photographer Linda Solomon helps local kids

PINK PAGE
C10

WESTLAND Observer

SUNDAY
August 7, 2005

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City lands federal money for road work

Ann Arbor Trail to get improvements

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Westland will receive \$2.5 million in federal money to improve the entire stretch of Ann Arbor Trail that winds across the city's north side.

"We're very pleased," Mayor Sandra Cicirelli said. The money will be used to repair Ann Arbor Trail between Farmington and Inkster roads. The work is expected to begin next spring, Westland Public Services Director Tom Wilson said. "Some of it will just be patch

work, but some areas will get an asphalt overlay," he said. U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter, R-Livonia, announced the Ann Arbor Trail project as part of nearly \$12.8 million in road improvements planned in his 11th District. "This critical infrastructure funding will help preserve and promote employment, and provide better roads in our communities," McCotter said. "I am greatly indebted

to this district's municipal and community leaders for their invaluable help in securing these essential transportation improvements for our shared constituents." Some areas of Ann Arbor Trail in Westland, particularly between Farmington and Merriman, don't seem in dire need of repairs. However, Wilson said the goal of local leaders is to try to work on roads as they begin to deteriorate,

"before they fall into complete disrepair." Cicirelli indicated that local officials plan to talk with federal officials to determine whether part of the \$2.5 million could be used toward improvements on Cherry Hill, west of Newburgh. City officials hope to widen that stretch of road, the mayor said.

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Pool party



Michelle O'Connell catches son Max as he dives into the pool.



Debra Hall and her granddaughter, Kamiya Walden, 9, watch Poof the clown make balloon hats and animals.

Clowns Around Redford, WMGC bring magic to family night

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER

You didn't have to be a clown to have fun, but a sense of humor was a plus. Last Monday, families gathered at the Bailey Recreation Center outdoor pool for what has become a must event, the "Magic Monday" Family Night. Sponsored by radio station WMGC-FM (105.1) and the Clowns Around Redford, participants were treated to swimming and bouncing and ... well, magic, as part of the event. Held during National Clown Week, it also served as a fund-raiser for the Burger Center for Children with Autism, a county-wide program housed in Garden City. "We had about 70 people and 40 swimmers," said Rob Ritter, pool supervisor. "People said it was wonderful, a beautiful night for it. I think it was probably the best one we've had yet." "It's really good to have Magic radio there and with the clowns, it's a really good fit," added Margaret Martin, parks and recreation program supervisor. "Every year we say, 'Do you want to do it again?' and we do." For a charge of \$3 for adults and \$2 for children, participants were treated to two hours of swimming in the pool, plenty of clowning around by the Clowns

PLEASE SEE FAMILY, A8



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Scooter, a member of Clowns Around Redford, takes a ride down the waterslide during the Magic Monday Family Night at the Bailey Recreation Center's outdoor pool. The group was celebrating National Clown Week as well as raising money for the Burger Center for Students with Autism in Garden City.

Of Westland voters, those who voted liked new system

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Local voters adapted easily to a new voting system in Tuesday's primary, putting Westland on the front line for changes that will become statewide next year. "It really went well," City Clerk Eileen DeHart said. "By and large, the voters said this was a better system." Prior to Tuesday, Westland voters had used a touch-screen computer voting system - one that proved frustrating at times, particularly for senior citizens. With the new M-100 optical scan system, voters marked paper ballots with a pen and then fed them into a digital scanning machine. Westland was among several communities testing the system, and DeHart said the timing couldn't have been better. For one, only one issue was on the ballot - a county parks and recreation tax renewal that passed in Westland and countywide. Secondly, only 6.4 per-



cent of Westland voters even bothered to vote, and most of them cast absentee ballots. Little more than 800 of the city's 56,000-plus registered voters actually went to the polls. "That's very bad," DeHart said. "But it's summertime, and a lot of people are on vacation. There was only one issue on the ballot, nothing to do with city officials. If there had been a city primary (for mayor or council), there would have been a much bigger turnout." The new voting system will be used from now on in Westland elections, and Tuesday's primary showed that those who did vote had few problems with the new method. "This was a great dress rehearsal," DeHart said.

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2 members resign from DDA board

BY JULIE BROWN
STAFF WRITER

Westland Mayor Sandra Cicirelli has seats to fill on the Downtown Development Authority board, following the resignation of Kim Shunkwiler and Doug North. "It just got to the point where it was very frustrating," said Shunkwiler, a Westland chiropractor who served nine years as the board chair and didn't miss a meeting. "I took it seriously. We had some great plans. We just got cut off at the knees by the powers that be." Shunkwiler cited former

Mayor Robert Thomas' taking of DDA money and the subsequent city administration use of that money. The DDA in Westland includes Ford Road in its entirety and Wayne Road from Ford south to Glenwood. Also resigning was North of North Brothers Ford. "He told me he had typed up his resignation," Shunkwiler said of his call to North. "There was no collusion." "I understand that he was frustrated," Cicirelli said of Shunkwiler. "It's been due to the budget constraints." She

PLEASE SEE DDA, A4

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Coming Thursday in Filter

Touching words: He's rap's biggest star and local fans explain why his music has impacted them more than any other. Read more in the next Filter.





BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

UAW members picket Hercules Steel in Livonia, where the union members are locked out.

Local union fighting for its existence

BY KURT KUBAN
STAFF WRITER

Jack Madonia has worked at Hercules Drawn Steel in Livonia for 33 years. In fact, it was his very first job after getting out of the military a couple years after graduating from high school. Madonia says the job is all he's ever known.

Since the beginning of May, however, he and the other members of UAW Local 174 have found themselves on the outside looking in.

