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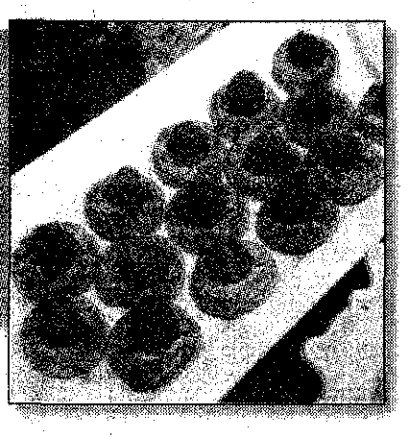

WESTLAND Observer

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Ready to serve

PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Sande Godbout watches as her husband, James, is sworn in to a new four-year term on the City Council by 18th District Judge C. Charles Bokos during the city's inaugural ceremony Monday.

Godbout caps inaugural night with council presidency

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Veteran city leader James Godbout clinched the Westland City Council's top post Monday night, ascending to the presidency in a sweeping vote by his council colleagues.

"I'm excited about it," he said about winning the spot that had eluded him in past attempts.

Godbout, replacing Councilman Charles Pickering as president, was tapped for the post as he started his eighth year on council. After presiding over his first meeting, Godbout said his top goals will be pushing for a cleanup plan for contaminated Central City Park, seeking a viable curbside recycling program and maintaining a healthy city budget.

Godbout's rise to the council presidency followed years of community service that included his involvement in the former Wayne-Westland YMCA, the Westland Condominium Directors Association, the Westland Community Foundation and the city's recycling

Please see **COUNCIL, A3**

Clerk's office employee Tina Stanke, soon to be the deputy clerk, pins a corsage onto City Clerk Eileen DeHart before DeHart took the oath of office. In the background is newly chosen Westland City Council President James Godbout.

Task force focuses on helping people stay in their homes

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Amid a foreclosure crisis that has cost hundreds of Westland residents their homes, Mayor William Wild announced Monday he will form a task force to help educate homeowners on the brink of losing their houses.

"We're going to see what exactly we can do at the local level to help these folks," he said, unveiling his plan during a Westland City Council meeting.

The six-member task force will be charged with devising ways to educate homeowners about resources that may be accessible to them as they try to avoid foreclosure.

"Early recognition of the problem is the key to prevention," Wild said. "It is imperative that our residents who are facing foreclosure have access to resources that may help prevent them from losing their homes."

Wild's decision to form a task force came after he attended a November foreclosure summit hosted by Detroit and organized by the U.S. Conference of Mayors. At that time, Westland already had reported 424 mortgage-related foreclosures for 2007.

Westland Assessor James Elrod will chair the city's task force. Other members will include Deputy Mayor Courtney Conover, Purchasing Director Jade Smith, Planning Commissioner Adam Hammons and two representatives who hadn't been named — one from the city council and one from the local chamber of commerce.

What do you think about this story?
Comment online at hometownlife.com or e-mail your responses to smason@hometownlife.com.

In another development, Wild said his administration will use a one-year home sales study, rather than the typical two-year formula, as the assessor's office prepares the 2008 assessments. The one-year analysis could provide some tax relief amid severely declining property values.

Councilman Charles Pickering earlier had voiced support for a one-year study, saying "a lot of our residents are suffering." He told Wild that he appreciated the effort.

"I'm looking forward to the results of it," Pickering said.

Administration officials cautioned that the one-year study can only focus on home sales and not on houses that are currently on the market.

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Man charged in beating of pregnant girlfriend

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

A pregnant Westland woman has lost her baby after she was beaten and kicked by her boyfriend inside her Woodland Villa apartment near Warren and Central City Parkway, police said.

The attack on the 19-year-old expectant mother led to criminal charges Wednesday against 24-year-old Daniel Reed Jarrett II of Wayne, who had been attending college out of state, police Sgt. Michael Harhold said.

Jarrett, described as the father, is accused of assaulting the woman after an argument escalated over whether she should have had an abortion, Harhold said.

According to statements made to police, Jarrett knocked the victim to the floor, beat her and kicked her shortly after 7 p.m. last Thursday. The woman called 9-1-1 for help and was taken to St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia, where she was later released.

A couple of other people were inside the apartment when the incident happened, authorities said.

Jarrett turned himself in to police Sunday and was charged Wednesday with assaulting a pregnant woman and intentionally causing a miscarriage. If convicted, he could face penalties ranging up to life in prison.

Jarrett was ordered jailed by Westland 18th District Judge C. Charles Bokos in lieu of a $50,000 cash bond. The defendant is scheduled for a Jan. 17 preliminary hearing that will determine whether he should stand trial in Wayne County Circuit Court.

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John Adams earns top firefighter honor

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Adams

Westland Fire Capt. John Adams consistently goes beyond the call of duty, whether he's raising money to help needy children at Christmas or teaching senior citizens how to best escape a burning building.

He has worked tirelessly to make Westland a better city since he was hired by the city in 1993.

"Capt. Adams has proven to be a great asset to the Westland Fire Department and has accomplished many tasks during his employment," Fire Chief Michael Reddy said. "Not only has he performed his job in an outstanding manner, but he has also found the time to belong to and participate in a number of organizations."

For his efforts, Adams has become the new Fire Officer of the Year, earning a prestigious award given annually to an employee who most contributes to the department's improvement.

Adams works in the fire prevention division and is a licensed fire inspector and investigator. He also is a member of a mayoral task force and has been involved in such events as Turn Off The Violence night.

He has helped with emergency management planning for St. Damian School and was involved in setting up an evacuation plan for Scottsdale Apartments, Reddy said.

Adams has worked with companies like Weyerhaeuser Inc. to ensure regula-

Please see **ADAMS, A2**

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Coming Sunday in Health

Find relief for your aching neck and back online

Treat for tenants: Rental costs cut at Holliday Park

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Residents of a housing co-op on Westland's north side will pay less monthly rent this year, as a governing board moves closer to paying off the development's 40-year mortgage in May.

Monthly rent will drop $31-$34 at Holliday Park Townhouses on Wayne Road south of Joy, a 694-unit complex where residents will now pay $231 to $338 a month to live, said Gene Suchy, the board's treasurer. The tab includes heat and maintenance.

"Our mortgage will be paid off in May, and this is allowing us to reduce our rent," he said.

Residents of the moderate-income, nonprofit co-op have to pay $22,000 to $45,000 for their moving-in membership, but they enjoy monthly rent that's far less expensive than costs paid by most renters or homeowners.

Holliday Park has a waiting list of 147 residents hoping to move in, Suchy said, but anyone who's interested may pick up an application from a mailbox outside the clubhouse's front door, just off Wayne Road.

The co-op has a clear set of guidelines for residents moving in.

A worker has to have an annual income of $21,840 or more to qualify for a smaller 589-square-foot, one-bedroom townhouse, or $35,360 for a larger 1,058-square-foot, three-bedroom unit, Suchy said.

Nonworkers, which range from retirees to the disabled receiving Social Security benefits, have to receive an annual income of $11,500 for the smaller townhouse and $23,500 for the larger unit.

Nonworkers also have to show assets of $58,000 for the smaller townhouse and $95,000 for the larger unit. Suchy said the assets may range from a house to stocks to insurance policies.

The co-op recently spent $1.4 million to replace vinyl siding on all units, but it still expects to have $2.5 million in cash reserves by the end of this year, Suchy said. All Holliday Park residents in 2009 are scheduled to receive new furnaces.

The community plans to have a party in May to celebrate paying off its 40-year mortgage.

"We're an older community, but it's well-kept," Suchy said. "We're very proud of our community. There's a lot to be proud of."

Residents take pride by volunteering to help with such services as a neighborhood watch program, he said.

To learn more, stop by the Holliday Park office and pick up a copy of a DVD about the community, or go online to www.hollidaypark.com.

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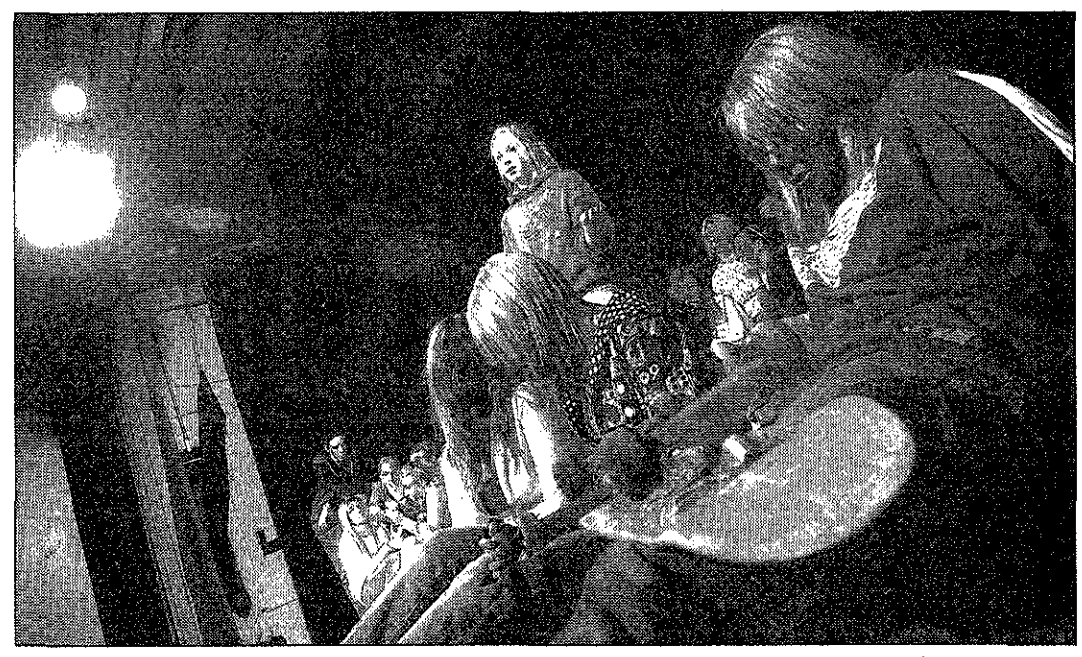

PHOTOS BY TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Emerson Middle School eighth-grader Sarah Brunner rehearses the opening scene with her classmates for an upcoming production of 'Outside Looking In,' a play the students wrote about teen issues.

Student-written play takes on middle school issues

BY REBECCA JONES
STAFF WRITER

Situations that play out in the lives of middle schoolers are the names of the scenes in "Outside Looking In," written by Emerson Middle School's performing arts students.

Stupid girl. Beautiful. Slumber party. Parents. Drugs. Rumors.

"Middle school really is hard," Sarah Brunner says in her opening monologue, punctuated musically by Linkin Park's "Somewhere I Belong."

It's not the classes, it's the unspoken rules, she states. On the first day of school, choose your lunch table wisely. You'll be there all year.

Instead of performing another playwright's work, as planned, "we decided to write a show that speaks to them," said teacher Amy Fisher, who describes the 14 or so scenes as "like Saturday Night Live vignettes, but not funny — and nothing gets resolved."

Thirty-two students had a hand in writing. For material, the eighth-graders just looked around.

"The things we do in here, I see all the time in the hallways," said Tawny Klesz, eighth-grader.

The quick-paced show runs about 45 minutes, leaving plenty of time for people to talk about these issues afterward.

Students will put on a public performance of "Outside Looking In" at 7 p.m. this evening (Jan. 10) at Emerson. Tickets are $2. Two in-school performances take place Friday.

"We kept it short in case we want to take it to other schools," Fisher said.

The soundtrack includes "Revolution" by the Beatles and Christina Aguilera's "Beautiful."

In one scene, 20 girls stand on the stage, as if facing themselves in the mirror, reflecting how they feel about themselves, from "fabulous" one moment to "beastly" in another.

"It was a very hard scene for them to do," Fisher said.

Student Taylor Moore said one minute she's putting on make-up with a friend. "A second later, they'll be saying they don't look good."

Another student, Mitchell Bacus, said issues include: "Drugs, peer pressure, doing what other people want you to do, grades, being on teams or clubs, being liked."

The play deals with issues of perception.

"People are growing up in different households, with different parents and different forms of being punished," said Alan Robinson, also an eighth-grader. When everyone gets together at school, "the mixture of emotions causes drama."

Parents in the audience might be surprised, students said.

These are things students tend not to talk to their parents about, said student Halle Gardner. "We don't want them to know... what we are dealing with."

"I've changed a lot since last year," said Dominique Giraud. As a student, she said, insecurity isn't the only problem. Students are suffering from forms of depression.

Fisher has taught high school and middle school since 1995.

"I do think it's harder to grow up now," Fisher said. There's more emphasis on beauty and the drug issue is more prevalent, she said.

Proceeds from ticket sales will go the Emerson's Save Our Stage campaign. Parents can bring five Box Tops for Education for $1 off admission.

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AROUND WESTLAND

King ceremony

The city's tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. is scheduled for 9:30 a.m. Monday, Jan. 21, at the Annapolis Park Church of Christ, on the corner of Annapolis and Henry Ruff on Westland's southeast side.

Euchre tourney

St. Mary Catholic Church, 3417 Third St. in Wayne, will have a euchre tournament Saturday, Jan. 19, with registration starting at 6:30 p.m. and games at 7 p.m. The cost is $20 a person and will benefit the John Bolde Memorial Food Depot at the church. There will be a payout for the top five prizes. Food and beverages will be available. Preregister by calling (734) 721-8745.

Skating benefit

Skateland West will hold a skating benefit Friday, Jan. 18, and Monday, Jan. 21. The Big Buck Skate will be 1:30-3:30 p.m. both days and benefit the Wayne-Westland Salvation Army.

Bring in a canned good and skate for just one buck ($1). Regular skate rental will be $1 and $5 for inline skates. The canned goods will be donated to the Salvation Army.

Skateland West is at 37550 Cherry Hill, west of Newburgh, Westland. For more information, call (734) 326-2801.

WYAA's 50th

The Westland Youth Athletic Association is planning events to mark its 50th anniversary in 2008, such as participation in the Westland Summer Festival parade, a super baseball opening day program and a dinner/reception in December.

WYAA wants to hear from former board of directors members, lifetime board members and former participants. Call Keith DeMolay at (734) 722-1251 or the WYAA Lange Compound Building at (734) 421-0640 during regular business hours — 7-9 p.m. Wednesdays or 10 a.m. to noon Saturdays.

Vegas night

St. Damian Parish will have a Vegas Night 6 p.m. to midnight Saturday, Jan. 12, featuring Texas Hold 'Em. Registration will be at 5:30 p.m. The parish is located at 29891 Joy Road.

Coffee Hours

State Rep. Richard LeBlanc, D-Westland, will hold his next local coffee hour from 9-10:30 a.m. Monday, Jan. 14, at the Westland Bailey Recreation Center, 36651 Ford.

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 can also contact LeBlanc at (888)-737-5325 or (517)-373-2576.

State Sen. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland, also will hold local coffee hours in Westland and Redford on Monday, Jan. 14.

He will be at the Bailey Recreation Center, 36651 Ford, Westland from 9-10 a.m., then move to Redford for a 10:30-11:30 a.m. coffee hour at the Redford Community Center, 12121 Hemingway.

Constituents who would like to address an issue with Anderson but are unable to attend may contact him by mail at P.O. Box 30036, Lansing, MI, 48933; by phone at (517) 373-1707; or by e-mail at SenatorAnderson@senate.michigan.gov.

Contest winner

Known for bestowing snow in the front yard of young artists, Westland's "We Promise You a White Christmas Poster Contest" has some competition from Mother Nature this year.

When this year's winner - Cooper Elementary fifth-grader Samantha Howard - was chosen, snow was already on the ground.

No problem. En lieu of the wintery deposit, Samantha and runner-ups Aubrianna Kolb, a Schweitzer Elementary first-grader, and Danielle Hoskins, a Hayes Elementary third-grader, each received a $25 gift certificate for Toys 'R Us as well as a Parks and Recreation gift package which included free entry passes to the Bailey Recreation Center pool, Mike Modano Ice Arena and Concrete Jungle Skate Park.

ADAMS

FROM PAGE A1

tory compliance safety training, has been involved in mock drills, and has provided fire safety talks to Greenwood Villa senior apartments and St. Theodore Church.

He also has overhauled emergency response procedures for the Walter P. Reuther Psychiatric Hospital and conducted fire drills, safety training and emergency procedure reviews for American House Senior Living Center.

He also has been involved in safety training at Westland Convalescent Center.

Adams has provided fire safety education at several local schools, and he wrote two grants this year for the fire department.

Reddy said Adams somehow has found time to work with Westland Jaycees to present a safety day training for youth and to help coordinate an American Red Cross blood drive that pitted firefighters in a friendly competition with local police officers.

On a personal level, Adams has installed handicapped "grab bars" for seniors, residential lock boxes, hearing-impaired smoke detectors for the disabled, and organized donations for a handicap ramp for a senior couple, Reddy said.

Adams has provided educational information on city cable station WLND and spearheaded a "Shop with a Hero" program in which needy youngsters shop with public safety officers at Christmastime at the local Meijer store.

He has read books at the Stottlemyer Elementary Head Start program; participated in the Westland Chamber of Commerce's shadowing program; helped out with the city's "Haunted Forest" Halloween walks; and led career-day talks at Adams Middle School, Reddy said.

Somehow, Adams also has found time to belong to organizations like the Westland Goodfellows, becoming the top newspaper salesman two years in a row to raise money for needy children at Christmas. He also is involved in the Michigan Chapter of the International Association of Arson Investigators and has served as secretary/treasurer for the Metro Detroit Fire Inspectors Society.

Adams has attended Concordia College full time, receiving a Distinguished Scholar Award and being named to the Dean's List every semester he has attended.

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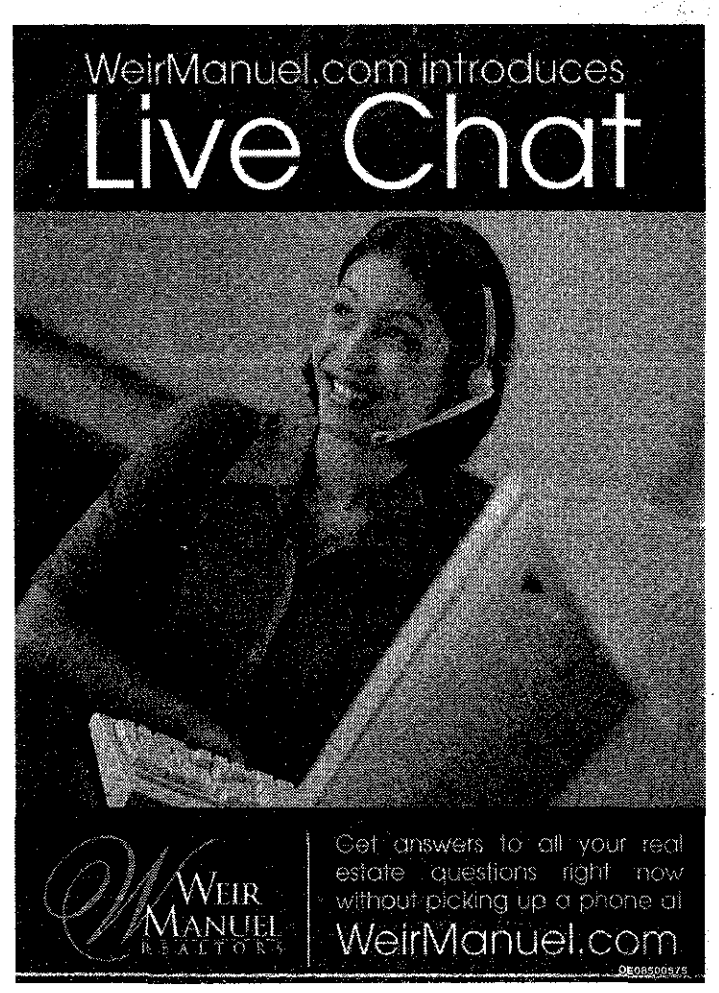

'Great ambassadors'

Local soldiers prepare for Iraq mission

BY STACY JENKINS
STAFF WRITER

Vicky MacDonald knows homemade cookies have a way of bringing comfort.