Officials at Hercules, a steel plant located on Amrhein Road in Livonia, have locked out the union employees, or at least some of them. Using what union members say is a new labor law, the company only locked out some of the union.

Approximately 25 of the 72 union members were told to report to work, even though the union's contract expired April 29, which is the rationale behind why they locked out the majority of the workers.

Madonia now spends his days picketing in front of Hercules along with other union members. When replacement workers go through the picket line, the union members -- some using bullhorns and others just yelling -- call them "scabs" or worse. In addition to daily pick-

eting, the union held a rally in front of Hercules on Thursday and has distributed leaflets in the neighborhood of plant manager Ken Pinion, accusing him of being a "union buster."

Madonia says he would rather be doing something else, like going back to work, but he realizes he is now fighting for his job.

"We're all out here fighting this battle for our wives and families," says Madonia, whose only daughter just had her high school graduation party and will soon be going to college.

Eaton Steel, which owns Hercules, is a large distributor of hot rolled special quality bars and billets, according to the company's Web site. More than 50,000 tons of steel in 3/8 of an inch to 18 inch diameter rounds, hexagons, flats and round cornered squares are stocked in the company's warehouses, which are spread throughout the country, and as far away as Houston, Texas.

At Hercules, workers produce cold drawn carbon and alloy steel bars, which are used to manufacture everything from car struts and spark plugs, to bullets and dumbbells.

Albert Goodman founded Hercules in 1957, just four years after getting Eaton Steel off the ground. The company, which

also owns plants in Taylor and Oak Park, is now owned by Mark and Gary Goodman, the sons of the founder. Hercules is the only one of the three plants to employ UAW workers. The union's relationship with Hercules dates back to 1965.

Union leaders say company officials tried to ram through a new contract that virtually eliminated most union rights, including seniority rights and the current disciplinary procedure, which would allow the company to fire an employee without a review process.

"They totally want to gut the entire collective bargaining agreement," said Doug Grima, president of Local 174. "We don't have a problem negotiating a fair contract, but they have told us over and over, 'We don't want to bargain. This is the way it will be.'"

Local 174, which dates back to the 1930s, was union legend Walter P. Reuther's home local. There are more than 8,000 members, who range from plant workers like those at Hercules to firefighters and childcare workers. Grima said dues paid by the union's other members are providing strike pay to the locked out workers. The union pays about \$200 a week to each of the locked out workers.

To make matters worse, the company is fighting claims made by union workers to collect unemployment from the state of Michigan. The union has appealed with the unemployment agency.

Grima said negotiations with the company haven't gotten very far, despite the fact that outside mediators have come in to try and help move things along. He said there may be negotiations in the next few weeks, but nothing is firmed up yet.

"We've had a lot of monetary support from a lot of plants and people in general. These guys are strong, but it's getting tough," Grima said. Of the workers that were told to report to work despite the lockout, less than half went back.

No matter how tough it gets, Herb Wilson, another longtime Hercules employee, said the union members are willing to stand their ground, because the contract that has been offered would force the union to concede too much.

"They wanted to take so much language out of the contract, there wouldn't be a union anymore. This isn't so much a fight over money, it's a fight over dignity," said Wilson, who is on the union's negotiating team and has been with the company for 27 years. "They just want to change the contract from end to end."

When reached, one Hercules official refused to comment on the labor dispute, and Hercules plant manager Ken Pinion did not return phone calls before this paper went to press.

Although union members admit, the strain of daily picketing and an uncertain future are starting to get on them, their spirits have been buoyed by passers-by who have stopped with food or even money to help them keep fighting. Wilson says that is because people in this region understand the importance of unions, and what they have meant to the standard of living of the average person.

"I think unions are in trouble in general these days from so many fronts. But without unions, we wouldn't be where we're at," he said.

As for Madonia, he is holding out hope that the two sides can come to an agreement.

WESTLAND Observer

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DEATHS

A
 Patricia Ann Anderson, 68, of Farmington, died July 30.

B
 Edward M. Ballantyne, 75, of Bloomfield Hills, died July 12.
 Albert Berkopec, of Plymouth, died Aug. 1.
 Minnie "Penny" Bernard, 90, of Rochester Hills, died July 25.
 Richard Beryl Braun, 64, of Plymouth, died July 30.
 Donald Buchanan, 81, of Bloomfield Twp., died July 14.

C
 Esther V. Christensen, 90, of Orion Twp., died July 4.
 Janice G. Christinidis, 69, of Rochester Hills, died July 29.

D
 James R. Drake, 59, of Pontiac, died July 8.

F
 Donald L. Faris, 72, of Rochester Hills, died July 24.
 Ronald Francis Filter, 88, of Bloomfield Hills, died July 31.
 Anna Mae Fleisheil, 78, of Rochester Hills, died July 26.

G
 Eleanor Graham, 77, died Aug. 2.

H
 Charles E. Hodges, 84, of Rochester Hills, died July 26.

K
 John W. Kruse, 73, of Rochester Hills, died July 23.

L
 Estelle Leitch, 89, of Orion Twp., died July 14.

M
 Pearl Maurine McGhee, 89, of Lawrenceville, Ga., died July 31.

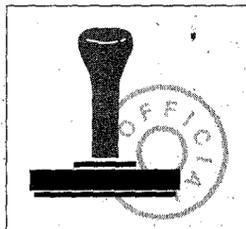
E
 Elizabeth M. McLaughlin, of Westland, died July 30.
 Jenny Mieczkowski, 85, of Bloomfield, died July 27.
 Elizabeth A. Mielke, of Marshall, died Aug. 1.
 Theresa N. Moe, 82, of Troy, died July 2.

N
 Emma C. Murrish, 77, of Rochester Hills, died July 1.

O
 Edward P. O'Brien Jr., 86, of Plymouth and Northville, died July 29.

P
 Juanita Palmer, 82, of Shelby Twp., died July 23.
 Anna Pelc, of Commerce Township, died July 29.
 Edgar Pluff, 83, of Troy, died July 28.
 William E. Powell, 66, of Pontiac, died July 26.

R
 Dale E. Raffler, 97, of Rochester Hills, died July 18.
 L. "Johnnie" Reynolds, 71, of Royal



For the Record appears in every edition of the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers*. Complete paid obituaries can be found inside today's Community Life in *Passages* on page C4.

Oak, died July 5.
 Janis J. Royal, 68, of Westland, died July 28.

S
 James Saam, 75, of Rochester Hill died July 19.
 Vernon D. Severson, 81, of Rochester Hills, died July 4.
 Robert "Bob" Shaw, 79, of Farmington Hills, died Aug. 2.
 Julia A. "Hoppi" Smith, 83, of Beie County, Mich., died Aug. 1.
 Robert Snyder, 42, died July 31.
 James R. Stauble, 47, of Warren, died July 10.
 Billy Joe Stubblefield, 81, of Westland, died July 27.
 Ann Gardiner Swan, 80, of Sarasota, Fla., died July 22.

T
 Margaret Taylor, 90, of (Sylvania) Ohio, formerly of Farmington, died July 29.
 Michael Petter Terry, 63, died Aug. 2.
 Anthony T. Topolsky, of Westland, died July 29.
 Paul J. Trager, 94, of Shelby Twp., died July 29.
 Marion R. Tanton, 84, of Kalamazoo, formerly of Farmington Hills.

W
 Frances "Polly" Wiggins, 79, of Redford, died July 28.
 Zelma Wood, 101, died July 30.

Y
 James Young, 43, of Pontiac, died July 18.
 Sondra V. Yudt, of Westland, died July 28.
 Mary M. Yurk, 92, of Rochester, formerly of Flint, died July 10.

Z
 Amelia Zbinden, 91, of Troy, died July 18.
 Clementine Zelinski, 87, of Rochester Hills, died July 20.

DDA

FROM PAGE A1

added that basic services, such as police, fire and trash pick-up, need to be provided first.

"I'm super happy with our streetscape," the mayor said of the work that's been done, adding that all the money is taxpayer money and it's a question of priorities.

The mayor also praised both Shunkwiler and North for their service: "They did an excellent job. I know they're very committed."

Shunkwiler had no objection

to the recent appointment of Sylvia Kozorosky-Wiacek to the DDA board, but said "there's a lot of frustration among the board members." The DDA hasn't had an executive director since Steve Guile left, he added.

Shunkwiler hopes the DDA will accomplish what it originally was intended for, and has praise for those he served with.

"A lot of good people on that board," he said.

"I spent a lot of time away from my family, away from my practice."

Some money is still captured

for the DDA, Cicirelli said. Projects will continue as funding becomes available, Cicirelli added.

"I know that he's (Shunkwiler) expressed frustration over that," she said. "We've just got to weather the storm."

The mayor's putting out the word to fill at least one vacancy; some members of the board are required to have a business in the DDA area.

"We all want to see that eyesore of a corner improve," she said of the Ford-Wayne Road intersection.

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ONTARIO

Organizers prepare for Wayne County Fair

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER

The fair is coming, the fair is coming ... No, not that fair, the Wayne County Fair.

In its 57th year, the Wayne County Fair will officially open to the public at 1 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 8, at the county fairgrounds on Quirk Road, south of I-94, in Van Buren Township.

The county fair will feature all assortment of animal exhibits - horses, cattle, pigs, rabbits, pocket pets - as well as arts, crafts, nightly entertainment and a carnival.

It will be a "fair for everybody," according to Linda Willman, a member of the fair's board of directors.

"Everyday is kids day and we make sure we have things for them to do," she said. "We'll have a petting farm exotic animals, pony rides."

Close to 400 youths and adults bring their horses, cattle, pigs, rabbits and arts and crafts to the fairgrounds in a quest of the coveted blue ribbon.

Participants come throughout the county - from Detroit, where a group of youngsters will be showing rabbits, to Canton, Westland, New Boston, Taylor and Romulus as well as Monroe County. There



Katie Tsouris, with the help of her mother Jean (center) and 4-H leader Sherry Blount, competes in the versatility class where participants ride English style and then switch to western without leaving the ring.

will be some 120 horses, 15 head of cattle, 37 hogs, an unknown number of rabbits, sheep and goats and even pocket pets - hamsters, gerbils, rats and mice.

"The livestock has gone down a lot in the last five years because of all of the development in Wayne County," said the Westland resident. "It's easy to board a horse, but it's not that easy to board a cow."

There also will be judging in community arts, and in addition to blue ribbons, the fair also will award gold ribbons for best in show in the different divisions and sections, entitling the winners to compete in the 2006 Michigan State Fair.

And one person who enters in at least four community arts categories could walk away as the Wayne County Homemaker of the Year and the right to represent Wayne County in judging at the state fair competition.

There also will be the fair's annual talent search which saw recent winner Toni Williams go on to the State Fair Showcase and a stint singing the Detroit fireworks.

"It surprises me to see how many incredibly talented kids come out every year," she said.

In addition to the different

MORE INFORMATION

The Wayne County Fair will be Tuesday-Saturday, Aug. 8-13, at the Wayne County Fairgrounds on Quirk Road between Tyler and the I-94 Expressway

Admission will be \$3 per person Tuesday-Thursday and \$5 Friday and Saturday. The entertainment will be free of charge, however, there will be an extra charge for the carnival rides.