The Farmington Hills mother did what she always does for her son, William MacDonald, 25, and his fellow soldiers in the Michigan Army National Guard Company A 1st Battalion, 125th Infantry Regiment — she baked chocolate chip and M&M cookies.

This time, they have to last a little longer, though.

Sgt. MacDonald was more than 100 soldiers in the Detroit-based unit and more than 500 statewide to be deployed Tuesday morning to Fort Hood, Texas, where they'll train for three months before going to Iraq on a convoy security mission.

"I'm nervous, scared, excited, anxious," said MacDonald, a Class of 2000 North Farmington High School graduate and second oldest of seven children in his family. "But, I'm comfortable with the training we've received and we're fully prepared for deployment."

Family and friends of the soldiers gathered Monday night at the Detroit Light Guard Armory for a departure ceremony, which was one of four held throughout the state.

"Your moms, your dads, your spouses, your children... all of us are honored to be with you and honored that you put on the uniform, to serve," said U.S. Sen. Carl Levin, who is Senate Armed Services Committee chairman.

Levin, a vocal advocate for troop withdrawal from Iraq, said he and other members of Congress stand behind the troops.

"We are united in our support of our troops. All of us stand behind you. I want you to know that," he said. "We will continue to give you everything you need. Godspeed to you and your families."

Pfc. Allen Bryant, 22, of Livonia, was surrounded by his nieces, Angel May, 8, and Brittany Thomas, 10, of Redford and his cousin, Shannon Kenney, 10, of Redford, along with his siblings and other relatives.

"It's really sad and we'll miss him. We hope he doesn't get hurt and that he comes home earlier than a year," said Thomas. "It will be weird without him."

His sister, Stacy Bryant, 28, of Redford, doesn't want her brother to go to Iraq.

"I don't think they should be going," she said, adding that she is opposed to the war. "There are a lot of young, innocent men going over there and getting hurt."

Bryant, a newlywed, will miss the February birth of his first child, but that's motivation to complete his mission.

"It's an honor to do what I'm doing," he said. "The reason I'm doing it is to keep my wife safe and keep my daughter safe. Just knowing I'll have them to come home to, brings hope and happiness to keep me strong while I'm over there."

Alisha Shumake of Garden City was among the friends and family of Pfc. Jeffrey Gendron, 23, of Garden City to say goodbye Monday night.

"I think noble is the best word to describe them," said Shumake.

Maj. Gen. Thomas Cutler praised the soldiers for their courage and commitment.

"You will be great ambassadors for the United States of America," he said. "I am tremendously proud of you. You will be in my prayers the entire time you're gone."

Bill MacDonald, William MacDonald's father, said he now knows how his father felt when he went to war nearly 40 years ago.

"I'm experiencing what my father experienced when I went to Vietnam," he said.

He's resisting offering advice to his son.

"He'll have to make his own way," he said. "He has to rely on his training, not what I tell him."

Other local Michigan National Guard soldiers deployed Tuesday include: Sgt. Jeremy Rudd of Novi; Pvt. David Driver of Garden City; Pvt2. Thomas Rea, Pvt2. David Grattan and Pfc. Donald Grenier of Livonia; Pvt2. Christopher Boertje, Pvt2. Wesley Cain, Spc. Roy Dixon, Pvt2. Jeffrey Moore, Pvt2. James Peterson, Pvt2. Travis Canyock and Pvt2. Christopher Hylton of Westland.

They're expected to return home in one year.

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PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Posing for family photos are Cindy Driver, Spec. Roy Dixon of Westland, David Driver and David Driver Sr. The Drivers are Garden City residents.

Madison Bryant, 18 months, sits on her uncle's shoulders. Pfc. Allen Bryant, who left Tuesday for training in Texas before deploying to Iraq.

Wild ousts Carroll as housing director

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Mayor William Wild will replace his housing and community development director as he continues to reshape his new administration.

Wild announced Monday that Housing Director Terry Carroll's last day was Friday, and two other employees will perform Carroll's duties until his successor is named as early as next week. Wild confirmed that he was negotiating with a new director.

Carroll had served in the post for a year and oversaw numerous government programs, including housing assistance and federal Community Development Block Grant projects. Wild didn't cite a reason for Carroll's departure.

Before he became the city's housing director, Carroll had previously worked as an executive assistant to then-Mayor Sandra Cicirelli.

Carroll became the fourth director that Wild has ousted since he was elected as mayor last November. The mayor earlier fired Economic Development Director William Caya, Controller/Purchasing Agent Dwayne Harrigan and computer-systems Director Charles Nalbandian.

Wild replaced Caya with former Westland Chamber of Commerce President Lori Fodale and Harrigan with banker Jade Smith. Wild decided to leave Nalbandian's post vacant for now and have an outside company perform the duties.

The city's senior citizen resources director, Peggy Ellenwood, also left her job, but her departure was described as a retirement. She has been replaced on an interim basis by the deputy director, Barb Marcum.

Some of Marcum's supporters have urged the mayor to make her the full-time director.

COUNCIL

FROM PAGE A1

committee, among numerous other organizations. He is employed as an account manager for Rockwell Automation.

In another decision at City Hall, the council gave a vote of confidence to Councilwoman Cheryl Graunstadt by retaining her as the second-ranking president pro tem.

The naming of officers came on the same night of an inaugural ceremony, next door at the Bailey Recreation Center, for city leaders who won their campaign bids in last November's city elections.

Godbout took his oath of office and was sworn in by Westland 18th District Judge C. Charles Bokos, as were Councilman Dewey Reeves and Mayor William Wild. Councilmen Michael Kehrer and Bill Johnson were sworn in by City Clerk Eileen DeHart, whose oath of office was given by Deputy Clerk Nancy Bonaparte.

Family members, friends and political supporters joined the six elected officials for their night in the spotlight.

"We take these jobs very seriously," Wild told the crowd. "We already work hard, and we're going to continue to work hard. We're going to continue to do positive things for the city of Westland."

TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Westland City Councilman Michael Kehrer gets a kiss from his mother, Marion Kehrer, after taking his oath of office.

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At the conclusion of this spectacular event, Douglas and Sydell Schubot will pass the operation of Schubot Jewellers to their son Brian, who will continue to build on the 90-year tradition at Jules R. Schubot.

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Boar's Head Tavern HAM $4.99 lb.
Boar's Head Black Forest TURKEY $4.99 lb.
Boar's Head Deluxe Roast BEEF $5.99 lb.
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Dearborn Maple HAM $3.99 lb.
Boar's Head Muenster CHEESE $3.99 lb.
Domestic SWISS $2.99 lb.
From Our Cheese Room
Wisconsin Red Wax CHEDDAR $4.99 lb.

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Youngsters in Anne McKolay's kindergarten class check to duck eggs they hatched as part of a science unit.

Kindergartners enjoy 'quackers'

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER

Mary may have had a lamb follow her around, but it was ducklings that followed around students in Anne McKolay's kindergarten class at Schweitzer Elementary School.

Named Rocketship and Brownie — the students picked the names — the ducks are on their way to lounging around the Domino Farms petting farm after being raised from eggs in the classroom by McKolay.

"I got the idea from our science unit, Two by Two, at the end of it, it suggest you can hatch eggs," said McKolay. "We did quails before and that was OK, but pheasants were crazy."

McKolay ordered the eggs through a neighbor who works for a veterinarian. She kept them in an incubator until they hatched in October. Since then they have lived in a pen in the classroom during school day and with McKolay at her home.

"The kids really love them and the ducks are very fond of humans," said McKolay.

They're also fond of corn, lettuce, strawberries and grapes and swimming, if their feet can touch bottom, said McKolay who has a small pool at home for them to swim in, Surprisingly, they don't swim for long periods of time. Their outings are usually five minutes long, she added.

The ducks have a diaper that fits over their tails that they wear when walking around the classroom and in the school with the students. They also go on walks outside the school and even join the students for recess. By last month, they were able to fly about two feet.

Rocketship and Brownie are fixtures on the playground during the kindergartners' recess.

"The kids love the duck walks," said McKolay. "We love our ducks."

As for their behavior in the classroom ... According to McKolay, they respond to her voice.

"When it's quiet and they hear me reading a story, they start quacking," she said. "They don't really swim, they don't really fly, but they do go to kindergarten."

smason@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2112

Candidates, supporters hold events, give talks

With the New Hampshire primary behind them, presidential candidates are turning their attention Michigan where voters will go to the polls Tuesday, Jan. 15.

In advance of the primary, several Republican candidates and their supporters will be holding events or speaking to crowds in western Wayne County this weekend.

Huck's Army holds event

Supporters of Republican presidential candidate Mike Huckabee are hosting an event highlighting his family friendly values at 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 13, at Vision Lanes, 38250 Ford Road, Westland.

Sponsored by Huck's Rangers, the event isn't a fundraiser, it's to promote Huckabee and his family values. There will be free children's games, arts, crafts, face painting and storytelling, including Huckabee's favorite children's story. Entertainment will be by The Detroit Flames Band, featuring Dee Brown and saxophone player Desi McCullers. Discounted bowling - $7 per person for two games, including shoe rental - also will be available.

Speakers include former Democratic state Rep. LaMar Lemmons who will discuss why Democrats are voting for Mike Huckabee; former Republican state Sen. Mike Goschka who will discuss why people should vote for Huckabee; Jeffrey Quesnelle, head of Michigan's Huck's Army; Ron Babin, deputy director of the Michigan Fair Tax Association, and the Rev. Ron Clark of Forest Avenue Baptist Church of Ypsilanti.

Admission is free.

Kucinich to speak

Democratic presidential candidate Rep. Dennis Kucinich will discuss his bill to create a U.S. Department of Peace and Nonviolence at a conference of the Citizens for Peace starting at 7 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 12, at Unity of Livonia, on Five Mile between Middlebelt and Inkster roads.

According to the Citizens for Peace, a grassroots organization dedicated to finding non-violent solutions for problems both domestic and international, more than 60 members of Congress are currently listed as co-sponsors of the bill including Michigan Reps. John Conyers, Carolyn Kilpatrick and Dale Kildee.

For more information about the visit and Citizens for Peace, contact Colleen Mills at (734) 425-0079.

Romney, McCain hit town

Americans for Prosperity, a group dedicated to constraining government growth, will host GOP presidential candidates Gov. Mitt Romney and Sen. John McCain from noon to 5 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 12, at Laurel Manor, 39000 Schoolcraft, Livonia.

The event also will play host to Congressmen Thaddeus McCotter and Mike Rogers, Attorney General Mike Cox, state Rep. Jack Hoogendyk and journalists Stephen Moore of the *Wall Street Journal* and John Stossel of ABC's *20/20*.

Tickets are $29 per person, $15 for students or $59 for a family of four. To register ahead of time, go online to www.americansforprosperity.org and click on the Michigan link. Registration starts at 10 a.m. the day of the conference.

Benefit moved to larger site to handle expected turnout

Friends and those wishing to help a tragedy-touched family have overwhelmed organizers so a fund-raising dinner to help that family has been moved to a larger location.

Ten-year-old Jordan Griffin is dead and her sister, eight-year-old Sidney, is in critical condition following the Dec. 30 traffic crash that took the lives of four other members of their family on an Ohio interstate. The two attended Clarenceville Schools' Grandview Elementary, where their mother, Jodie, is a paraprofessional.

A 24-year-old Adrian man is facing multiple felonies including aggravated homicide in connection with the crash; police say his blood-alcohol level was three times the legal limit at the time.

Because of great public response, a spaghetti and pizza dinner fund-raiser to help the Griffin family after its loss will still be held at 6 p.m. Friday, Jan. 18, but has been moved to Ward Evangelical Church, 40000 Six Mile Road, Northville.

Bob Evans, Munchies Pizza, Westborn Market, Jet's Pizza, Gordon Food Service and The Deli — all of Livonia — are supporting the event.

Tickets are $12. They're available at the school after Jan. 7 or by calling Charlotte Tripp at (248) 471-2075.

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1:45 to 2:00 p.m. - Coach's Corner

Boys & Girls Grades 4-6
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2:30 to 3:45 p.m. - Basketball Clinic
3:45 to 4:00 p.m. - Coach's Corner

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248-374-5932
margy.burkhart@wardchurch.org

HTD1391923

Time to collect forms for your income tax return

Money Matters

Rick Bloom

There are some important things we all need to do this time of year. The first deals with tax reporting information.

Over the next few weeks most of us will receive a variety of tax forms for 2007 including 1099s, (k)1s and W2s.

Don't throw away these forms. Instead, keep them in a tax file for use in filing your 2007 tax return. One sure way of being audited by the IRS is to not report a 1099 on your tax return.

However, it is not enough to put your 1099 and W2s in your tax file. Review them for accuracy. You should not assume they are correct. Companies make mistakes.

The W2 from an employer will state earnings for the calendar year 2007 along with what was withheld for you in state, federal and Social Security taxes. When you receive this document pull out your last payroll check and use it as a guide. The last payroll check usually has a summary of yearly earnings and what was withheld. These numbers should match your W2.

If there is a problem such as overstated income or understated withholding, you need to contact your employer. If the employer was wrong, have them issue an amended W2. A copy of your W2 is sent to the Internal Revenue Service and if an amended one is not issued, it can cause problems.

In some rare situations, people do not receive the proper documentation from an employer. If you do not receive a W2 by the end of January, you'll need to contact the employer.

If the employer is either out of business or for some reason you cannot contact them or locate them, you need to contact and notify the IRS. In addition, there is a form from the IRS you can complete to attach to your tax return. Remember, even though you do not receive a W2, that does not mean you are not responsible to report the income on your tax return. In addition, you want to get proper credit for state, federal and Social Security paid.

Other important documents to keep are year-end statements from charities. In the past, cancelled checks were sufficient to prove contributions to charities. That is no longer the case. If you are audited, you are required to show backup documentation from the charity itself.

One question I am consistently asked is how to avoid an IRS audit. Although it is impossible to totally avoid an audit it is possible to reduce the likelihood. One way is to keep good records and report all income. My definition of an effective record-keeping system is one that works for you. As we start 2008, don't forget to spend a few minutes establishing a tax record-keeping system so when it comes time to preparing your 2007 tax return, it will be easy and most importantly, accurate.

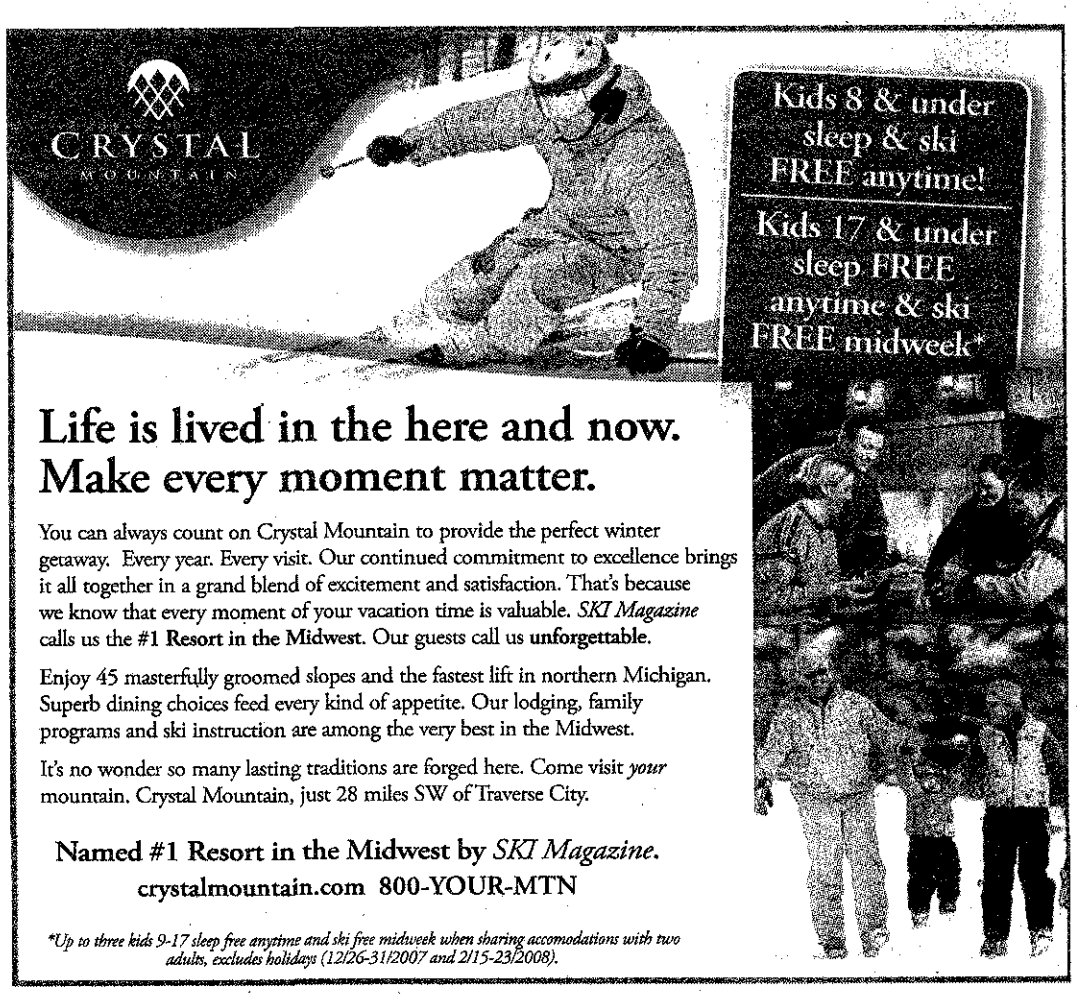
Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. Observer & Eccentric readers can submit questions at moneymatters@hometownlife.com. For more information, visit Rick's Web site at www.bloomassetmanagement.com. You can hear Rick from noon to 3 p.m. Sundays on WDTK-AM (1400).