Judging will begin at 9 a.m. daily, starting Monday, Aug. 10. Admission to the fairgrounds will be free on Monday and before 1 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday.

For more information, call the fairgrounds at (734) 697-7002 or visit the fair's Web site at www.waynecountyfair.net.

competition, the fair will have entertainment at 7 p.m. each evening free of charge. There will be pony pulling, a 4 x 4 truck pull, Tough Truck Competition, mini-modified tractor and the always popular Demolition Derby which will close out the fair on Saturday.

Another big event is the annual 4-H auction that will be held at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 11. Animals raised by 4-H members will be auctioned off to the highest bidder. The auction serves as a fund-raiser for the 4-H program.

And it wouldn't be a fair with rides, provided this year by Elliott Amusements.

Willman said organizers are glad to have the Michigan-based, family-run carnival at the fair.

"We're looking forward to a better run, cleaner carnival

than we've had the last few years," she said.

But the fair may well be the best kept secret in Wayne County. In a good year, the fair will attract 13,000 people. In a year like 2003, when the blackout occurred, it was financial disaster.

"It gets kind of frustrating because you have these kids doing all these good things and nobody hears about it," said Willman. "I've had people in Belleveille say what county fair and say where. When you say Wayne County Fair, people automatically think of the state fair."

The fair receives no financial support from Wayne County. It supports itself through what is raised from fees to use its campground, gate receipts, a percentage of the carnival and an auction. It receives some



Eric Willman reaches through the to touch one of the pigs that were shown during the 2004 Wayne County Fair.

money from the state for the premiums it pays out, but must pay for the trophies and ribbons it distributes.

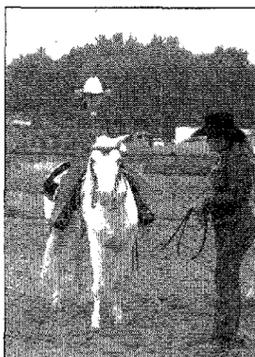
"We're completely voluntary," said Willman who has been involved with the fair since age 8. "We get some sponsorship grants, we get everything we can, but the county gives us nothing. We were out last weekend repairing and painting the buildings."

Willman admits that the putting on the fair is hard work. She serves as secretary

of the board of directors, but during the fair, she will be working with the horses and livestock as well as serve as head of security.

"There are times during the week when you've had three hours sleep and four days of 90-degree weather and you wonder why you're doing this," she said. "I don't have kids, so I get to watch these kids grow up and I've had so much fun with this."

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Madison Schmalzreid works with her teacher Katie Tsouris during the protégé class judging. The class allows children too young to show on their own to do so with the help of a teacher.

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INFORMATION CENTRAL

When you think of August you probably think of picnics in the park, back-to-school shopping, and lounging by the pool on a hot day, but how many people think of starting a business?

August is Black Business Month. As described in Chase's Calendar of Events, "this month is dedicated to starting, maintaining, growing, buying from and committing to black owned businesses and entrepreneurs."

So if you've been considering starting a business or are looking for tips on how to succeed in the business world, now might be the time to go from thinking to doing. The William P. Faust Public Library is a great place to start.

Among the library's books geared toward African-Americans in the business world are *The New Color of Success: 20 Young Black Millionaires Tell You How They're*

Making It, in which author Niki Butler Mitchell looks at the child-hoods, educations, and role models of some of America's most successful

African-Americans.

Anita Doreen Diggs' *Success at Work: a Guide for African-Americans* has tips for getting along with the boss and handling difficult coworkers. *Soul Food: 52 Principles for Black Entrepreneurial Success*, by Robert L. Wallace is arranged as a 52-week program for the minority business owner.

Sister CEO has advice from author Cheryl D. Broussard specifically for women looking to expand their business prospects, and Veronica Chambers speaks to similar themes in *Having it All? Black Women and Success*.

A new book that should appeal to all entrepreneurs regardless of race or gender is *Reallionaire* written by 20-year-old Farrah Gray.

Gray is a self-made millionaire who started out selling handmade body lotion in his Los Angeles neighborhood. In this book, he tells his rags-to-riches story and also offers tips for readers.

So if you have ever thought about

going into business for yourself, stop by the library this month and see how we can help.

The Public Library of Westland is open from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Mondays-Wednesdays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursdays-Saturdays and closed Sundays during the summer months.

Adult Book Discussion: 7 p.m. Aug. 16, *Daughter of Fortune* by Isabel Allende

Teen Book Discussion: 2 p.m. Aug. 13, *A Crack in the Line* by Michael Lawrence. Register at the Reference Desk

Babytime Storytime: 10:30 a.m. every Saturday in August. For parents/caregivers and babies up to 24 months. Share stories, songs and rhymes with your little one. Older siblings are welcome.

The William P. Faust Public Library is at 6123 Central City Parkway, Westland. For more information, call (734) 326-6123.



On the job

Lifelong resident Jerry Farrar, 29, was sworn in Monday as the newest Westland police officer. He is flanked above by Mayor Sandra Cicirelli and Police Chief Daniel Pfannes. Farrar, who lives in Westland with wife Kerri and their two daughters, is a graduate of Henry Ford Community College and the Wayne County Regional Police Academy. Like several other Westland officers, Farrar used to work for the Detroit Police Department. He worked there for five years, partly with another officer, Kevin Swope, who was his scout car partner and who preceded him in a move to Westland.

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Info meeting

Train To End Stroke, a marathon training program offered by the American Stroke Association, will hold an information session at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 9, at the Westland Public Library, 6123 Central City Parkway.

The program is designed for people who want to get in shape, travel and raise money for a good cause. Choose to walk or run a full or half marathon in Arizona or Miami. All fitness levels are welcome. Additional information sessions are scheduled in August.

For more information call (248) 827-4214 or visit stroke-association.org

Surplus food

The City of Westland will be distributing surplus federal food to eligible residents north of Michigan Avenue 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 18, at the Dorsey Community.

Residents living south of Michigan Avenue should pick up their commodities on the third Monday of the month at

St. James United Methodist Church at 30055 Annapolis between Henry Ruff and Middlebelt.

Senior citizens living in Taylor Towers can pick up their food at the apartment building. Contact the building manager for the distribution date.

This month residents will receive bakery mix, peaches and peanut butter through the program administered by the Wayne County Office of Nutrition Services.

For more information, call the Dorsey Center surplus food hotline at (734) 595-0366.

Extreme Car Wash

The Westland John Glenn High School boys and girls cross country team will have a free car wash 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Friday, Aug. 12, at the corner of Cheery Hill and Venoy.

All donations will benefit the teams' annual trip to Petoskey to race in the Petoskey Invitational in September.

MS fund-raiser

Walking With Faith Inc. is

partnering with Carrabba's Italian Grill in a Sunday, Aug. 28, fund-raiser to benefit for Multiple Sclerosis.

The luncheon benefit will be 2-4 p.m. at the restaurant, 1900 N. Haggerty Road, Canton. Cost will be \$25 per person for a lunch that includes salad, chicken marsala, grilled breaded shrimp and scallops with lemon butter sauce, pasta, beverage and dessert - a fudge brownie topped with Kahlua, chocolate mousse, whipped cream and a chocolate sauce.

Tickets are available by calling Alicia Harris at (313) 999-5259.

Walking With Faith is a team of more than 100 volunteers who raise money toward ending the devastating effects of MS.

Church of Rock

Come celebrate with The Church of Rock as it moves forward in its first Sunday night evening service 6-8 p.m. today (Aug. 7) at 6500 Wayne Road at Hunter in Westland. The Church of Rock is a

youth-driven, non-denominational church birthed out of Club Triune, a safe haven for young music lovers. It currently meets 5-6 p.m. Saturdays to address issues that are relevant to youth and young adults, many of which traditional churches dare to tackle.

For more information visit www.thechurchofrock.com on the Internet.

Take off

A program called "Katherine Stinson: the Flying Schoolgirl" has been scheduled for 1 p.m. Friday, Aug. 12, at the Wayne Public Library.

Stinson had many firsts in her seven-year flying career, including being the first to fly solo at night and the first pilot to perform skywriting. She was instrumental in establishing a flight school.

The program is free. To reserve a seat call (734) 721-7832 by Aug. 11.

Golf outing

The Wayne-Westland Junior Miss Scholarship Program will host its annual golf outing on

Saturday, Aug. 20, at the Gateway Golf Club.

The outing will have a scramble format with an 8 a.m. shotgun start. It includes 18 holes of golf with a cart, hot dog on the turn, door prizes and a barbecue dinner, catered by chef Tony Paquette.

The cost is \$100 per golfer. Sponsorships also are available. For information, call Dennis Hermatz at (734) 728-6151.

All proceeds will go to the Wayne-Westland Junior Miss Scholarship Program, a 501c3 not-profit organization.

Gardening program

The William P. Faust Public Library will host a program on earth friendly gardening 7-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 30, at the library, 6123 Central City Parkway north of Ford.

The speakers will be garden consultants Nancy Szerlag and Jeff Ball who will cover such topics as perennial flowers for falls, mulches and compost, managing weeds without chemicals and landscape design ideas.

The program is free and sponsored by the City of Westland.

To register, call (734) 467-3198 weekdays or register by e-mail at LFDean@aol.com.

For the health of it

The Westland Chamber of Commerce will have its annual Health & Business Expo 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 27, at Westland Shopping Center.

As the major sponsor, the mall will offer health and business participants an opportunity to display their goods and services in a high-traffic environment.

Others involved include Nancy Barrons, business sponsor from Standard Federal Bank, and St. Mary Hospital, health sponsor.

Organizers are looking for business and health-care providers to participate in this year's event.

Tables are \$125 for chamber members, \$175 for non-members and \$75 for nonprofit groups.

Call (734) 326-7222.

Local Scout volunteers begin recruit drive

Organizers hope to attract 2,000 youngsters and teenagers from Western Wayne County to join Boy Scout programs over the next two months.

As an incentive, all school-age boys who join a local Cub Scout Pack, Boy Scout Troop or Venture Crew in August or September receive free passes for their entire family to a unique showing of monster trucks and race cars from the NASCAR circuit.

"My entire family is really excited about this promotion," said Livonian Gale Molisee, a scouting volunteer. "I saw lots of parents really enjoying time with their children at the event. I know this year's event will be spectacular."

The Detroit Area Council's Sunset District involves youngsters from Livonia, Canton, Garden City, Redford, Plymouth, Westland, Wayne and Northville. As part of the district's fall recruiting rally, adult scout leaders and other volunteers will be distributing

flyers to local schools and speak at various youth events in September to encourage youngsters to join. They will promote scouting's experiences that include camping, athletic and outdoor activities and opportunities to earn awards and become leaders.

Boys in first through fifth grade (under age 11) can join Cub Scouts, those middle and high school can join Boy Scouts (age 11-17) and young men and women in high school can join Venture Scouts.

Those local youth who register in the next two months will see the monster trucks and race cars on display at the Michigan State Fairgrounds on Oct. 15.

To find out how to register and locate a scouting organization in your neighborhood, call Sunset District Director Catherine Boldt at (313) 361-1290 or the Detroit Area Council office at (313) 897-1965. The council's Web site is www.dacbsa.org.