CONDUCTOR PERFORMS MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY CONCERT

Madonna University's Office of Multicultural Affairs is sponsoring a Martin Luther King Day concert featuring violinist John McLaughlin Williams, performing music by composers Grant Still and Samuel Coleridge-Taylor of the African Diaspora 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 15, in Kresge Hall on the campus on the northwest corner of Schoolcraft and Levan in Livonia.

There is no admission charge.

Williams is the first black conductor to receive a Grammy award (2007). Linette Popoff-Parks, the chairwoman of the university's music department, will accompany him on piano. Williams is also a composer. He is a graduate of The Cleveland Institute of Music.



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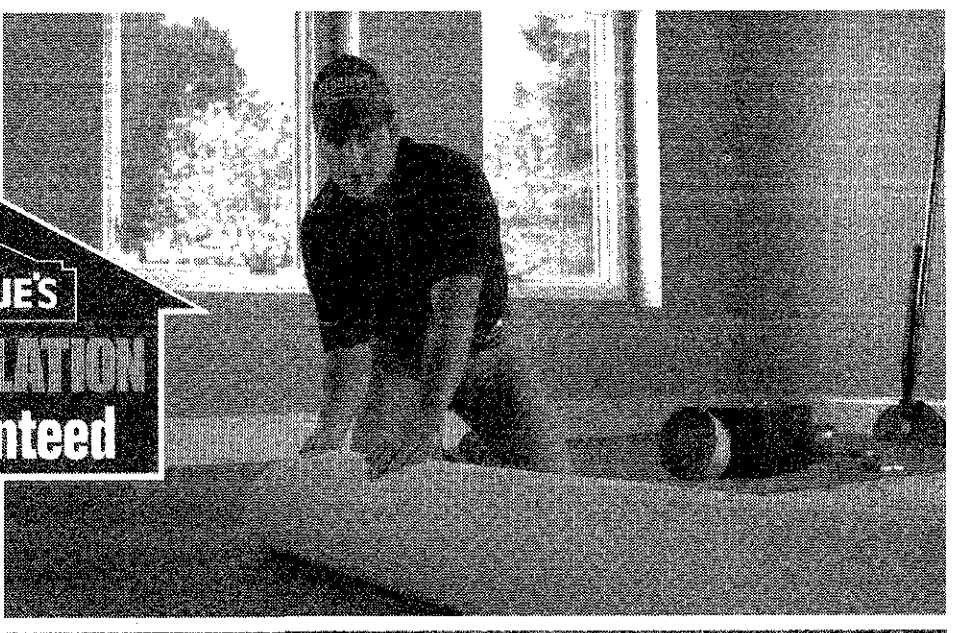

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RELIGION CALENDAR

If you want to submit an item for the religion calendar, fax it to (734) 591-7279 or write: Religion Calendar, Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150. Deadline for an announcement to appear in the Thursday edition is noon Monday.

JANUARY

ENDOW

St. Michael the Archangel Parish of Livonia will host two different sessions of the Archdiocese of Detroit's ENDOW program, a continuing women's study group focused on the dignity of women of all ages and faiths. Based on Pope John Paul II's Letter to Women, the group meets 9:30 a.m. Thursdays beginning Jan. 10. The second session, being offered in the area only at St. Michael's, is called Different Times, Abiding Dignity and deals with a woman's inherent dignity at all stages of her life from 0 to 100. The group meets 9:30 a.m. Tuesdays beginning Jan. 8. Both groups meet in the convent basement meeting room. Women of all ages and faiths welcome. There is a $60 charge for materials, but no woman will be turned away because of inability to pay. Register by calling (734) 261-1455, Ext. 207 or online at www.endowonline.com. St. Michael's complex is at 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth Rd., Livonia.

Single Place Ministry

Divorce recovery workshop with various speakers 7:30-9 p.m. Thursdays, Jan. 10 to Feb. 21, at First Presbyterian Church, Emeritus Room, 200 E. Main, Northville. Topics include networking/midlife crisis, stage of grief, putting your "ex" in focus, legal aspects of divorce (includes pot luck dinner), spiritual help and forgiveness, helping children through divorce, and relationships old and new. Cost is $35 and includes book, Growing through Divorce. Scholarships available). Childcare available for toddlers through grade six. To register for workshop, call (248) 349-0911. Register for child care at least two weeks before the workshop begins.

People of Life service

7 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 13, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. at St. Aidan Parish, 17500 Farmington Rd. Livonia. For information, call (734) 425-5950. Features the return of the People of Life display to remember the 35th anniversary of the Roe vs. Wade Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion. To see the exhibit that will be on display, visit www.usccb.org/prolife/exhibit.htm. Special guest speakers will also be included.

Living Water series

Mark McGilvrey leads a 10-week video series called H20 starting 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 13, at Memorial Church of Christ, 35475 Five Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 464-6722. The group is open to men and women who would like to review the basic teachings of Jesus who claimed to be living water. It is also intended for those who have never made a commitment to Jesus.

Tai Chi class

Orchard United Methodist Church (30450 Farmington Rd., Farmington Hills) is hosting a Tai Chi Class by Sam Purdy, Wu Style Tai Chi. This meditative form of Martial Arts is great for reducing stress and is great for over-all health memory and balance. Everyone is welcome from beginning to experienced participants at any time. Classes begin 7-8:30 p.m. Jan. 14, and continue every Monday thereafter. Cost per class depends on number of participants. For information or to reserve your space, call (248) 701-1587 or (248) 626-3620. Visit www.orchardumc.org for updates.

The Recovery Principles

Continues 7 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 16 and 23, in the sanctuary at Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile, between Inkster and Middlebelt roads. Call (734) 421-1760. The class focuses on honesty, open-mindedness and willingness.

ENDOW

Educating on the Nature and Dignity of Women sessions 7-9 p.m. Thursdays, Jan. 17, to March 6, (explores Pope John Paul II's Mulieris Dignitatem-On the Dignity and Vocation of Women), in Bixmal Hall church building at St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington Rd., Livonia. Second session begins 7-9 p.m. Mondays, Jan. 14, to March 3, (explores Pope John Paul II's Letter to Women), in conference room in parish office. Registration required for both sessions. $60 for materials for each session. Contact Michele Schmidt at (734) 367-0353 or send e-mail to mtschmidt@sbcglobal.net.

Spaghetti fund-raiser

6:30-10 p.m. Friday, Jan. 18, at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 Six Mile, Livonia. Tickets $10 adults, $8 seniors and children. Please bring a canned good for their pantry. Come enjoy a spaghetti dinner and help support the Music Scholarship Program that the Livonia Civic Chorus sponsors every year for local students. Raffle baskets and 50/50 raffles. Be part of the fun and entertainment for the evening with a Karaoke twist. For tickets, call Kelly at (734) 377-1745.

Women's retreat

Saturday-Sunday, Jan. 19-20, at St. John's Retreat Center of Plymouth. Cost is $85, includes Saturday lunch, dinner, snacks and Sunday breakfast. Rooms are single occupancy. For more information, call Kathy Weinberg at (734) 464-0211, Ext. 202.

MAMA's coffeehouse

The Milroys and Annie and Rod Capps perform Saturday, Jan. 19, at Birmingham Unitarian Church, 38651 N. Woodward near northwest corner of Lone Pine Rd., Bloomfield Hills. Open mic at 7:15 p.m., show at 8 p.m. Admission $12, $10 seniors and age 16 and under. For information, call (248) 569-0965. To reserve an open mic time, call (248) 626-4650.

Russian music concert

Wesley Fishwick, pianist and David Levine, cellist, present a concert of Russian music 4 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 20, at St. John Lutheran Church, 23225 Gill, west of Farmington Rd., south of Grand River, Farmington Hills. Fishwick is the organist at St. John and has taught at Antioch College, Ohio, Macomb College and in the Chippewa Valley School District. Levine has been a member of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra and the Cleveland Orchestra. This concert is part of the church's 50th Anniversary Celebration series. No charge but a free will offering will be received. For more information, call (248) 474-0584.

Swiss steak dinner

Newburg Church Missions Committee is sponsoring a home cooked Swiss steak dinner with all the fixin's 4:30-7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 25. Proceeds will go to housing the homeless. Tickets are $8 for adults, $4 children. Mac-n-cheese will be available for kids. Carryout will be available or stay for dinner and afterwards play board games or cards. Donations accepted. Tickets will be available January 6-20 in the office at 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia. Call 734-422-0149.

Thursday fellowship dinner

All are welcome, 6 p.m. dinners catered by The Cookie Lady, Susan Navarro, at St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford. Cost is $6. Call (313) 534-7730.

Court of St. Brigid

Scholarship Program sponsored by the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, Rose Kennedy Division, will be held Saturday, Feb. 16, at the AOH Hall, 24242 Grand River, Detroit. Educational scholarships will be awarded to the winner and her court. Eligible for the program are girls, ages 17-22, who are Irish and Catholic. For application and more information, call Maureen Kelly at (734) 632-0334 or visit www.detroitirish.org. Deadline for application is Friday, Feb. 9.

Single Place Ministry

Meets Thursdays 7:30-7:45 p.m. for social time, 7:45-8 p.m. opening, 8-9 p.m. program, at First Presbyterian Church, 200 East Main Street, Northville. Call (248) 349-0911 or visit www.singleplace.org. Cost is $5 per person.

Couple prayer series

St. Colette Church, 17600 Newburgh, Livonia, is offering a life-changing Couple Prayer Series (www.coupleprayer.org) for married or engaged couple, began 7-9 p.m. Friday, Jan. 4, in the Activity Center Hall. Couples who pray together daily have a divorce rate of less than 1 divorce in every 1000 marriages. For registration information, call Mary Ellen at (734) 464-4435.

Reformed Protestant services

Weekly Sunday services began Jan. 6. The doctrines and teachings of Reformed Protestantism will be preached every Sunday at 3:30 p.m. worship services of the Free Church of Scotland (Continuing). A new preaching station has been established and the services will be held at Cherry Hills School, 50440 Cherry Hill, corner of Ridge Rd., Canton. The Rev. Sean Humby will preach each Sunday. For more information, call Margaret Waldecker at (313) 530-6170, visit www.westminsterconfession.org, or e-mail Humby at sean.humby@fuse.net.

Special services

Sundays in January the focus is on how life would be different if you only had 30 days to live, 10:30 a.m. at Friendship Church which meets at Michigan Theological Seminary, 41550 Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth. For information, call (734) 710-9370 or visit www.Canton Friendship.org.

Day of service

Beginning in January, a Day of Service and Spirituality will be made available by the Capuchin Soup Kitchen and the Solanus Casey Center. The purpose of the day is to serve, to meet, and to have one's faith grow. The day allows groups to help at the Capuchin Services Center and dine with guests at the Capuchin Soup Kitchen. A tour of the Earth Works urban garden, which provides six tons of produce each season, will also be made available. The day concludes with a self-guided tour of the Solanus Casey Center, a spirituality center dedicated to the Capuchin friar who is credited with miraculous cures and valued for his wise and compassionate counsel. The minimum age is 7th grade and the maximum size of the group is 30. The day starts at 8:30 a.m. and ends at 2:30 p.m. There is no cost. Lunch included. For more information, send e-mail to ccrane@thecapuchins.org. To learn more about the Capuchin Soup Kitchen, visit www.cskdetroit.org.

Thrift store

Open Wednesdays 9:30-11:30 a.m. and Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford. Call (313) 534-7730.

UPCOMING

Christian comedian

Ed Thompson (www.edthompsonlive.com), 3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 10, at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington Rd., north of I-96 (Schoolcraft service drive), Livonia. Call (734) 522-6830.

Lenten symposium

Saturday, Feb. 23, at St. Cyril and Methodius Catholic Church, 41233 Ryan, Sterling Heights. Featured speaker is the Rev. Monsignor Charles Mangan of the Vatican's Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life. Cost is $40 advance ($45 at door), $20 students, free for seminarians. All speakers also attend the youth symposium (cost $15 for ages 12-17). Registration begins at 7 a.m., followed by Mass at 8 a.m. For more information, visit www.holytrinityapostolate.com, send e-mail to barbaramm@sbcglobal.net or call Shirley at (313) 277-8905, Jerene (248) 625-2461 or Bonnie (586) 781-8523. Registration form must be received by Feb. 20.

Men's retreat

Feb. 29 to March 2, at St. Paul of the Cross Retreat Center, Outer Drive and I-96. Single rooms, own bath, all meals. Cost is approximately $125. Call Ruben at (734) 261-5321 for appointment.

ONGOING

New schedule

9 a.m. Sunday school for all ages and Faith Forum, 10 a.m. Worship Service with Communion and nursery, at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA), 30650 Six Mile, Livonia. All visitors welcome. For more information, call (734) 427-1414 or visit www.holycrosslivonia.org.

Worship Service

10:30 a.m. Sunday, Adult Bible Class at 9:30 a.m., Children's Sunday School during worship at 10:30 a.m., at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 27035 Ann Arbor Trail, Dearborn Heights. For more information, call (313) 278-5755.

Worship

Sundays: 10 a.m. Worship Service with nursery, 9 a.m. Sunday School for tots through high school and Adult Faith Forum at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA), 30650 Six Mile Road, Livonia. Call (734) 427-1414 or visit www.holycrosslivonia.org. Visitors welcome.

Sunday worship

The early service for the Anglican Church of Livonia is at 7:45 a.m. at Trinity Church, 34500 Six Mile, west of Farmington Road and next to Stevenson High School, Livonia. The 10 a.m. service (with Sunday School) will continue to be at the Livonia YMCA at 14255 Stark Road, between Lyndon and the I-96 service drive.

Worship service

10:45 a.m. Sundays, Adult Sunday School at 9:30 a.m., Children's Sunday School during worship, Youth Group 5-7 p.m. and Catechism for Grown-ups 5:30-6:30 p.m., at Trinity Church of Livonia, 34500 Six Mile. For information, call (734) 425-2800.

Upper Room Ministries

Meets 6 p.m. Sundays, in Room 111 in Our Lady of Loretto School on Beech Daly and Six Mile in Redford. Upper Room Ministries is a spirit filled, charismatic ministry sponsored by Living Water Church in Livonia. All faiths welcome to attend. For information, call Pastor Luke Willis at (734) 425-6360, or Bishop Dan Strength at (734) 812-1099.

F.I.R.E. ministries

With theme scripture, He shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire (Luke 3:16), is organizing in Livonia at Living Water Church, 11663 Arcola in the Inkster and Plymouth roads area at 7 p.m. Fridays under the leadership of Luke Willis. F.I.R.E. Ministries. For more information, call (734) 425-6360.

New worship schedule

Regular church service 10 a.m. Sundays with Communion and Nursery, 9 a.m. Sunday School for all ages and Faith Forum, at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA), 30650 Six Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 427-1414. All visitors welcome. Visit www.holycrosslivonia.org.

Sunday worship

11 a.m. Sunday worship service, 9:30 a.m. Sunday school, 7 p.m. Wednesday Bible Study, at Good Shepherd Reformed Church, 6500 N. Wayne Rd. at Hunter, Westland. For information, call (734) 721-0800.

Worship services

10 a.m. Sundays Divine Liturgy followed by a fellowship/coffee time, at Holy Transfiguration Orthodox Church, 36075 W. Seven Mile, between Newburgh and Wayne roads, Livonia. Church school for children and adults begins at 9 a.m. Sunday. Vespers are celebrated 5 p.m. Saturdays. Visitors are always welcome. For more information, call (248) 476-3432 (church), (248) 477-4712 (rectory) or Web site at www.orthodoxlivonia.org.

Singers wanted

Riverside Park Church of God is looking for voices to join their choir. For more information, call (734) 464-0990.

Pancake breakfasts

The Ushers' Club of St. Michael the Archangel Parish in Livonia continue their 30-year tradition of all-you-can-eat pancake breakfasts on the third Sunday of each month from 8:30 a.m. to noon. The breakfasts are served in the school cafeteria at 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth Road. Adults, $5; children ages 4-11, $3; children under age 3, free; and family (2 adults and all children), $15. Everyone is welcome.

Men's breakfast

Ham & eggs, hash browns, pancakes, and more when you come to the Men's Breakfast at 8 a.m. on the first Saturday of every month at The Senate Restaurant, located off Haggerty Road between Five Mile and Six Mile in Northville. All men are invited for fellowship and food. Sponsored by Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh, Livonia. Call (734) 464-0990.

MOPS meetings

The Hosanna-Tabor Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) group began meeting this fall at a new time at the Lutheran church, 9600 Leverne, Redford. Meetings continue the first and third Thursdays of the month at 9:30 a.m. Join in for teaching, discussion, creative projects and presentations. For more information, call (248) 470-5202 or send e-mail to nikki.tiernan@gmail.com.

Bible studies

Regular Bible Study program continues at 7 p.m. on the first and third Thursdays of the month, focus is on St. Paul's Letters to the Romans, at St. Michael's Catholic Church on the corner of Plymouth and Hubbard roads, Livonia. To register, call (734) 261-1445, Ext. 200.

MOPS groups

Mothers of Preschoolers meets on the first and third Friday mornings or first and third Wednesday evenings at Calvary Baptist Church, 43065 Joy Road, Canton. For information, call (734) 455-0022, Ext. 4, or send e-mail to cbcwomensministries@hotmail.com.

LOGOS Youth Club

Calling all youth grades 4-12 to join the LOGOS Youth Club at Northville First United Methodist Church. Recreation, dinner, Bible study and music Wednesdays, 5:15-8:15 p.m. began Wednesday, Sept. 26. For information or registration, visit www.fumcnorthville.org or call (248) 349-1144.

HeartCry

The support group provides hope and help for mothers of prodigals at 7 p.m. on the second, fourth and fifth Wednesdays of each month, at Calvary Baptist Church, 43065 Joy Road, Canton. The group is using the book, The Hope of a Homecoming, by O'Rourke and Sauer ($12). For information or to register, call (734) 455-0022, Ext. 4.

Women of the word

Bible study meets 9:15 a.m. and 6:45 p.m. Tuesdays, at Calvary Baptist Church, 43065 Joy Road, Canton.

Please see RELIGION, A7

Passages

Obituaries, Memorials, Remembrances

1-800-579-7355 ❖ fax: 734-953-2232

e-mail: oeobits@hometownlife.com

ELIZABETH (Betty) ANGELO

Of Birmingham, MI passed away Tuesday, January 8, 2008 at Clark Retirement Community in Grand Rapids, her home for the past five years. She was born on July 17, 1923 in Lansing to Albert Jr. and Isabel Stoll. She was married to Frank Angelo on February 25, 1950. Frank was the longtime managing editor at the Detroit Free Press. He preceded her in death in November 2000. Surviving are her two sons: Frank (Suzanne) and grandchildren Alyson and Nicolas, all of Portland, OR; Andy (Mary) and grandchildren Michael and Sarah, all of Grand Rapids; great-grandchildren Kyle and Tyler of Milford, and Lily and David, all of Grand Rapids. Sister Abbie (Steve) Leonhard of Birmingham, MI. She was also preceded in death by her sister Martha Murphy. Betty graduated from Birmingham Public Schools and attended Hillsdale College. She was a news reporter for the Royal Oak Tribune and the Detroit News. Betty took a break from her newspaper career to raise her two sons. She and Frank often told friends that their proudest accomplishment was raising two young boys into strong men. She later went back to newspapers writing with her "Forget-Me-Nots" weekly column for the Birmingham Observer and Eccentric. She was past president of the Junior Group of Goodwill Industries in Detroit, a member of First Presbyterian Church in Birmingham and co-authored with her husband, the history of the Community House of Birmingham. A Memorial Service will be held in late March at First Presbyterian Church of Birmingham. Memorials are suggested to the Clark Foundation for Benevolent Care, 1551 Franklin SE, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49506.