By Dan West

LANCÔME

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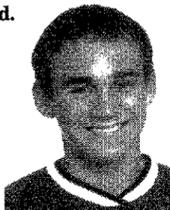
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Contestants try their luck with the buzzer in WMGC's Magic game show.

Area mom helps lead Market Day to gourmet

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA
STAFF WRITER

Market Day may not be a new concept in fund raising for local schools, but it has a new gourmet twist.

Redford resident Kerri Huckestein is a founding member of Market Day Gourmet and a consultant in Michigan. She earned the title by becoming one of the first individuals in the state to participate in the direct sales program.

"I love the fact that what I am cooking for my family has helped our elementary school," she said, referring to Addams Elementary. "Ten percent of every order is return to the school."

Market Day is a fund raising program that has helped fund educational resources such as computers, playground equipment, and teaching supplies. Since its inception about 30 years ago, the program has raised over \$330 million for education nationwide.

Now, Market Day Gourmet builds upon that success, offering high quality foods and kitchen accessories sold at in-home parties.

Taste-testing parties allow a host or hostess to invite friends, family and co-workers to his or her home to sample 10 to 12 different products. Huckestein said the Market Day Gourmet motto is "you invite the guests, we do the rest."

The party host chooses recipes from a list and provides a few basic ingredients. Party-goers can later order items they enjoy. Part of the profits from these sales are donated to the charity or school of the host's choosing.

As an active parent with children in the South Redford School District, Huckestein said she has a love for cooking and sharing culinary creations with friends and family.

"It is a great way to get some people together, enjoy some delicious food, learn some quick recipes, and help a charity at the same time," said Huckestein. "Every time I go out to present a show I am making a difference. It is very rewarding."

Market Day Gourmet has only been available in Michigan for a few months, but Huckestein has already worked with South Redford teachers and administrators to arrange parties and help raise funds.

One of the first parties brought in just under \$800 to help pay for four Thurston High School Media Studies students and chaperones to attend a convention in San Francisco. Parties can be planned during the afternoon or evening hours.

For more information, call Kerri Huckestein at (313) 534-1667 or visit the Web at www.marketdaygourmet.com.

scasola@oe.homecomm.net | (734) 953-2054

FAMILY

FROM PAGE A1

Around Redford, a moonwalk provided by Bobby's Bouncers, music and the *Wheel of Fortune*-style Magic game show, provided by the radio station.

Spotty Dogs hot dog concession also offered a hot dog and pop for a reduced price to quell any hunger pangs.

According to Martin, "Magic Monday" dates back to when the radio station

switched from being the Groove to Magic. The recreation department had had a relationship with Groove and it carried forward with Magic.

"When we talked about future projects, they suggested a pool party and suggested that we do it on Monday so we could call in 'Magic Monday,'" Martin said. "Then we discovered the Clowns Around Redford were looking for projects to do during National Clown Week. It's really good to have them here."

"We are very proud to be a part of this

good, clean, family event," said Jennifer Michaels, WMGC promotions coordinator. "Every year, we go out to Westland and participate. It is meant to celebrate clowns during National Clown Week."

As for the clowns, they were back in Westland Saturday. The organization hosted a balloon twisting conference at the Bailey Center for other clowns.

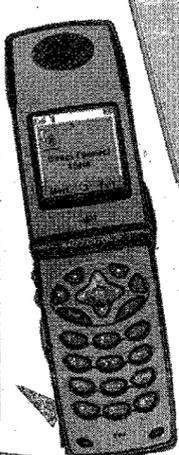
"They're always fun to have around," Martin said.

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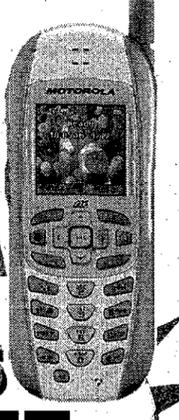
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To all residents and interested parties, The Council minutes will be available for review on the internet at www.gardencitymi.org
 You can access this information at the Garden City Library or City Hall during regular Business hours or in the Police Station Lobby 24 hours a day.
 ALLYSON M. BETTIS, Treasurer/City Clerk
 Publish: May 1, 15, 22, 29, June 12, 19, July 3, 17, 24, 31, August 7, and 21, 2005

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 2005-06 SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on August 15, 2005 at 7:00 o'clock in the evening at 15125 Farmington Road, Livonia, Michigan, the Board of Education of the Livonia Public Schools School District will hold a public hearing in regard to the 2005-06 School Breakfast Program.

In order to be in compliance with Section 380.1272 of the School Code as amended in December 1993, the School Board must operate a school breakfast program or opt out following state guidelines. Local school districts can opt out of offering a breakfast program in buildings where less than 20% of the student enrollment is eligible for free or reduced price lunches. The public is invited to offer their opinion at the August 15, 2005 Board of Education meeting.

This notice is given by order of the Board of Education.

Lynda Scheel, Secretary

Publish: August 7, 2005

Get on the ball. Read today's **SPORTS** coverage!

Flanagan offers solid ideas to better education

I first met Mike Flanagan back in the late 1980s, when he was the very successful and well-liked superintendent of schools in Farmington. He went on to become head of the Wayne Regional Educational Service Agency (WRESA), which serves nearly half a million children, more than 180,000 of them from families below the poverty line. And in 2001, he became executive director of the Michigan Association of School Administrators, the organization that serves the 1,200-odd Michigan public school superintendents.