ARSULOWICZ BROTHERS, EAST MORTUARY
(616) 458-1297
www.arsulowiczbrothers.com

GARY MAKOWER

Age 83, of Westland, January 8, 2008. Beloved father of Felicia (Dan) Peck, Kurt (Debbi), Mark (Diane), and Kim. Survived by many nieces, nephews and cousins in Germany and other parts of Europe. Private cremation services arranged by Vermeulen Funeral Home-Plymouth. Memorial contributions may be made to St. John Hospice, 37650 Garfield Rd, Clinton Twp MI 48036; or the Michigan Humane Society, 26711 Northwestern Hwy, Ste. 175, Southfield, MI 48033. To share memories and view obituary, please visit:
vermeulenfuneralhome.com.

ROBERT W. HYRKAS

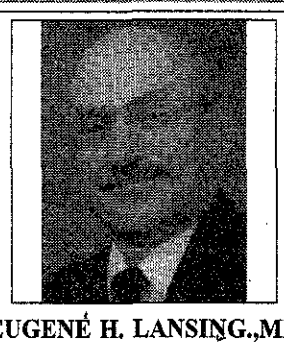
Age 86, of Westland, died January 3, 2008. Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington, MI

THOMAS M. PICHLER Jr.

Age 27, January 5, 2008. Loving son of Thomas and Wanda Pichler. Dearest brother of Cara Brooks and Jennifer Pichler. Proud uncle of Paige and Alyssa. Dear grandson of Dorothy (the late Herbert) Pichler and John (the late Betty) Gaumer. Also survived by many aunts, uncles and cousins. Funeral Service Thursday, January 10th, 11:30am at the John N. Santeiu & Son Funeral Home, 1139 Inkster (between Ford Rd. and Cherry Hill).

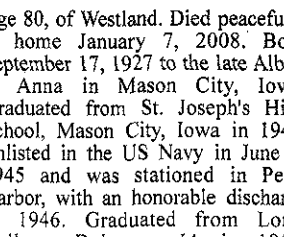
WILLIAM C. TRIPP

Age 65, Clarkston, MI, passed away January 3, 2008. Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington, MI



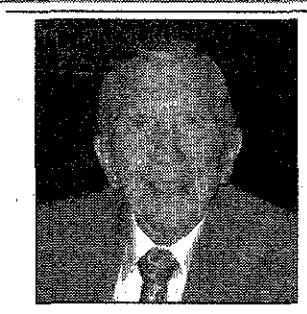
EUGENE H. LANSING.,MD

Age 80, of Westland. Died peacefully at home January 7, 2008. Born September 17, 1927 to the late Albert & Anna in Mason City, Iowa. Graduated from St. Joseph's High School, Mason City, Iowa in 1945. Enlisted in the US Navy in June of 1945 and was stationed in Pearl Harbor, with an honorable discharge in 1946. Graduated from Loras College, Dubuque, IA in 1950. Married Kathryn Helvick August 30, 1952. Graduated from the University of Iowa College of Medicine in 1955. Surgical residency from 1955-1960 at Wayne County General Hospital, Eloise, MI. Practiced medicine at Annapolis Hospital from 1960-1989. Former Chief of Staff. Retired in 1989. Beloved husband & caregiver to Kathryn. Loving father of Jon (Bonnie), Angeli (Brian) Lally & Jeffrey (Gwenn). Dear brother of Mark (Linda) & Joanie (Jim) Jackson. Grandfather to Jason & Trent Lally and Marissa Lansing. Funeral at St. Richard Catholic Church, 35637 Cherry Hill, Westland. Friday, 9:30am. Family will receive friends Wednesday, 5-9pm & Thursday, 2-9pm at the Uht Funeral Home, 35400 Glenwood, Westland. Please visit and sign a tribute at:
www.uhtfuneralhome.com



MARY NEMES

Age 86. Loving wife of the late Rudolph. Beloved Mother of Therese (Raymond) Lafferty, Daniel (Anne), Maggie (Mel) Champagne-Kramer, the late Virginia (Fred) Loos, Thomas (Beth), John (Meg), Charlie (Kathleen), Mary (Larry) Evans, Patricia (Bryan) McCaffrey, Joseph (Catherine), Barbara (William) Pollock. Loving grandmother of Heather, Bridget, Raymond, Robert, Sean, Nadine, Brian, David, Tim, Christopher, Carolyn, Elizabeth, Daniel, Johnny, Luke, Josh, Michael, Steven, Peter, Catherine, Patrick, Christopher, Andrew, Cameron, Mary, Jacqueline, Charles, Christine, Colleen, Claire, Kristina, Neal, Sean, Laura, Colleen, Rob, Virginia, MaryClare. Great-Grandmother of Samatha, Collin, Marian, Ryan, Mattie, Timothy & Audrey. Dear Sister of Therese McDonald, John Snyder, Cecelia Roll, Mary Flynn & the late David Snyder. Mom will always be remembered for her loving smile, warm embrace, gracious heart, smiling eyes and, most importantly, her love of God. We enjoyed her lifelong appreciation for literature and her uncanny ability to turn a phrase and find humor in all aspects of life. Music and art always filled our bustling home of 11 children (in addition to countless friends and relatives.) She enriched the lives of all those who were fortunate enough to know her. Mom will forever live in our hearts and serve as an everlasting reminder of how to unconditionally love one another and to live our lives in the image of Christ. Visiting: Thursday 2-9pm with Rosary at 7 pm at Charles Step Funeral Home, 18425 Beech Daly, btwn 6-7 Mile Rd., 313-531-1888. Instate Friday 10 am until 10:30 am, Mass at St. Fabian Church, 32200 W. 12 Mile (W of Orchard Lake) Holy Sepulchre Cemetery. In lieu of flowers donations to Michgan Right to Life or EWTN (Catholic Channel) appreciated.



FRANZ FUGMANN

On January 2, 2008, Franz Fugmann of Frankenmuth, MI, formerly of Birmingham, passed away at home in his sleep after a 2-year bout with cancer. He was 81. Born in his maternal grandparents' house on September 28, 1926, he was baptized Franz Johan Fugmann at the Lutheran Church in the little village of Schney, Germany. He immigrated to the U.S. when he was a year old, coming through Ellis Island in 1928 with his mother, Anna, and his older sister, Winnifred. His father, George, brought them to Michigan, where Franz's younger sister, Hilda Virginia, was born. He graduated from Pontiac High School in January, 1945. Inducted in February 1945, he proudly served two years in the U.S. Army, and was a tank instructor. He successfully ran the family business with his father, making the Virginia Market, at 608 S. Woodward in Birmingham, a well-known German meat market and grocery. In 1959, he flew to Rosstal, Germany to marry Johanna ("Hanni") Kissling, and brought her to Birmingham. They moved to Frankenmuth in 1971 to raise their family. Franz worked as meat manager at the Bavarian Inn until 1988, then became a licensed realtor. In addition, he managed the family properties in Birmingham and his own in Frankenmuth. He was active in Frankenmuth Lions Club, Frankenmuth Historical Society, and American Legion Post 150. His wife, Hanni, was the love of his life and they were blessed with 48 years of marriage. He also leaves behind his children, Christel and Dieter (Holly); the apple of his eye, granddaughter Sky; his sisters, Winnifred Ziehl of Venice, FL and Virginia (Paul) Champoux of Ann Arbor, MI; seven nieces and nephews, 18 great-nieces and nephews, and 13 great-great nieces and nephews. He was deeply loved and appreciated by his whole family and a lifetime of treasured friends and colleagues. He will be terribly missed and joyfully remembered. Memorials to Hospice of Hope.

OBITUARY POLICY

The first five "billed" lines of an obituary are published at no cost. All additional lines will be charged at $4 per line. You may place a picture of your loved one for an additional cost of only $6. Symbolic emblems may be included at no cost (example: American Flags, religious symbols, etc.)

Deadlines:

Friday 4:15 PM for Sunday
Wednesday 9:45 AM for Thursday

Obituaries received after these deadlines will be placed in the next available issue.

e-mail your obit to
oeobits@hometownlife.com
or fax to:
Attn: Obits c/o Charolette Wilson
734-953-2232

For more information call:
Charolette Wilson
734-953-2070
or Liz Keiser
734-953-2067
or toll free
866-818-7653
ask for Char or Liz

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RELIGION

FROM PAGE A6

Choose from Covenant, a Precept Upon Precept class, or The Truth Project (new from Focus on the Family). To register, call (734) 455-0022, Ext. 4 or visit www.vchurches.com/cbcwomen.

Bible study
Get a new life, study Scripture 9-10:30 a.m. Saturdays at Blessed Sacrament Monastery on the northwest corner of 13 Mile and Middlebelt in Farmington Hills. Focus of study is Romans. Come once or more often. Call (248) 626-8253 for more information.

Fellowship Dinners
6 p.m. Thursdays. Dinner catered by The Cookie Lady, Susan Navarro. $6. At St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford. Call (313)534-7730.

Thrift Shop
9:30-11:30 a.m. and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays at St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford.

Registration
Christ Our Savior Lutheran Early Childhood Center is now taking registrations for the fall program at 14175 Farmington Road, north of I-96, Livonia. It is open from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Friday. Loving and caring programs are offered for toddler, preschool, pre-K, and child care. Call (734) 513-8413.

Morning prayers
7:30 a.m. Tuesday-Friday, at New Beginnings United Methodist Church, 16175 Delaware, corner of Puritan, Redford. Please join in as participants start day with prayer. Call (313) 255-6330.

J.O.Y. meeting
The J.O.Y. Builders (Just Older Youth, ages 50 plus) meet 11:30 a.m. the third Thursday of the month for lunch, fellowship and fun, at Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh at Plymouth roads, Livonia. Call (734) 464-0990. All are welcome to join in. There is no charge, although organizers ask that you bring a luncheon dish to share.

Higher Rock Cafe
Second and fourth Friday of the month, doors open at 7:30 p.m., live bands begin at 8 p.m. presented by Salvation Army of Wayne/Westland, 2300 S. Venoy, between Michigan Avenue and Palmer. For information, call (734) 722-3660 or visit www.tsa.higherrockcafe.4t.com.

Uplifting church services
Want a unique church experience? Join in Sunday mornings at 10:45 a.m. for a service that will lift your entire family, but be prepared for what will happen after just one service. An open discussion 7 p.m. Wednesdays. Classes available for all ages, child to adult. Riverside Park Church of God is at 11771 Newburgh (corner of Plymouth Road), Livonia. Call (734) 464-0990.

Worship service
10 a.m. Sundays, at The Lutheran Church of Our Saviour, 29425 Annapolis, Westland. Sunday School for children. For information, call (734) 728-3440.

Youth wanted
Tweens and teens age 12 and up are invited to join in various youth activities held at Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh Road (corner of Plymouth), Livonia. Come to one of the regular classes on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. or Wednesdays at 7 p.m. For details, call (734) 464-0990.

Sunday worship
10 a.m. at Lutheran Church of Our Saviour, 29425 Annapolis, Westland. For information, call (734) 728-3440.

Sunday services
Pastor Dan Strength leads services at Living Water Church (Pentecostal Church of God), 11663 Arcola, one block west of Inkster Road on Plymouth Road. Sunday School is 10 a.m. followed by worship at 11 a.m. Bible study 7 p.m. Wednesdays. Call (734) 425-6360.

Farmington Women Aglow
Meets the second Monday of each month 7-9:30 p.m. at the Longacre House on Farmington road between 10 Mile and 11 Mile, Farmington Hills. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Call Vikki for more information at (248) 497-7755. Farmington Aglow is a Christian women's groups.

Worship services
Sunday worship services are at 8 a.m. (traditional) and 10:30 a.m. (contemporary), at Grace Lutheran Church, 46001 Warren, between Canton Center and Beck, Canton. For more information, call (734) 637-8160. Sunday school and Adult Bible Study at 9:15 a.m. Adult Bible Study series: Heaven Can't Wait.

Worship services
Praise and worship 10 a.m. Sunday, at Westwood Community Church, 6500 Wayne Road and Hunter, Westland. Contemporary music and casual dress. Children church and nursery. Call (734) 254-0093. Doughnuts and coffee served.

Celebrate Recovery
Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church in Northville launches Celebrate Recovery, a Christ-centered recovery program helping men and women find freedom from their hurts, habits and hang-ups (addictive and compulsive behaviors), meets every Friday evening for 6 p.m. dinner (optional), 7 p.m. praise and worship, 8 p.m. small group discussion, 9 p.m. Solid Rock Cafe (optional coffee and desserts). Child care during Celebrate Recovery is free and available by calling (248) 374-7400. For information, visit www.celebraterecovery.com and www.wardchurch.org/celebrate.

Sunday service
All are welcome to attend worship service at 10 a.m. Sunday in the sanctuary at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, 27475 Five Mile, one block west of Inkster, Livonia. For more information, call (734) 422-1470.

Your Invitation To Worship

BAPTIST

NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH
33640 Michigan Ave. • Wayne, MI
(Between Wayne Rd. & Merriman Rd.)
(734) 728-2180
Virgil Humes, Pastor

Saturday Evening Worship 6:00 p.m
Sunday Worship 7:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. • Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Wednesday Praise Service 6:00 p.m. • Wednesday Children, Youth and Adult Bible Study 7:00-8:30 p.m.

UNITED METHODIST

Clarenceville United Methodist
20300 Middlebelt Rd. • Livonia
248-474-3444
Pastor Beth Librande
Worship Service 9:30 AM
Sunday School 11:00 AM
Nursery Provided

Redford Aldersgate United Methodist
10000 Beech Daly
2 blocks South of Plymouth
313-937-3170
9:30 - Trad. Worship & Sun. Sch.
11:00 - Contemp. Family Worship
www.redfordaldersgate.org

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14175 Farmington Road, Livonia Just north of I-96
734-522-6830
Sunday Worship
8:30 & 11:00 am - Traditional
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Sunday/Bible Class
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Early Childhood Center
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Making disciples who share the love of Jesus Christ
Pastors: Robert F. Bayer and Anthony M. Creeden

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First Sat. 11:00 a.m.
Sun. Masses 7:30 & 9:30 a.m.
Confessions Heard Prior to Each Mass
Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions
Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M.

St Genevieve Roman Catholic Church
St. Genevieve School - PreK-8
29015 Jamison • Livonia • 734-427-5220
(East of Middlebelt, between 5 Mile & Jeffries)
MASS: Tues. 7 p, Wed., Thurs. 9 a, Sat. 4 p, Sun 11a

St. Maurice Roman Catholic Church
32765 Lyndon • Livonia • 734-522-1616
(between Merriman & Farmington Roads)
MASS: Mon. 8:30 a, Fri. 8:30 a, Sat. 5 p, Sun 9a

EVANGELICAL COVENANT

FAITH COVENANT CHURCH
14 Mile Road and Drake, Farmington Hills
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Sunday Worship and Children's Church
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Dr. John Grenfell III
Associate Pastor: Rev. David Wichert

First United Methodist Church of Plymouth
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(734) 453-5280
www.pfumc.org

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"Open Hearts, Minds & Doors"
36500 Ann Arbor Trail
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734-422-0149
Worship Service
and
Sunday School
9:15 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Rev. Marsha M. Woolley
Visit our website: www.newburgumc.org

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Sunday School
9:15 & 11:00 A.M.
Nursery Provided
The Rev. Timothy P. Halboth, Senior Pastor
The Rev. Dr. Victor F. Halboth, Assistant Pastor

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Sunday Morning Worship
8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
Education Hour 9:45 a.m.
Christian School
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For more information call
313-937-2233

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST

Cherry Hill Seventh-day Adventist Church
33144 Cherry Hill, Garden City, MI 48135
(1 block west of Venoy) Phone: 734-524-0880
Pastor: Eddie Petreaca
Meetings on Saturdays for:
Early Morning Bible & Health Class-8 a.m.
Worship Service-English-9:30 a.m.
Sabbath School (all ages)-11:00 a.m.
Worship Service-Hispanic-12:30 pm.
Wednesdays:
Prayer Meeting-7 p.m.

NON DENOMINATIONAL

BELL CREEK COMMUNITY CHURCH
Casual, Contemporary, Excellent Children's Program
Meets at Franklin H.S. in Livonia on Joy Road
(Between Merriman and Middlebelt Roads)
at 10:00 a.m.
734-425-1174
Join us for coffee, bagels and donuts after the service!

PRESBYTERIAN (U.S.A.)

Worship in Downtown Plymouth
First Presbyterian Church
Main & Church Streets - (734) 453-6464
8:30, 9:30 & 11:00 a.m.
visit us at www.fpcp.net
Accessible to all

ROSEDALE GARDENS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)
9601 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, MI
(between Merriman & Farmington Rds.)
(734) 422-0494
www.rosedalegardens.org
Chapel Worship Service
9:00 am
Traditional Service
10:30 am
WE WELCOME YOU TO A FULL SERVICE CHURCH

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN

WARD Evangelical Presbyterian Church
40000 Six Mile Road
"just west of I-275"
Northville, MI
248-374-7400
Traditional Worship
9:00 & 10:20 A.M.
Contemporary Worship
9:00 A.M.
Nursery & Sunday School During All Morning Worship Services
Evening Service • 7:00 p.m.
Service Broadcast
11:00 A.M. Sunday
WRDT-AM 560
The WMUZ Word Station
For additional information
visit www.wardchurch.org

Risen Christ Lutheran
David W. Martin, Pastor
46250 Ann Arbor Road • Plymouth
(1 Mile W. of Sheldon)
(734) 453-5252
Worship 8:15 & 10:45 am
Sunday School 9:30 am
Adult Bible Study 9:30 am
Nursery Care Available
www.risenchrist.info

CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE

PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
45501 W. Ann Arbor Road • (734) 453-1525
Sunday School - 9:45 A.M.
Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M.
Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M.
Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M.
NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN LEARNING CENTER
(734) 455-3196

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

First Church of Christ, Scientist, Plymouth
1100 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, MI
734-453-0970
Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School 10:30 a.m.
Wed. Evening Testimony Meeting 7:30 p.m.
Reading Room located at church
Saturday 12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.
734-453-0970

St. James Presbyterian Church, USA
25350 West Six Mile Rd.
Redford (313) 534-7730
Sunday Worship Service - 10:00 A.M., Sunday School - 10:15 A.M., Thursday Dinners - 6:00 P.M.,
Thrift Store every Sat. 10am-2pm
Nursery Care Provided • Handicapped Accessible
Rev. Paul S. Bousquette

LUTHERAN CHURCH WISCONSIN SYNOD

ST. PAUL'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
17810 FARMINGTON ROAD
LIVONIA (734) 261-1360
SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES
8:30 A.M. & 10:30 A.M.
website: www.stpaulslivonia.org

PRESBYTERIAN

Fellowship Presbyterian Church
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. • Worship: 10:30 a.m.
Pastor: Dr. Jimmy McGuire
Services held at: Madonna University's Kresge Hall
36600 Schoolcraft Road • Livonia
Parking lot is on N.W. corner of Levan & Schoolcraft • Nursery provided

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

Timothy Lutheran Church
A Reconciling in Christ Congregation
8820 Wayne Rd.
(Between Ann Arbor Trail & Joy Road)
Livonia • 427-2290
Jill Hegdal, Pastor
10:00 a.m. Family Worship
(Nursery Available)

For Church Directory changes and information regarding advertising in this directory, please call
Donna Hart (734) 953-2153 the Friday before publication.
To mail copy: The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150 or Fax to (734) 953-2121

OE08576912

Catholic schools hold open houses

Two Garden City Catholic schools - St. Raphael and St. Dunstan - are holding open houses this month to show off their schools to the families of current students and of prospective students.

St. Raphael is holding an open house 1-2:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 13, for current and potential new students and their families. The school offers instruction for students in preschool through eighth grade.

The open house will allow current school families to browse through the classrooms and view the many projects and areas of study that the children have been working on this school year. Representatives of St. Raphael's extra-curricular and social programs will be in the school's Activities Center to share information about their areas.

Prospective new families will have an opportunity to get a first-hand look at the facilities, meet the teachers, ask questions, and obtain materials about the school. Complimentary refreshments will be provided.

The Christ-centered, accredited school offers religion class, weekly mass, and sacramental preparation including Reconciliation, Communion and Confirmation. It offers a preschool program, which began last fall, computer labs, new classroom technology, Japanese class, chess club and choir. Latchkey and busing also are available.

For more information about the open house, contact the school office at (734) 425-9771 or visit its Web site at www.straphael-gc.org.

St. Dunstan is holding its open house 1-3 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 27, at the school, at 1615 Belton, Garden City.

The school offers a reasonable tuition and instruction by highly qualified staff. After the visit the school, families are invited to a spaghetti dinner the parish community room inside the church. The dinner is sponsored by the PTG. For more information, call the school at (734) 425-4380.

New auto show gala helps support MHS

January marks the arrival of an annual staple here in Detroit – The North American International Auto Show at Cobo Hall, along with a number of black tie charity events. This year marks the beginning of a new auto show trend – "A New Kind of Glamour: No Black Tie Bow Wow Gala," benefiting the Michigan Humane Society.

The gala will take place 8 p.m. to midnight Friday, Jan. 18, at the former Mark England Store in the Lofts at Merchants Row at 1253 Woodward Ave. in downtown Detroit. The No Black Tie Bow Wow Gala is presented by Scion, Pulsebeat.tv, Ziam and the Lofts at Merchant's Row.

The evening of "New Glamour" will be a mixture of music, art and dance, hors d'oeuvres and refreshments. Performance artist Ziam will highlight the evening with his highly acclaimed Liquid Silver Show, an electric mix of fashion, song and movement.

The evening will also feature a silent auction, with dog houses, built by MHS volunteers and "Scion-ized" by local artists to reflect personality, customization and individuality – all reflections of the Scion brand. The dog houses, along with other pieces of art, will be available at the auction.

Tickets cost $15 in advance and $20 at the door. Proceeds from ticket sales, as well as charitable donations throughout the evening, will benefit the Michigan Humane Society. For more information, or to purchase tickets, go online to www.pulsebeat.tv or call (313) 861-7804.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Listings for the Community Calendar can be submitted by e-mail at smason@hometownlife.com. They also can be mailed to Sue Mason at 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150, or faxed to her attention at fax at (734) 591-7279. For more information, call (734) 953-2112.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Comedy for a cause

The St. Damian High School Youth Group will benefit from a Comedy for a Cause event at Joey's Comedy Club, 36071 Plymouth Road, in Livonia, at 8 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 16. Headliner is Bil Dwyer of NBC's Last Comic Standing. Tickets are $12 and can be purchased at the parish office by calling 734-421-6130.

Railroadiana

The Ss. Simon and Jude Ushers Club is sponsoring Railroadiana, a buy-and swap toys and trains show, noon -4 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 3, at the church hall, 32500 Palmer, one mile west of Merriman. Admission is $2 per person, $4 per family. Food is available and parking is free. There will be operating train layouts of various gauges and more than 150 dealer tables. Tables are available at $10 per table. To reserve tables, call (734) 595-8327. Dealer set-up is at 9 a.m. on the day of the show.

Power lunch

Professor Susan Sherry will present "Women and Smart Choices for Personal Finance" at Madonna University's Power Lunch 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 16. The cost is $15 and includes lunch and networking opportunities. Sherry has 15 years experience as a senior business analyst and holds a master's degree in accounting. To register for the lunch, call the Office of Continuing Education and Professional Studies at (734) 432-5804. Madonna University is 36600 Schoolcraft at Levan in Livonia

Young Marines

The Canton Young Marines are looking for a few good boys and girls ages 8 -17, to join the unit. Youth undergo a 26-hour orientation program, spread out over several weekly meetings, learning general subjects such as history, customs and courtesies, close order drill, physical fitness, and military rank structure. The group, which is not a recruiting tool for the military, meets 5-7:30 p.m. Mondays at Summit on the Park in Canton. For more information, contact Commander Charles Volker by phone at (734) 981-5059 or visit the Web site at www.cantonyoungmarines.com. The first 25 children to respond will be accepted.

Wrestling Club

Westland Bottle Rockets is a wrestling club for ages 5-14. The club meets on Monday and Wednesdays from 5:30-7:00 p.m. in Gym 4 of John Glenn High School, 36105 Marquette, west of Wayne Road, Westland, Michigan. The club runs from November through March and costs $20. For questions or more information, contact Judy at judylaw1122@yahoo.com or calling (734) 634-4595.

Higher Rock Cafe

The Wayne-Westland Salvation Army presents the Higher Rock Cafe the second and fourth Fridays of the month at its facility at 2300 Venoy, south of Palmer, Westland. Doors open at 8 p.m. Check it out on the Web at www.tsa.higherrockcafe.4t.com or call (734) 722-3660.

Fish Dial-A-Ride

One-day-a-month volunteer drivers are needed to transport seniors and disabled who are unable to drive to medical appointments. Phone messenger volunteers are also needed to help set up rides to the medical appointments. This is also a one-day-a-month opportunity that can be done right from home. People interested in helping can call Gary Simon at (734) 751-4101 or contact him by e-mail at GCHS.MCMLX@yahoo.com.

Free classes

Dr. Carol Ann Fischer, a holistic physician, wellness consultant and clinical nutritionist, will present "Eat Your Way Thin" 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 16, at the Alfred Noble Library, 32901 Plymouth Road, Livonia. Are you confused about good and bad oil? Not sure if the carb diet will work? Take a natural approach to a healthier, new you. The class is limited to 30 seats.

■ Fischer also will present "New You in the New Year" 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 29, at the Civic Center Library, 35000 Civic Center Dr., Livonia. Fischer will teach participants the secrets on how to detox, eat properly and loss weight for a new you. Her approach is all natural, safe and doctor supervised. This class is limited to 15 seats. Call (734) 756-6904 to make a reservation.

VOLUNTEERS

Karmanos Institute

The Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute needs volunteers to transport cancer patients to mammogram and doctor appointments in metropolitan Detroit. Drivers are needed for Macomb and Oakland counties, Dearborn and Detroit. Volunteers must be at least 18. Mileage reimbursement is provided. Call (800) KARMANOS to volunteer.

First Step

First Step, which has been active in the effort to end domestic violence and sexual assault in western Wayne County and Downriver communities for more than 20 years, is looking for volunteers. Interested people must be at least 18, willing and able to travel to the Downriver area and complete a 55-hour training program. Call (734) 416-1111, Ext. 223.

Drivers

Volunteer drivers are needed to transport area residents to meetings of the Western Wayne Parkinson's Disease Support Group. The meetings take place 7-9 p.m. on the second Thursday of the month in the Livonia Senior Center, Farmington Road south of Five Mile. Drivers may be offered a stipend. Parkinson's patients, caregivers and others may attend the meetings. Call (734) 459-0216 or (734) 421-4208.

VNA Hospice

Visiting Nurse Association of Southeast Michigan's (VNA) hospice program needs volunteers to comfort and support patients at the end of life. Volunteers can provide companionship, write a memoir, provide respite for family or work as office support. A free 18-hour training program is provided at the VNA headquarters, 25900 Greenfield Road, Suite 600. Registration is required. (248) 967-8361 or visit www.vna.org.

CITY OF WESTLAND
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
PUBLIC NOTICE

The following appeals will be heard at a public hearing to be held in the Council Chambers of Westland City Hall, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, MI on Wednesday, January 16, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. at which time comments may be directed to the Board during audience participation. If you wish to reply by mail, send your comments to the above address. All property owners whose names appear in our tax rolls located within 300' of this property are being notified pursuant to this statute.

Petition #2630-D. Reed-588 Filbert
Request for a non-conforming structure variance from Section 5:2.3 of Ordinance 248 in order to construct a 12' x 25'addition to the second floor of the home

Petition #2631-M. Taleb-NE Corner of Cherry Hill & Newburgh
Request for a 151,740 square foot lot area variance from Section 9:54 of Ordinance 248 in order
to develop a 2,840 square foot, one-story commercial strip center on the existing parcel that comprises 22,500 square feet, where a minimum lot area of 4 acres is required for parcels within the CB-2 district.

Publish: January 10, 2008 OE08560037 - 2x3.5

Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property.
Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, ***PS Orangeco, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc.*** *will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage located at* 20080 Allen Rd. Trenton, Mi 48183 (734)479-5442 1/25/2008 at 9:30 am. Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due.

Personal property described below in the matter of:

654- Raymond C. Dennis- refrigerator,toolbox,golf clubs
820- Barbara Gorno- boxes,table,totes
125- David Beeler Jr- boxes,mattress
144- Kristen Van Wasswhnova-bags,boxes,totes
238- Kimberly Sidar- bags,boxes,totes
327- Jason Liberadzki-microwave,tv,shelf
512-Janet Pielak-bags,boxes,totes
518- Ann Marie Swift-box,sofa,tv
532-Michael A. Santwire-bags,boxes,totes
651- Taquana Brooks-bags,boxes,totes
657- Kymane R Clark-bags,boxes,totes
834- Eleni M. Segos- box,dresser,totes

Publish: January 10 & 17, 2008 OE08560040 - 2x3

Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property.
Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, ***PS Orangeco, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc.*** *will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage (formerly Shurgard) located at* 9300 Pelhem Road, Taylor, 48180 (313) 292-9730 .1/25/08 at 10:30am Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due.

Personal property described below in the matter of:
2031-Larry Adams-sofa,dresser
3013-Jennifer Stoneberg-big screen leather couch table
3018-Frank Makdesion-boxes totes table
3030-Aaron Stevens-Washer Dryer a/c unit
3042-Rick Seal-hutch sofa loveseat
3064- DeQuan Thomas- mattress,tv,box
3077-Thomas Lundy Sr. fish tank TV chairs
3082-Michael Height-boxes totes bags
3088-Kiauna Lewis-dresser tv table
3091-Melissa Thomas-tv boxes chairs
3097-Thomas Lippford- ent center tv sofa
4014-Samuel Cuffie-W/D stove boxes
4020-Arthur LeRoy-bike table totes
4023-Nate Atherton-totes grill tools
4050-Melissa Scott-foosball table tv couch
5006-Patrick M. Laferty-bags totes boxes
5027-Destiny Volosuk-clothes totes stereo
5063-Nicole Monthei-weight set washer dryer
5069-Carl Hicks-boxes totes bags
5086-Marie Long-boxes totes bags
5093-Wendy Galloway-couch chairs toys
6001-Anthony Davis-trucks tires lawnmower
6014-Jacqueline Rice-tv dresser beds
6022-Buddie Adkins-cables spools
6026-Denise Hood-toys fishtank clothes
6041-Louis Forysek-excercize equipment clothes table
6043- Jerry Field- washer,bed,box
6050-Fatme Berry Yamani-boxes totes bags
6055-Debra Bynum-tv freezer hutch
6059-Judith Ryan-fish tank lawnmower
6071-Waymon Smith-office equipment doors chairs
6080-Christine Newsome-motorbike bike boxes
6085-Ron Bembry bags boxes
6089-George Smith-boxes bags totes
6093-Rosemarie Schafer-chairs totes
6097-Tom Lundy-engine
6111-Chytia Kidd-microwave bags bed
7008-April Holyfield-boxes bags totes
7035-Melissa Hill-boxes bags totes
7040-Rebecca Grauman-boxes bags totes
7049-Elisa Vann-Bags totes boxes
7068-Teniko Troutman-boxes bags totes
7112-Renee Boyea-boxes bags totes
9014-Crystal Neumann-crib toys clothes
9043-Jerry Bray-couch outdoor furniture
9051-Angela Davis-chairs table couch
9084-Demetrius Terrell-boxes totes bags

Publish: January 10 & 17, 2008 OE08560091 - 2x7.5

WESTLAND CITY COUNCIL
RECORD OF ATTENDANCE
1/1/2007 thru 12/31/2007

Pursuant to City of Westland Council Resolution No. 8-85-441, the following record of attendance of Council Members at Regular and Special Meetings is published for the year 2007.

Councilperson	Number of Meetings	Meetings Attended	Percentage
James R. Godbout	24	23	96%
Cheryl Graunstadt	24	24	100%
Bill Johnson	24	24	100%
Michael Kehrer	24	24	100%
Charles Pickering	24	23	96%
Dewey Reeves	24	24	100%
Robert Stottlemyer	24	24	100%
William R. Wild	1	1	100%

EILEEN DeHART
WESTLAND CITY CLERK

Publish: January 10, 2008 OE08498445

GARDEN CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT
6000 MIDDLEBELT
GARDEN CITY, MI 48135

The following vehicles have been deemed abandoned and will be sold at public auction on Tuesday, January 15, 2008 at 9:00 A.M. The auction is to be held at Westland Car Care Towing, 6375 Hix Rd., Westland, MI. 48185.

Please note: The bidding will start at the towing and storage charges.

YEAR & MAKE	STYLE	VIN#
1988 GMC	PU	2GTFK24K1J1531922
2000 DODGE INTREPID	4 DR	2B3HD56JXYH115234
1971 FORD	2 DR	1E62H166993
1999 FORD TAURUS	4 DR	1FAFP53S2XG214883
1996 FORD TAURUS	4 DR	1FALP52U8TG239156
1999 FORD ESCORT	4 DR	1FAFP10P4XW249469
2000 FORD TAURUS	4 DR	1FAFP53U4YG110916
1999 MERCURY	SW	4M2XV11T3XDJ06101
1989 OLDSMOBILE	4 DR	1G3HN54CXKH306990
1990 PONTIAC	4 DR	1G2WJ54T6LF297919
1997 VOLKSWAGEN GTI	2 DR	3VWDA81H2VM075382

Publish: January 10, 2008 OE08579408-2x3.5

Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property.
Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, ***PS Orangeco, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc.*** *will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage located at* 3650 Enterprise Dr. Allen Park, Mi 48101 (313) 441-3117 1/25/2008 at 12:00 pm. Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due.
Personal property described below in the matter of:

B160- Tamarka Davis- dryer,refrigerator,bags
C025- Lola Yonko- box,bag,tote
D042- Linder Magwood- box,bag,tote
E040- Denise Hearn- headboard,mattress,dresser
A011- Brian R. Davis- box,bag,tote
A016- Tracey Wilburn-- box,bag,tote
B048- Keyanna Wafford-- box,bag,tote
B072- Michael Kowalski- totes,vac,tools
B081- William Childress-- box,bag,tote
B097- Margret Mercing-- box,bag,tote
B109- Latanya Harris-- box,bag,tote
B117- Engrid Gudger-- box,bag,tote
B118- Robert Smith- washer,dryer,entertainment center
B126- Jeffrey Johnson-- box,bag,tote
B131- Catherine McDonald-- box,bag,tote
B149- John Mason- boxes,refrigerator
B269- Thessalonia Stubbs-- box,bag,tote
B282- Nefertiti Morris- bed,couch,washer
B309- Jason Herdandez-- box,bag,tote
B321- Tisha Delaney-- box,bag,tote
B345- Audrey Powell-- box,bag,tote
B392- Lacie Lesniewski-- box,bag,tote
C016- Katie Day- box,bag,tote
C025- Lola Yonko - box,bag,tote
C043- Tonia Johnson- box,bag,tote
D001- Trinity Ministries- box,bag,tote
D007- Sharon Mitchell- box,bag,tote
D026- Cher- ri Pye- box,bag,tote
D034- Julia Hightower- box,bag,tote
D037- Charmaine Land- box,bag,tote
F003- Anthony Woods
F018- Bradley Moscarello

Publish: January 10 & 17, 2008 OE08560081 - 2x5.5

CITY OF WESTLAND
NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

On Thursday, January 24, 2008, various items of the City Westland DPW will be sold at public auction. The auction will be held at Insurance Auto Auction 8251 Rawsonville Road, County of Wayne, at 10:30 a.m. The following items will be offered for sale to the highest bidder.

Stock	Year	Make	Model	VIN
3576773	1994	GMC	Vandura	1GtGG35KORF518867
3576704	2002	Ford	Crown Vic	2FAFP71W52X114605

All vehicles are sold in "as is" condition.

The referenced vehicles, as well as many others, may be previewed by prospective buyers on Wednesday, January 23, 2008, from 8:30 am - 4:30 pm. Vehicles may be deleted from this list at any time prior to the start of the auction.

Publish: January 10, 2008 OE08560134 _ 2x2.5

Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property.
Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, ***PS Orangeco, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc.*** *will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage (formerly Shurgard) located at 36001 Warren Rd Westland, MI 48185-6591 (734)729-7095* on 1/25/08 at 10:30 am. Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due.