For years, Mike has been turning up at meetings where sensible people got together to talk about doing sensible things, most of them having to do with investing in human capital. For instance, he was an early member of the Ready to Succeed group. It popularized the research showing that the absolute best time for children to learn is at a very early age, and thereby began an important discussion about very early childhood learning.

In January 2003, the newly elected Gov. Jennifer Granholm asked Flanagan to be her full-time education adviser. And most people who care about education were delighted that on May 18, he was appointed (with the governor's backing) superintendent of public instruction by the state Board of Education, following the messy departure of his predecessor, Tom Watkins.

Still a slightly boyish-looking Irish guy with a big smile and glasses, Flanagan, now 55, is almost universally liked and respected. Granholm made a smart appointment.

I finally caught up with him for an early morning phone call. "So how's it going?" I started off.

"It's like drinking from a fire hose," he responded. "I'd guess I'm working 80 hours a week. I could spend all that time right here at my desk and I'd be fully employed, but I also want to get out into the schools, meet with education people, the media, the Legislature - the list goes on and on. I now have more than 1,000 requests to attend events on my desk right now, and more are coming in every day."

So what are his first reactions? "First impression, I'm impressed with the state workers. I had a perception that wasn't entirely favorable. But they're working hard, day in day out, at their desk during lunch, coping with budget freezes and concessions without whining about it. The system is bureaucratic,

but the people are not.

"It's refreshing."
The obvious question to put to the new superintendent; how to make a quantum jump in student performance in our schools?

His answers seemed deceptively simple: motivate the kids and concentrate on teacher training. As to motivation, Flanagan tells a simple story: "I live in Lansing, and all over town you go into the coffee shops and you see Asian kids working on their laptops, even late on Saturday nights."

"Now some of this is parent or family-driven. But the fact is that these kids are highly motivated. We absolutely need to extend this level of motivation to the entire society."

"The overwhelming fact is simple. The earth is flat, indeed, as Tom Friedman puts it."

By that, he meant that we live today in a global village. "We don't have a choice," he continued. "We must make a quantum leap in school achievement or else we're going to be a second-rate country."

Flanagan is equally direct about teachers: "The reality is that it's the individual teacher who reaches and inspires a kid. That's one of the reasons I like smaller schools. They're far more personal and offer an environment where the teachers can really work with the kids."

Michigan education's new top man wants to pull together a teacher training summit, bringing together the deans of the schools of education in Michigan, maybe the university presidents and possibly even some members of the governing boards.

The goal would be to make big gains in recruiting talented college students to become teachers, and then preparing them to correctly instruct and motivate their students.

"Inspired teachers will make all the difference in the world, and teacher preparation affects everything else. There are going to be thousands of teachers retiring in the next 10 years, so if we get at it with the schools of education, we can affect an entire generation of teachers and students."

Hopefully, he'll have the tools to do just that. Listening to Flanagan's enthusiasm and common sense made me feel a little bit more hopeful about our public schools. And it brought to mind the celebrated lines from the 18th century English poet, Alexander Pope:

"Tis education forms the common mind.
As the twig is bent, so the tree's inclined."

Phil Power is a longtime observer of politics, economics and education issues in Michigan. He would be pleased to hear from readers at ppower@hcnnet.com.



Phil Power

Supreme Court beach decision lucid defense of 'public trust'

As this unusually warm summer continues into August, the Michigan Supreme Court has given beach walkers a gift. On July 29, a 5-2 court majority decided that the public has a right to walk along our Great Lakes beaches from the water's edge to the high water mark on the beach.

In a well-written, lucid and discerning majority opinion, the court distinguishes private ownership and public trust, a battleground that seems to be getting hotter than our blistering summer sun.

While issues of eminent domain, developer rights, privatization of public forest land and similar concerns are bringing together odd alliances, the beach walking decision will generally serve the best interests of the vast majority, even while troubling some property rights advocates.

The five member Michigan Supreme Court majority - Justices Michael Cavanagh, Elizabeth Weaver, Marilyn Kelly and Maura Corrigan - reach far back into history to the Roman Emperor Justinian.

The justices note that American law as descended from English common law recognizes that the sovereign (or state) must preserve and protect navigable waters for its people. This idea is traced back to Justinian, who writes in his *Institutes*, "Now the things which are, by natural law, common to all are these: the air,

running water, the sea, and therefore, the seashores. Thus no one is barred access to the seashore ..."

A neighbors' dispute between two property owners along Lake Huron led to a test case on the public's right to walk on Great Lakes' beaches in front of privately held land. Property rights advocates argued that private ownership on Great Lakes beaches extends to the water's edge. They argued that while the state maintained ownership of the land that was always under water, property owners had a right to bar anyone they chose from walking in front of their property on exposed land.

The justices (with Justices Robert Young and Stephen Markham is full or partial dissent) make a distinction between property along the Great Lakes and property along inland lakes, rivers and streams. The decision reads, "we conclude that the public trust doctrine does protect her (plaintiff Joan Glass) right to walk along the shores of the Great Lakes. American law has long recognized that large bodies of navigable water, such as the oceans, are natural resources and thoroughfares that belong to the public. In our common-law tradition, the state as sover-

eign acts as trustee of public rights in these natural resources."

The justices note that "littoral" property (such as property along the Great Lakes) remains "subject to the public trust." They distinguish this from the "riparian" rights of those on inland lakes, rivers and streams.

The justices turn to Wisconsin for a definition of high water as "where the presence and action of the water is so continuous as to leave a distinct mark either by erosion, destruction of terrestrial vegetation or other easily recognized characteristics."

The justices argue that lakefront owners retain property rights "subject to the public trust" and that this defined area of beach is similar to a sidewalk. And walkers have certain obligations not to be rowdy, destructive or lewd.