Personal property described below in the matter of:
1054 – Tonia Parker – China Cabinet, Mirror, Misc Items
1068 – Jeanine Schifino – Mattress. Boxspring, 20 Boxes
1078 – Danyell Alexander – Couch, Table, Endtable
1166 – Ryan Mason – Bike, 2 Totes, 5 Bags
1246 – Lori Hill – Bike, 20 Boxes, TV
1298 – Kimberly Mathews – TV, Treadmill, Loveseat
2004 – Felicia Green – Couch, Oven, Freezer
3142 – Ivonne Buchman – Table, 8 Chairs, 10 Boxes
3180 – Renee Robinson – Couch, Desk, Misc Items
3198 – Dawn Scharp – Dresser, Mattress, Cedar Chest
3204 – Frederick McCray – Bike, Riding Lawnmower, Refrigerator
4014 – Jessica Burton – 5 Totes, Chair, Microwave
4062 – Nutrica Baker – Dresser, Loveseat, Couch
4066 – Lavella Norwood-Edwards – 10 Totes, 2 Bags, Dresser
5040 – Adam Cain – Washer, Dryer, VCR
5078 – Sharon Watkins – 30 Boxes, Stereo, 5 Totes
5096 – Fayvian Watts – Mattress, Luggage, 10 boxes
5172 – Jacqulyn Billingsley – Couch, Table, 4 Chairs
5182 – Ambra Sanders – 6 Totes, 2 Boxes, Misc Items

Publish: January 10 & 17, 2008 OE08560169 – 2x4

Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property.
Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, ***PS Orangeco, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc.*** *will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage (formerly Shurgard) located at* 24920 Trowbridge St., Dearborn, Mi 48124 (313) 277-7940 1/24/2008 at 9:30 am. Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due.
Personal property described below in the matter of:

2464- Nicole Turner- boxes,bags,totes
1484-Carla Hickman-boxes bags totes
2283-Tammy Butler-boxes totes clothes
1098-Shelly Maddox-dressers chairs boxes
2134-Margaret Johnson-boom box bags boxes
1288-Martha Williams-boxes totes clothes
2281-Veronica Peterson-totes boxes
1248-Anthony Mccarthy-totes bags boxes
1410-Sparkalen Keith-totes bags boxes
1331-ibrahim abuikhdair-box and bag
1442-Michael Brown-tv totes beds
1354-April Stewart-table fridge boxes
2464-Nicole Turner-boxes table bags
1508-Denise Jorden-fridge boxes sofa W/D
1348-Michael McClain-boxes bags totes
1214-Yameka Rainer-leather sofas beds dressers
1444-Rimmon Oneil-minifridge vacuum chairs
1008-Candy Chartier-clothes boxes bags
1138-Bobbie Brazier-bike bed ent center
1468-linda riley-sofa loveseat, bed
1298-Dionne Simms-boxes furniture beds
2456-LeRoy Rice-speakers paintings tv

Publish: January 10 & 17, 2008 OE08560083 – 2x4.5

Nominate a Nurse for Oakland University's 20TH Annual NIGHTINGALE AWARDS®

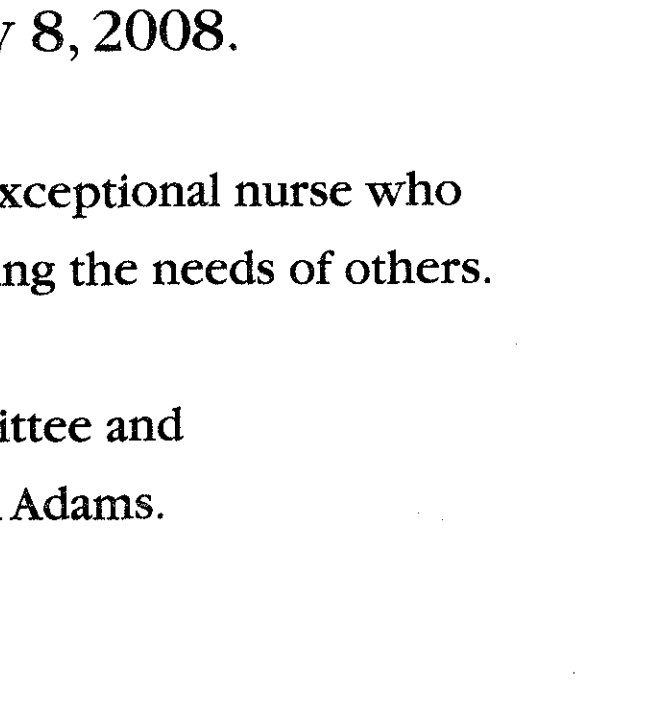
Oakland University's School of Nursing is accepting nominations for the 20th Annual Nightingale Awards®. Award recipients will be honored on May 8, 2008.

Friends and colleagues are invited to nominate an exceptional nurse who has put forth much of their time and effort in assisting the needs of others.

Nominations will be reviewed by a selection committee and the Dean of the School of Nursing, Linda Thompson Adams.

Nominations must be received by **February 1, 2008.**

For more information, please visit
www2.oakland.edu/nursing/nightingale.cfm
or contact Amy Holloway at (248) 370-3799
or hollowa2@oakland.edu



Oakland UNIVERSITY

SON-1943 1.08

OUR VIEWS

Mayor's goals will benefit city

It's a new year and a new start for Westland politicians who took the oath of office during a ceremony Monday evening.

For Mayor William Wild, it's truly his chance to leave his mark on the city. He has set a busy agenda for his two years in office — everything from moving ahead on the cleanup of Central City Park to filling the vacant big box stores in the central business district.

None of what the mayor has set as his goals will be easily accomplished. Considering how long the issue had been swirling around before it became public in November 2006, it's apparent that there's no quick fix for getting the contaminated park cleaned up. It will take the agreement of the city, Wayne County and the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality to make it happen.

As the former chamber president, Lori Fodale knows the business community inside and out. She understands what it takes to successfully market businesses to those who live in and outside the city. It's a skill that we think will serve the city well in filling its vacant buildings and continuing to attract new businesses.

Likewise filling the vacant big box stores like Sam's Club and the old Best Buy and attracting new business along Ford Road, set forth in the recent design charrette, are no simple tasks. A big obstacle is the status of the state's economy. But the mayor turned to someone who has experience marketing the city's business community to be the city's economic development director.

As the former chamber president, Lori Fodale knows the business community inside and out. She understands what it takes to successfully market businesses to those who live in and outside the city. It's a skill that we think will serve the city well in filling its vacant buildings and continuing to attract new businesses.

The mayor has other goals, among them curbside recycling. It's an issue that surfaced last year when proponents mounted a petition drive in support of the idea, and became a battle cry during the election. It may be doable, but it will depend on if the city's trash hauler, Midwest Sanitation, can survive reorganization under Chapter 11 bankruptcy law.

In looking back at what Wild accomplished during his year as the appointed mayor, we believe he will accomplish what he sets out to do. It may not happen overnight, but it will happen. Pardon our irreverence, it'll be a Wild time that will be good for the city and for residents.

Resist urge to boycott presidential primary

Democratic voters in Michigan have every right to feel cheated regarding next Tuesday's presidential primary election.

Although little can be done to correct the situation prior to next Tuesday, Democrats nonetheless can demand to be heard by participating in the sham election.

A tug-of-war between Michigan and national leadership of both political parties is to blame for the fiasco. Our state political bosses wanted Michigan to have a greater say in the national debate, so they voted to move the state primary before the Iowa Caucuses and New Hampshire Primary, which for some godforsaken reason has a historical stranglehold on the process.

Instead of addressing Michigan's concerns, the national party bosses decided to punish us for wanting to play a larger role in selecting this country's next president.

The Democrats have stripped Michigan of its 156 delegates for this year's national convention, and the Republican Party will only count half of the state's delegates. Additionally, all but four of the Democratic contenders were bullied into pulling their names from the primary ballot, so Democratic voters will only have Sen. Hillary Clinton, Sen. Chris Dodd, Rep. Dennis Kucinich and former Sen. Mike Gravel from which to choose, and Dodd has already dropped out of the primary race.

It would be easy for Democrats to stay home next Tuesday, but that would be a mistake. If voters support one of the four candidates on the ballot, they should vote for that person. If they don't, then Democrats are urged to cast an "uncommitted" vote. The best way to demand a voice is to show our resolve in being heard.

If enough Democrats and Republicans vote next Tuesday, it may force the national party bosses to seat the state delegates and allow them to have a say at the national convention. And maybe, just maybe, a solution will be found for dealing with all of those "uncommitted" votes.

Westland Observer
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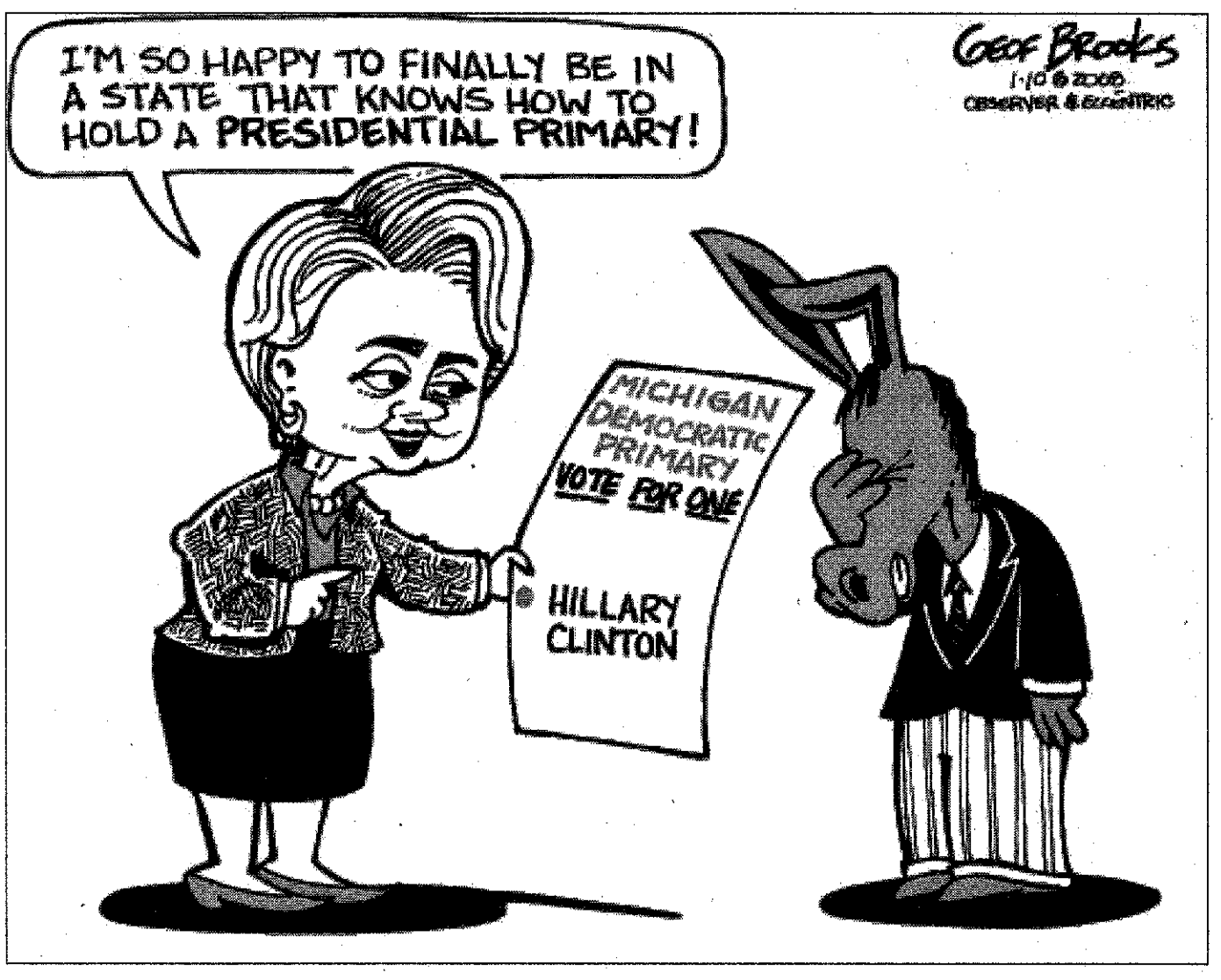

LETTERS

Christmas Story

When Jennifer Kondratowicz heard about Kimberly Loveless's attack, she remembered the kindness Kim had shown to the kids in the community, in particular that Kim had opened her shop in Wayne, The Acorn Shop, for the kids to enjoy a "Secret Santa" event.

Jennifer, an employee at the Wayne Ford Civic League, asked if it would be OK to put out a collection jar during bingo sessions to raise money to help this wonderful lady and was immediately supported by all. Before she knew it the bingo players and staff had raised $498.22 by Christmas Eve. That along with the league's matching contribution meant that Jennifer was able to present a check delivered by Santa and Mrs. Claus for $1,000 to Kim to aid her with her recovery.

Vic Barra
Wayne Ford Civic League

Wrong about contracts

In reference to the article, "Officials differ over the cost of police, fire pacts," Council President Charles Pickering cast the lone dissenting vote. It seems just a little over a month and a half ago when you, Mr. Pickering, were campaigning for mayor for the City of Westland; your main focus was the increase in crime in the city and what needs to be done about it. You even talked about hiring more police officers.

Mr. Pickering, your vote has shown me that you were talking out of both sides of your mouth. You were not willing to step up to the plate like your colleagues and support the front lines of defense of our city, regarding police and fire.

The men and women in blue of the police and fire ranks put their lives on the line every day to protect us, the citizens of Westland. We as taxpayers should support their fair and equitable wage package. It's the least we can do for them in securing the safety of our city.

I want to thank Mayor Wild and the City Council members who voted in favor of these pay raises for having the courage to do what's right for the City of Westland. I also want to personally thank the men and women in blue (police and fire) who are there every day for me and my family and the citizens of Westland. May God bless you all and keep you safe always.

Bernard J. Cybulski
Westland

Tax break isn't fair

Dear Westland Residents,

For the bad news ... I was Internet surfing the other night. I came across the Westland channel, and lo and behold they were talking about taxes!

Westland Council is about to do us bad. They are talking about giving new people who move into these abandoned house a huge tax break! Wait one minute, what about us — the rest of us? Where is our tax break?

I don't keep up with the city council because I didn't vote for any of them for this reason. But the mayor didn't say it or deny it, so he is in favor of it. The other mayor didn't save my husband's job from Collins, neither will this guy save anything important to us. Word to the wise to the council: Who says we all won't be on the street with your new taxes? Who says some are on the verge of getting out now?

I am so tired of these politicians keeping their wallets full and ours empty. Are we in Westland too busy or too lazy to tell our mayor and our city council we don't want new taxes or help people get in new houses (abandoned), if we have to pay for it through taxes they should be paying for themselves?

I have also heard Westland has the highest taxes around here. My brother says we pay more taxes then him. He has a bigger house then me. What gives? He lives in Canton! Wrong, wrong, wrong as can be. We are even paying for a park we can't use to due to the fact there is, what I call, a wild fence around it.

I believe Westland citizens have blinders on. One person can't make a stink, but as a whole we can. Think about it.

I believe Mr. Wild is walking all over us. That just my opinion. I'll close for now, good luck on your taxes.

Mari Squire
Westland

Yes to Clinton

Change and experience. Youth and middle age. Religious and secular. Democrats, Republicans, Independents, a third party. Race and gender. Liberal, conservative, moderate. Left, right, centrist. Values, issues, wedge issues. Perception and reality. These are keys words in the race to secure the presidency in November 2008. Here I connect Sen. Hillary Clinton to several of these words/ideas.

Life is change. Today Americans yearn for change after the past eight years of disastrous governance. The next president will face a multitude of national and international crises. Clinton, being older, has confronted and successfully handled a multitude of changes both personal and on the national level. She has traveled the world and has worked for the advancement of all persons, especially women and children.

She is a liberal Democrat who appeals to the left-leaning, progressive tendencies of the electorate.

As a senator, she has reached across the aisle, has been a dedicated centrist who, when the center moves left, has shown she can move too.

Clinton, Obama, Edwards hold the same Democratic progressive values of justice and equality, diplomacy over militarism, workers' rights, the responsibility of government to see that social needs are met.

I regard gender as the most important word. Some people suffer from gynephobia — a neurotic fear of women. In Clinton's case, a fear of the independent, intelligent, take-charge type of woman.

The perception of Sen. Clinton: She is polarizing, calculating, cold, humorless. Yet the current polarization in the U.S. results from Newt Gingrich in the 1990s and G.W. Bush in 2000. Bush said he was a uniter, but is a divider. Who is or was more calculating than (Karl) Rove, (Vice President Dick) Cheney or (Donald) Rumsfeld? Friends, family members, staffers and persons around the world attest to Clinton's warm personality, fine sense of humor and generosity. Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis praised Clinton for being a good mother when Clinton sought advice for how to raise Chelsea in the White House.

Clinton realizes the truth of these words from an African song: "Strength, money and knowledge — we cannot do anything without them."

These countries have elected female presidents: Ireland, Finland, the Philippines, Liberia, Chile, Switzerland, India. We in the U.S. may not be ready for a female president. But, as a wise person once said, "In life we're never ready for anything until we get it."

Hannah Provence Donigan
Commerce

Not Huckabee

Why shouldn't you vote for Mike Huckabee? Not only is he soft on crime, naïve on foreign affairs, and a populist on economic issues, he also is untruthful about his campaign tactics.

In Iowa, he produced a negative campaign ad, showed it to journalists, and then told journalists that he wasn't about negative campaigns, and so he wouldn't show it to anyone else. A day later, he did.

Huckabee — tacky and untruthful campaigning.

Kyle McGrath
Waterford

SHARE YOUR OPINIONS

We welcome your letters to the editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We ask that your letters be 400 words or less. We may edit for clarity, space and content.

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QUOTABLE

"Richard made numerous arrests for drugs, robberies and other crimes. Also, he took a lot of guns off the streets of Westland."

- Police Chief James Ridener about Richard Novakowski who has been named Westland's Police Officer of the Year

Primary farce leaves Dems with poor options

After all this is over, the two parties need to assess this process. I've been to Iowa and New Hampshire. They're nice places with good people. But they are totally unrepresentative of the majority of American citizens. They have had their day and it's time to create a new format that allows a broad participation in the nominating process.

Hugh Gallagher

The Democratic Presidential Primary in Michigan is a fraud and a farce. But how can you tell people not to vote, even when they aren't offered a real choice?

The smarty-pants in the Michigan Democratic leadership decided to follow the smarty-pants in the Republican leadership in defying their party by scheduling the presidential primary ahead of the proposed dates for the Iowa caucus and the New Hampshire primary. The argument was that Michigan is more representative of the country than small, rural Iowa and New Hampshire. Michigan also seems to be a bellwether for the nation's impending economic freefall. It's hard to dispute that argument. Michigan is large, a true mixture of urban and rural, a state with environmental, social and economic concerns that will have an enormous impact on the nation's future.

But rational decisions are not what political parties are about.

The Republican Party responded by threatening to take away half of Michigan's delegate votes at the convention. The Democratic Party responded by threatening to take away ALL of Michigan's delegates, warning candidates not to campaign for Michigan primary votes and requesting that candidates withdraw from the election.

The results of all this: Iowa and New Hampshire moved their elections back almost into last year; the Republicans made good on their threat but all the Republican candidates will be on the ballot and the vote will have some impact, especially if Mitt Romney fails to win; and, the Democrats are stuck with a primary in which only Hillary Clinton of the three viable candidates is still on the ballot.

If you love the New York senator and former first lady, it's a perfect situation. But if you have a regard for democracy (small d) or prefer Barack Obama or John Edwards, your choices are severely limited.

You could register your disgust by voting for one of the party's worst nightmares, Dennis Kucinich or Mike Gravel (who?). A vote for Kucinich might also be seen as a vote against the war, so that has some appeal.