As most property owners along the lakes enjoy beach walking as much as anyone else, the decision is as much a victory as a "defeat" for the majority.

The decision also defines an area where the state has the authority and obligation to protect the shoreline, which has been a matter of controversy in recent years as some owners bridled at rules concerning clearing of vegetation.

The broader questions of private-public ownership will be raging in the years ahead. A recent U.S. Supreme Court decision granted the right of eminent domain to allow a city to remove housing from an area to allow a private development. The city argued that the action was necessary to promote economic development.

The court's liberal members created the majority on this ruling. It was a classic defense of the right of the eminent domain doctrine that helped create our national parks and forests, our interstate highway system, the Tennessee Valley Authority and other public works projects. But this time it was to benefit a private developer at the expense of low-middle income homeowners.

Now conservative, anti-government groups and liberal groups concerned about pushing the poor out (as also happened in several urban redevelopment cases) are making strange bedfellows to sponsor state legislation restricting eminent domain. (Which, in fact, the court said was an option.)

In Livonia, redevelopment of the Wonderland property, and particularly the role of Wal-Mart in the project, has create controversy and raised the question of the rights of homeowners, if any, concerning commercial development in their neighborhoods.

These subjects don't always split along liberal/conservative lines. Sometimes simple principles don't fit with particular facts.

Hugh Gallagher is the managing editor of the Observer Newspapers. He can be reached by phone at (734) 953-2149, or by e-mail at hgallagher@oe.homecomm.net.



Hugh Gallagher

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Travel agents don't see business slow with terrorism

BY JULIE BROWN
STAFF WRITER

Area travel agents are keeping busy these days and haven't found that recent terrorist incidents in England and Egypt have hurt business.

"People are still traveling," said Fawn Johnson, an agent at Venture Out Travel Service in Westland. "We have not had any cancellations. They're just going about their business."

Travel agents saw a drop in business after 9/11, but Johnson says it didn't take too long after for people to resume traveling. She reports Mexico, Las Vegas and Caribbean and other cruises as the most popular for her customers.

"Egypt wouldn't have any impact on us," said Kate Rosevear, owner of Carlson Wagonlit Travel in Plymouth and Wayne. The Middle East isn't a common destination for her customers, she said, and those who do visit there will go regardless.

"If you're going to wait for peace in the Middle East, it's not going to happen," Rosevear said.

For other destinations, the recent incidents don't seem to have had an impact. She's booking midwinter break trips in the Caribbean, Las Vegas and cruises.

"Alaska seems to be the big one," she said. "Some Europe for next year." Italy's gotten a lot of publicity in books and movies, Rosevear added, and is popular.

Agents urge customers to get to the airport early, so they don't miss a flight. Johnson tells those going to Europe not to show a camera or flash money and to keep a lower profile.

Rosevear sees some clients who are still afraid to fly or vexed by flight delays and other aggravations. She's watching the Northwest mechanics possible strike situation closely. "I don't have a crystal ball," she said. "I think they will continue to fly."

Fred Tams, owner of Sky King Travel and Tours in Livonia, said the Internet has cut into agency business, with some people going online to make their own travel arrangements. "In the long run, the travel industry is still going on strong," he said.

He tends to see cancellations immediately after a terrorist attack, with business picking up soon after. A lot of people still visit Europe (France, Greece, Italy and Portugal), as well as the Middle East and Asia.

"We had some cancellations, but not much," Tams said. "I could say people still do travel."

He finds people call with questions, and travel agents can field those questions. Tams

recommends travelers register with the government at travel.gov before leaving.

He also recommends having a current passport even for trips to Canada or Mexico, and getting applications early. His agency helps with passports, with that business supplementing work lost to the Internet.

He's been in the business over 20 years and his customers are friends. "We built a

good reputation in the business."

Joyce Brown, owner of CruiseOne of Redford, is busy on the job. "I think it's doing pretty well," she said of business. "People still want to cruise, take their vacation."

She's found the Bahamas and Caribbean are popular destinations. Brown gives a sheet of travel tips to her customers.

She checks on weather con-

ditions too and communicates with other CruiseOne agents nationwide for travel information.

"They're asking a lot of questions," Joseph Bernardini, owner/manager of Livonia Travel Service, said of his customers. They're focused on the possible Northwest strike.

"We haven't seen any decrease in tourism," Bernardini said. Some customers choose a different loca-

tion. He's putting together a lot of packages for Italy.

Bernardini noted TV reports may give a greater sense of fear than reality warrants. "You can't help but read it. You have to take things into perspective."

Carey Morton, owner/manager of Harvard Square Travel in Canton, handles a lot of international travel, destinations ranging from India to Lebanon. "They are going to all sorts of places," she said. "It

hasn't stopped them. You just can't let fear control you."

She encourages clients to keep their eyes open, and remain alert, avoiding large crowds if possible. "If it's going to bother you too much, don't go."

Morton recommends buying travel insurance, especially for trips out of the country. "And don't be the ugly American. Just be normal and have a good time."

Voters approve parks millage by 65 percent

The Wayne County parks millage was approved by approximately 65 percent of voters Tuesday according to unofficial numbers from the Wayne County Clerk's office with 100 percent of all precincts reporting.

The millage was approved 101,431 to 54,913. Out county the vote was 36,357 for and 31,222 against. In Detroit the vote was 65,074 for and 23,691 against.

The vote in *Observer* communities was: Canton, 2,507 for, 1,974 against; Garden City, 665 for, 620 against; Livonia, 1,800 for, 1,612 against; Plymouth, 494 for, 270 against; Plymouth Township, 3,511 for, 1,756 against; Redford, 1,575 for, 1,132 against; and Westland, 2,386 for, 1,342 against.



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