You could follow Democrat chair Mark Brewer's suggestion and vote for "uncommitted." Initially, if "uncommitted" wins, it would show major disaffection with Hillary Clinton's candidacy and "send a message" that you don't believe in "inevitable" candidates. Then you would have to trust that the party regulars who would be going as an "uncommitted" slate wouldn't give their votes to Sen. Clinton anyway (IF any Michigan delegates are allowed to vote). Considering that the governor supports Clinton, that might be more trust than you want to place in the party.

What you can not do is write in a candidate's name, because they had to register to accept write-ins by Jan. 4 and no candidates did. As Oakland County Clerk Ruth Johnson notes, you can't even write in Mickey Mouse's name. And what kind of election is it where you can't write in Mickey's name. It's un-American.

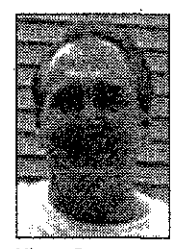
Alternatively, you could also choose to pick up a Republican ballot. As a Democrat, you could vote for the Republican you'd like to see elected in the general election if that "disaster" arises or you can throw a wrench into the process by voting for a Republican without a chance of winning the nomination (say Ron Paul or Duncan Hunter). This tactic has been used by members of both parties in the past when one or the other party didn't have their own competitive primary.

After all this is over, the two parties need to assess this process. I've been to Iowa and New Hampshire. They're nice places with good people. But they are totally unrepresentative of the majority of American citizens. They have had their day and it's time to create a new format that allows a broad participation in the nominating process.

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@hometownlife.com.

Honor 'Greatest Generation,' respect rights they gave us

Many kids today are not taught about the Great Depression, World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam or any other war, in our schools, so I've been told. These people were America's "Greatest Generation." After the war, they helped build this country into what it is today. They have witnessed many changes and historical events. Many advances in modern medicine that have helped preserve and save their lives. After they're all gone, a chapter of the people who saved America will be closed forever.



Vince Berna

I would like to start this year off with a bang, but I can't. It is reported that we are losing 1,000 World War II veterans per day. This recently hit a little closer to home when my Uncle John passed away. It wasn't a long illness and for that I am thankful. He went rather quick with his family at his side.

Uncle John Heraghty fought the Japanese in the South Pacific — Saipan and other islands. He was awarded two Purple Hearts and bronze and silver stars. He served in the Army from 1939 to 1946.

He was born in the Bronx, N.Y., John Francis Heraghty, an Irish Catholic American, in 1921. He was married to my dad's sister Camille for more than 55 years. He is survived by his wife, two children John Jr. and Jackie, seven grandchildren and four great-grand children.

Uncle John came from the tenements of the Bronx to Michigan following my Uncle Pat, along with my mother and father and other aunts and uncles who worked in the building trades — Iron Workers-Riggers Local 25. Uncle John also was one of the founding fathers and served as vice-president of Veteran's Haven Inc. from 1995 to 2003.

I would like to thank my friend Roger Kehrier, former State Senior Vice Commander Military Order of the Purple Heart, the Plymouth Canton VVA and members of Military Order of the Purple Heart Chapter No. 41 Westland for providing the honor guard. They did a great job and I know the presentation of the flag to my aunt meant a great deal to her. Uncle John was very proud of his service to God and country.

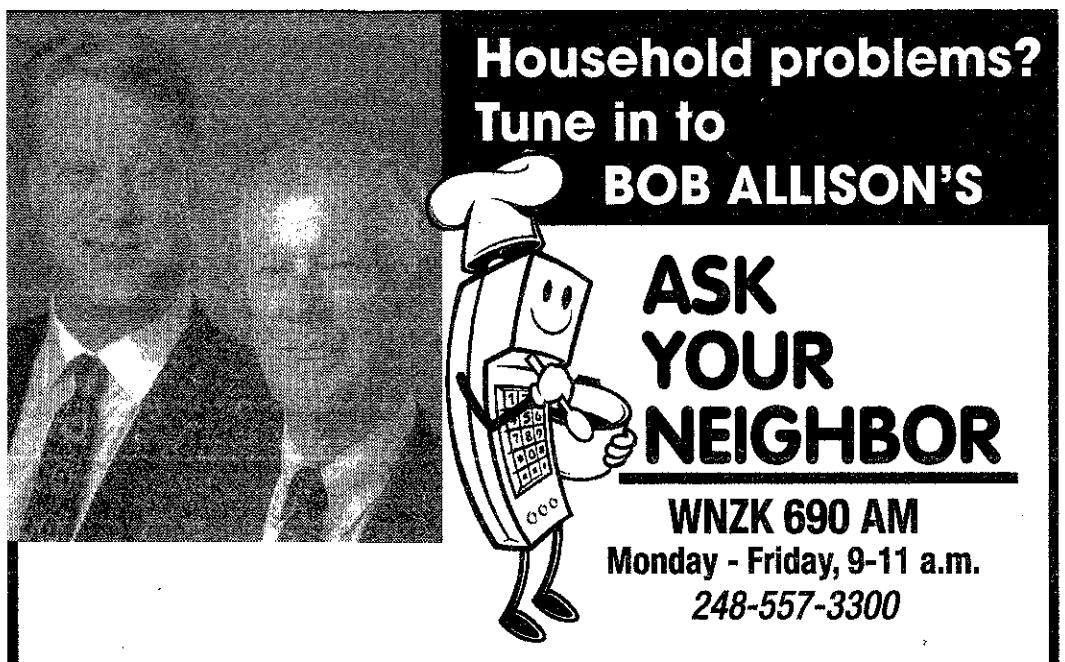
Many kids today are not taught about the Great Depression, World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam or any other war, in our schools, so I've been told. These people were America's "Greatest Generation." After the war, they helped build this country into what it is today. They have witnessed many changes and historical events. Many advances in modern medicine that have helped preserve and save their lives. After they're all gone, a chapter of the people who saved America will be closed forever.

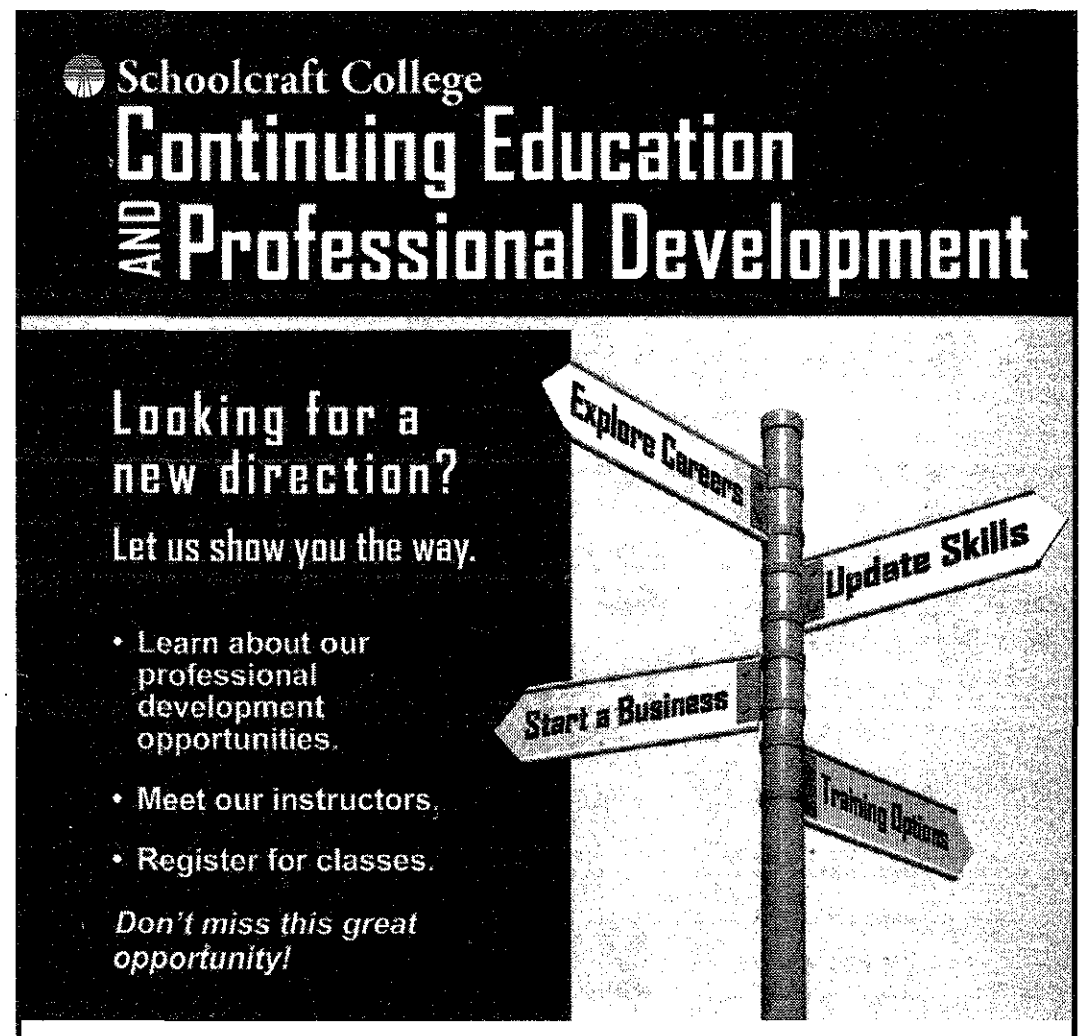
The next generation are the Korean vets who never received the recognition they deserve. If President Truman had allowed General Douglas MacArthur to go into China after the "Big One," many problems we face today could have been avoided. There might not have been a Korean War that ended in a stalemate, dividing that country into the Communist North and Democratic South, where today we have thousands of troops stationed, another drain of American taxpayers' money.

The Communists were the boogie men of the '60s and '70s. Our government lost the war in Vietnam. It was not a stalemate as once stated by Walter Cronkite. They spent and made billions of dollars and lost more than 58,000 lives. The Berlin Wall came down under Reagan's administration and everybody started singing "Oh Happy Days."

Today we face a new threat: terrorists that hate our way of life and want to kill us and apathy in America. I hope for our sake, the people of the "Sleeping Giant" wake up and realize what's going on. Respect the right we were given by those that came before us, vote and always support our troops, because they will always be our first line of defense.

Vince Berna is the founder of Veterans Haven in Wayne which provides assistance to disabled, homeless and disadvantaged veterans.





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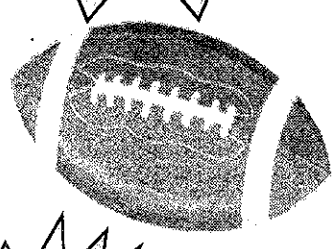

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Ladywood reels in Marlins with 51-20 victory

BY DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITER

GIRLS BASKETBALL

An experienced and talented Livonia Ladywood varsity basketball team showed up ready to play Tuesday night and overwhelmed host Farmington Hills Mercy.

In a battle between two seven-win teams, the Blazers dominated both ends of the floor and ran away from the Marlins to a 51-20 victory in a Catholic League Central Division game.

"We didn't come out matching their intensity, their level of play," Mercy coach Gary Morris said. "They're a very good team and a very experienced team. They have a lot of seniors with varsity experience. That's something we don't have.

"I just expected us to play better. They're our biggest rival. The next time we play them we need to compete much better than we did tonight."

Ladywood (8-2, 4-0) set the tone early with its defense, forcing Mercy into eight first-quarter turnovers and holding the home team to one shot for much of the period.

But the time the Marlins got their first points with 1:13 remaining, the Blazers had already built up a 12-0 lead with the help of three-point baskets by Jenna Anastos and Caitlin Szczypka.

"We had good energy on defense and were able to cause some turnovers," Ladywood coach Andrea Gorski said. "We knocked down some shots, and that certainly helps. Overall, it was a good team game, and a lot of kids stepped up and scored."

Ten scored in a balanced Blazer offense.

Sophomore guard Mary Fitzgerald led the way with a game-high nine points; seniors Alex Serowoky, Alison Szczypka, Anastos and Amber Drabicki scored seven apiece.

While the Marlins (7-3, 1-2) struggled to get a shot to start the game, they couldn't find the mark when they did, going 3-for-19 in the second quarter and falling behind at halftime, 32-11.

The Blazers, who pressed and fell back to an aggressive, man-to-man defense in the half court, capitalized on 8-of-12 foul shooting in the second quarter to boost their lead. Anastos and Serowoky scored all of their points in the first half.

"We haven't been pressing a whole lot," Gorski said. "We were trying to mix it up defensively, so we're not so predictable and we were able to do that. (The fast start was good) especially on the road. Teams tend to play a little tight, but we were able to hit some shots."

Jordan Mueller scored eight points for Mercy, which made 7-of-42 field goals for a shooting percentage of .167.

"Obviously, whether we had a good look or a not-so-good look, whether it was layups or free throws, we didn't shoot the ball well," Morris said. "They were playing better than us. I thought we could have and need to be more aggressive when we play a quality team at both ends of the floor."

Ladywood, ranked fifth in Class A, shot just under 40 percent (17-of-43).

"We played our bench a lot and people stepped up," Gorski said. "That makes us a deeper team. We can keep kids fresh and get more into the rotation."

Schoolcraft able to shake off rust

BY TIM SMITH
STAFF WRITER

Perhaps now free of the rust built up by a month of inactivity, Schoolcraft College's women's basketball team now might start to really crank up its collective machine.

The Lady Ocelots, having played just four games over the past month, did not play that well on Monday against visiting St. Clair County — with the exception of a career-high 17-point night by sparkplug sophomore guard Heidi Warczinsky.

But they did manage to earn a 70-60 victory over the upstart, nothing-to-lose Lady Skippers to improve to 11-2 overall and 4-0 in the Eastern Conference of the Michigan Community College Athletic Association.

And some of the rust might have fallen off in the process.

"We'll take the victory and go home," said Schoolcraft head coach Karen Lafata, although she wasn't thrilled with how her team enabled St. Clair (4-9, 1-3) to hang around longer than it should have.

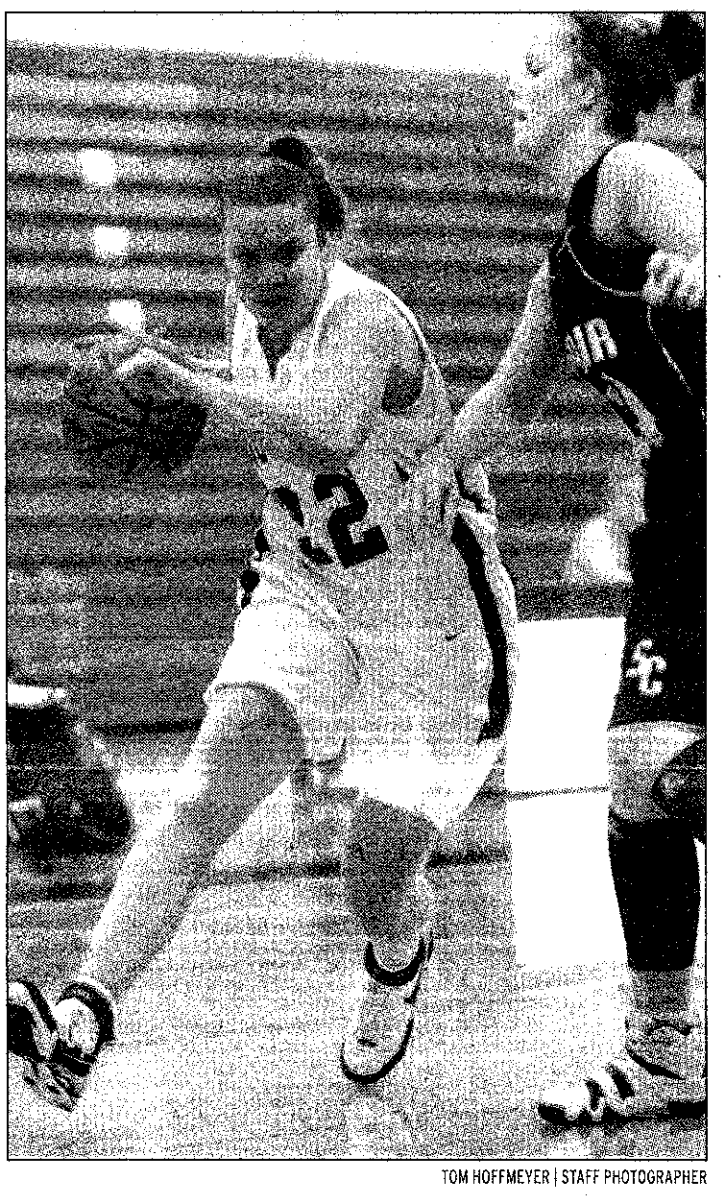
But she seemed to have some explanation in that players might have been looking forward to Wednesday's showdown against conference rival Mott (the team that provided the only blemish on Schoolcraft's 2006-07 season).

"Last year, we were 17-1 and our one loss was to Mott," Lafata said. "Mott's our rival. As much as you say play them one game at a time, it doesn't always happen."

On Monday, Schoolcraft sprinted out to big leads at the beginning of each half only to let the Lady Skippers work their way back into the game.

In the first half, freshman guard Rachel Meharg canned two treys among 10

Please see WOMEN, B3



TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Schoolcraft's Heidi Warczinsky drives against St. Clair's Abigail Schlaegel during Schoolcraft's 70-60 win Monday night over the Lady Skippers.

Churchill wins buzzer-beater against Salem

BY BRAD EMONS
STAFF WRITER

BOYS BASKETBALL

Livonia Churchill boys basketball coach Jim Solak called it "a quality win" following Tuesday's come-from-behind 58-56 triumph over host Salem.

Andrew Vagnetti's jumper from the top of the key at the buzzer proved to be the difference.

The Chargers, who improved to 6-2 overall and 3-0 in the Lakes Division of the Western Lakes Activities Association, used a 21-12 fourth-quarter run to subdue the Rocks.

Ryan Rosenick led the victorious Chargers with 17 points and six rebounds. Vagnetti contributed 13 points, while Ryan Whittum added 12.

"Give their kid (Vagnetti) credit — he hit an off-balance shot at the top of the circle that bounced a few times, hung on the rim and went in," said Salem coach Bob Brodie, whose team slipped to 2-6 overall and 0-3 in the Lakes Division of the WLAA. "He did what he was supposed to do."

Please see CHURCHILL, B3

Depleted Schoolcraft men routed

BY BRAD EMONS
STAFF WRITER

The Schoolcraft College men's basketball team finds itself in an abyss, mired in a six-game losing streak following a 77-49 setback Monday night at home to St. Clair Community College.

The Ocelots, who haven't won since Dec. 5, slipped to 2-11 overall and 2-2 in the Eastern Conference of the Michigan CC Athletic Association.

Schoolcraft scored only 14 points during the first 15 minutes of the opening half and committed a total of 29 turnovers for the game while shooting just 18-of-52 from the field (34.6 percent).

"We've got to get energized and out of this losing mentality," said Schoolcraft first-year coach Randy Henry, who was able to dress only eight players. "We've been getting outworked in all phases and that makes it a long night."

St. Clair (9-5, 1-3) bolted out to a 10-0 lead thanks to a pair of 3-point shots to open the game by 6-foot-1 sophomore guard James Scott (Detroit Finney), who led all scorers with 25 points.

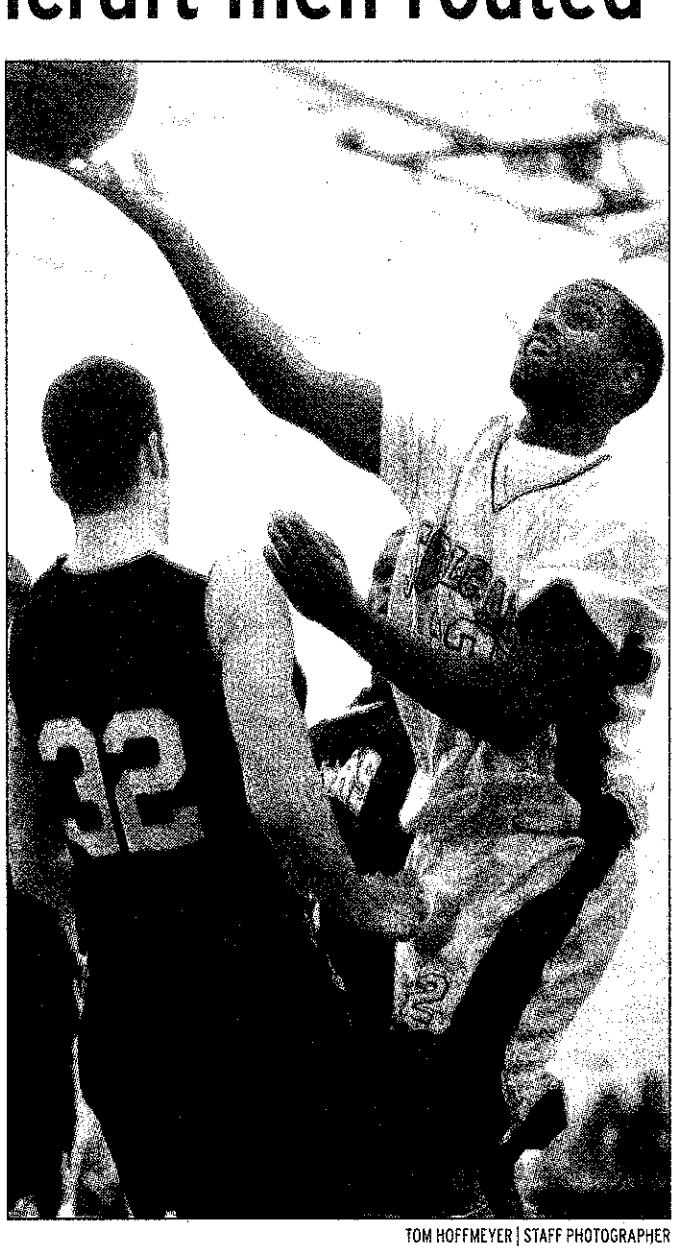
The Skippers, ironically, enjoyed a 39-22 halftime lead despite shooting only 11-of-37 from the floor (27 percent) and turning the ball over 12 times.

"We knew they (Schoolcraft) struggled with their ball-handling and they don't have a true point guard," veteran St. Clair coach Dale Vos said. "We knew they (Schoolcraft) like to play zone (defense) and we were lucky to get them out of that and force them into man-to-man."

Schoolcraft showed some life early in the second half when Anthony Harbin (Belleville) split a pair of free throws to cut the deficit to 44-31 with 15:18 remaining, but the Skippers quickly responded by going on a 14-2 run with Scott keying the surge with his fourth and fifth triples of the night.

"We lost by three Saturday at Delta (College) and we played poorly the second half," Vos said. "When we play well, we look sloppy sometimes as strange

Please see MEN, B3



TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Schoolcraft's Anthony Harbin puts a shot up against St. Clair's Craig Archer during the first-half action of Monday's Eastern Conference game.

Glenn grapplers repeat Troy title

Westland John Glenn claimed six individual titles and 14 medals Saturday by capturing the 13-team Troy Invitational wrestling tournament for the fourth time in five years.

The Rockets ran away with the crown, followed by runner-up Utica Ford. Rounding out the top five were Eastpointe East Detroit, the host Colts and Auburn Hills Avondale.

Individual champions for Glenn included Anthony Pavlich (103 pounds), Jeremiah Austin (125), Jared Stephens (130), Zaid Ammari (140), Gary Lawrence (160) and Scott Brown (171).

PREP WRESTLING

Senior captain Dan McCahill took second at 145, while teammates Steven Wakeford (103), Josh Austin (112), Mark Thompson (119), Nick Shak (135), Jon Meyer (189) and Dustin Gajowiac (285) also claimed medals.

Spartan grapplers fourth

Livonia Stevenson is now 9-4 overall after placing fourth in Saturday's 10-team L'Anse Creuse Invitational wrestling team tournament.

The top six teams included Gaylord, L'Anse Creuse, Saline, Stevenson, Salem and Royal Oak.

The Spartans posted victories over Grosse Pointe North (66-6), Port Huron Northern (49-15) and Royal Oak (51-9), while losing to L'Anse Creuse (38-22) and Saline (32-31).

Senior Ziad Kharbush went undefeated for Stevenson at 160 and 171 pounds, while Anthony Mainella (135) and Mitchell Gonzales (130) also went 5-0.

Emanuel Onwuemene added a 4-1 record at 189.

Stevenson tangles with John Glenn tonight in a WLAA Lakes Division dual match beginning at 7.

sidelines

Conner returned

On Friday, Westland native and Churchill High grad Chris Conner was returned on loan by the NHL Dallas Stars to the Iowa Stars of the American Hockey League.

After being called by Dallas on Nov. 2, the 5-foot-8, 180-pound left winger from Michigan Tech appeared in 22 NHL games this season, registering three goals and two assists with a plus-four rating. He played 15 shifts and a total of 12 minutes, 41 in a 4-1 loss Jan. 2 against the Red Wings at Detroit's Joe Louis Arena.

The 24-year-old Conner was Dallas' leading scorer in the preseason with nine points and appeared in nine games with Iowa this season, recording three goals and two assists.

Last season, Conner notched three points (goal and two assists) in 11 games with Dallas. His first NHL goal came Dec. 27 at Colorado.

MU signs 2 cagers

Madonna University women's basketball coach Carl Graves added two more recruits for the 2008-09 with the signing Saturday of Taylor Truman's Vanessa LaMay and Almont's Brandy Ullum.

"We could not be happier to get both of these players officially in the fold for next season," said Graves, who earlier signed 5-foot-4 Ida guard Erin Bentley. "We have worked very hard to bring them both into the Madonna family, and it's a great day to see it all come full circle."

LaMay, a 5-11 forward, is a four-year varsity player who is currently averaging 20 points and 14 rebounds per game for Truman. She is a three-time All-Downriver selection.

Ullom is a 5-10 forward who also runs track.

LJAL registration

Registration for Livonia Junior Athletic League baseball and softball will be from 6-8 p.m. Monday, Jan. 21 and 28, at Frost Middle School, 14041 Stark Road (just south of Schoolcraft).

The program is open for all boys and girls who are residents of the City of Livonia, or reside in the Livonia Public Schools district.

Churchill icers rebound with 5-2 win

Nate Milam notched a pair of first-period goals, his 25th and 26th of the season, propelling Livonia Churchill to a 5-2 boys hockey victory Saturday over Birmingham Unified in the consolation final of the Ann Arbor Pioneer Invitational at Veterans Arena.

The state-ranked Chargers improved 10-2 overall with the victory, while Birmingham Unified falls to 1-7-1.

"It was a much better effort tonight, but bittersweet that we were unable to put together two solid back-to-back games," said Churchill coach Pete Mazzoni, whose team was coming off a 3-2 setback Friday to host Pioneer. "Hopefully, we now realize we need to be ready to play each and every night out."

PREP HOCKEY

Christo Papaioannou and Cody Atkins assisted on Milam's first goal at 6:42 of the opening period, while Josh Proben and Stefan Kubus drew assists on the senior forward's second goal at 8:55 for a 2-0 Churchill lead.

The Chargers increased their advantage to 4-0 in the second period on Scott Hamill's goal from Atkins just 15 seconds into the period followed by Kody Strong's goal from Garrett Miencier at 5:49.

But Birmingham Unified cut the deficit to 4-2 after two periods on Nick Hurite's power-play goal from Mitch Kessel and Adam Solomon at 11:17 followed by Kessel's goal from Hurite at 13:40.

Churchill's Dan Bostick put the game away with a power-play goal from Miencier at 7:35 of the final period.

Churchill netminder Derrick Daigneau, who improved to 6-0, made 10 saves.

Birmingham Unified goaltender Brandon Kauth stopped 20 shots.

LAKELAND 5, FRANKLIN 0: Michael Denston collected two goals and two assists Saturday to lead host White Lake Lakeland (9-2) past Livonia Franklin (3-7) in a non-league game played at the Lakeland Ice Arena.

Ryan Dixon contributed two goals and one assist for the Eagles, who jumped on Franklin with four first-period goals. Trevor Lloyd also chipped in with a goal and assist for Lakeland, which outshot the Patriots 28-18.

Franklin netminder Austin Mesler made 23 saves, while Lakeland's Jake Freed posted the shutout with 18 saves.

Franklin is now scoreless in seven-and-half periods since Derek Davis and Tyler Miller tallied goals in a 6-2 setback Dec. 28 against Livonia Churchill.

The Patriots have gone winless since Nov. 30 with four of those losses coming against the top two-ranked teams in Division 1 – Livonia Stevenson and Churchill.

LADYWOOD 4, PORT HURON 0: Abby Kienbaum recorded two goals and two assists, while goaltender Michelle Wyniemko stopped all 25 shots to lead Livonia Ladywood (6-5-1, 6-3) to a Michigan Metro Girls High School Hockey League triumph Saturday over host Port Huron at McMorran Arena.

Heather Sartorious also scored twice and added one assist for the Blazers, who led 1-0 after one period and 3-0 after two periods against Port Huron, which slipped to 8-1 in the MMGHSHL.

Quick jump boosts Patriot girls cagers

GIRLS BASKETBALL

The Price was right as Livonia Franklin got off to a fast start and made it stick Tuesday, breaking a two-game losing skid with a 43-30 girls basketball victory over visiting Canton.

The Patriots, who led 19-10 after one period, got a team high 16 points from senior center Ashley Price, 10 coming first eight minutes. She added four more in the second quarter.

Junior Briauna Taylor chipped in with 14 points as the Patriots improved to 7-3 overall and 1-2 in the Western Division of the Western Lakes Activities Association. Twin sister Brittany Taylor grabbed seven rebounds.

"They jumped out to a big lead on us and we were never able to fight back into it," said Canton coach Brian Samulski. "We were down 9-2 before we knew it. They were switching between a zone and man-to-man defense and we didn't do a good enough job moving the ball.

"We had 21 turnovers, so we were reverting back to a lot of the things we were doing the first couple of weeks when we were really struggling. It's the first time we've given up 40 points in a loss in quite awhile."

Senior forward Baylee Hollowell excelled for the Chiefs, netting a game-high 20 points and nine rebounds. Canton was effective at the free throw line, making 14-of-18 attempts. The Patriots were good on just 1-of-7 shots from the stripe.

W.L. NORTHERN 57, STEVENSON 47: Katie Hockstad led a balanced scoring attack with 17 points Tuesday to lift host Walled Lake Northern (7-3, 3-0) to a WLAA-Lakes Division triumph over Livonia Stevenson.

Northern, which connected on six 3-pointers in the opening half to take a 32-22 lead, also got 14 points from Carissa McKenna and 11 from Charli Coram.

Stevenson, which sliced the deficit to six in the final quarter, got 15 points and five rebounds from Kaylee McGrath.

Becca Bartek added 12, while Julia Schroeder and Sarah Smith added nine and seven, respectively.

Stevenson was 10-of-21 from the foul line, while North hit 11-of-18.

SALEM 45, CHURCHILL 32: Alaya Mitchell scored 20 points and Chelsea Davis contributed 12 Tuesday to lead the Rocks (8-2, 3-0) past Livonia Churchill (3-7, 1-2) in a WLAA-Lakes Division game.

Sophomore Darcy DeRoo led the Chargers, who trailed 27-19 at halftime, with eight points.

NORTHVILLE 65, WAYNE 31: In a WLAA-Western Division game Tuesday, the visiting Mustangs (8-3, 3-0) rolled to victory over host Wayne Memorial (3-7, 0-3) as three players scored in double figures led by Annie Tasse's 12 points.

Chelsea Atzinger and Erin Hughes added 11 and 10, respectively, for the Mustangs, who led 35-10 at halftime.

Trenia Barbee's 18 points led Wayne and all scorers. Nastassia Goines added seven.

W.L. CENTRAL 62, JOHN GLENN 39: Kelly Costello made five 3-point field goals and scored 23 points Tuesday to lead host Walled Lake Central (6-4, 2-1) to the WLAA Lakes Division victory over Westland John Glenn (3-7, 0-3).

Brooke Gustafson added nine points and Porsche Dudley eight for the Vikings, who led 35-17 at halftime.

Brittany Brown had 13 points for Glenn, which connected on just 6-of-21 foul shots.

THE WEEK AHEAD

BOYS BASKETBALL
Friday, Jan. 11
Churchill at W.L. Central, 7 p.m.
Franklin at Wayne, 7 p.m.
John Glenn at Stevenson, 7 p.m.
Liggett at Clarenceville, 7 p.m.
Hamtramck at Luth. Westland, 7 p.m.
Huron Valley at Macomb Christian, 7:30 p.m.
GIRLS BASKETBALL
Thursday, Jan. 10
Clarenceville at Liggett, 6:30 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 11
Huron Valley at Macomb Christian, 6 p.m.
W.L. Central at Churchill, 7 p.m.
Wayne at Franklin, 7 p.m.
Stevenson at John Glenn, 7 p.m.
Luth. Westland at Hamtramck, 7 p.m.
Riv. Gab. Richard at Ladywood, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 12
Luth. Westland at New Boston Huron, 7 p.m.
PREP HOCKEY
Friday, Jan. 11
Ladywood vs. Northville (Girls),
Franklin vs. Northville (Boys)
at Novi Ice Rink, 5 & 7 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 12
Stevenson vs. W.L. Central
at Lakeland Ice Arena, 1:20 p.m.
PREP WRESTLING
Thursday, Jan. 10
Clawson, Inter-City at Luth. Westland, 6 p.m.
Salem at Churchill, 6:30 p.m.
Franklin at Wayne, 6:30 p.m.
John Glenn at Stevenson, 6:30 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 12
Novi-Detroit CC Invitational, 9:30 a.m.
Napolean Invitational, 9:30 a.m.
Romulus Invitational, 9:30 a.m.
Lutheran Westland Invitational, 10 a.m.
South Lyon Invitational, TBA.
BOYS SWIMMING & DIVING
Thursday, Jan. 10
Stevenson at Northville, 6:30 p.m.
Churchill at Franklin, 7 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 11
Wayne Invitational prelims, 4 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 12
Wayne Invitational finals, 1 p.m.
GIRLS GYMNASTICS
PREP BOWLING
Saturday, Jan. 12
Crestwood Inv. at Cherry Hill Lanes, 1 p.m.
PREP SKIING
Thursday, Jan. 10
Ladywood vs. W.L. Central
at Alpine Valley, 3:30 p.m.
COMPETITIVE CHEER
Saturday, Jan. 12
Novi Invitational, TBA.
MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Saturday, Jan. 12
Madonna at U-M-Dearborn, 3 p.m.
Kirtland CC at Schoolcraft, 3 p.m.
WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Saturday, Jan. 12
Madonna at U-M-Dearborn, 1 p.m.
Kirtland CC at Schoolcraft, 1 p.m.
ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE
Friday, Jan. 11
Whalers at Sarnia Sting, 7:35 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 12
Whalers vs. Erie at Compuware, 7:05 p.m.
MAJOR INDOOR SOCCER LEAGUE
Friday, Jan. 11
Ignition vs. Chicago at Compuware, 7:35 p.m.
TBA – time to be announced.

C'ville cruises to easy Metro win

Livonia Clarenceville pulled away in the third quarter Tuesday and opened Metro Conference boys basketball play with a 66-46 win at Hamtramck.

Senior point-guard Lonnie Fairfax sparked the Trojans' victory with 18 points and eight assists.

Haniyf Mark added 12 points, including a pair of third-period triples, and grabbed a game-high 15 rebounds for Clarenceville, now 5-1 overall and 1-0 in the Metro.

Jamie Stewart and Jeremy Gainer finished with 11 and nine points, respectively, as the Trojans extended third lead to 64-36 in the final period.

Tarik Cehajic's 11 points paced the Cosmos (0-6, 0-1).

"We had three good quarters and one bad quarter," said Clarenceville coach Corey McKendry, whose team made 9-of-15 free throws (66.6 percent).

BOYS BASKETBALL

LUTHERAN N'WEST 45, LUTH. WESTLAND 41: Sam Ahlersmeyer scored 13 points and Josh Kruger added 12, but it wasn't enough Tuesday as visiting Lutheran High Westland (1-4, 0-2) fell at Rochester Hills Lutheran Northwest (3-3, 1-0) in a Metro Conference encounter.

Northwest, led by Matt Rolf's 10 points, made a 17-11 first-quarter advantage hold up.

LUTHERAN SOUTH 55, HURON VALLEY 52 (OT): On Tuesday, Brad Puchalsky riddled the nets for a game-high 29 points, including four triples, to lead Newport Lutheran South (4-2) past host Westland Huron Valley Lutheran (1-4) in a non-conference game.

The Hawks' Kyle Tacia split a pair of free throws with 8.1 seconds left in regulation to knot the count at 48-all and sent the game into overtime.

Aaron Howell and Chad Fielek (who fouled out), scored 14 and 10, respectively, for Huron Valley. The Saints then outscored Huron Valley 7-4 in the four-minute extra session.

Lutheran South was 17-of-43 from the foul line, while Huron Valley made 9-of-21.

Yankee 'clutch' for Warriors

Lutheran High Westland survived a cliffhanger Tuesday with a 35-34 Metro Conference giris basketball victory over visiting Rochester Hills Lutheran Northwest.

Junior guard Allyson Yankee, who finished with a team-high 15 points, came up with a steal off an inbounds pass as time expired to secure the victory as the Warriors improved to 6-1 overall and 4-0 in the Metro.

Becca Refenes, a 6-foot-2 junior center, added eight points for the Warriors, who shot only 9-of-42 from the field.

Lutheran Westland, however, won it at the free throw line by hitting 17-of-29 to Northwest's 5-of-12.

Katie Washburn's 15 points led the Crusaders, who slipped to 3-5 and 2-1.

Northwest coach Mike Murphy, who employed a triangle-and-two defense against the Warriors, was ejected from the game with 1:49 left after receiving a pair of technical fouls.

CLARENCEVILLE 71, HAMTRAMCK 35: In a Metro Conference game Tuesday, host Livonia Clarenceville (5-5, 2-1) used a diamond press to spark a 21-3 third-quarter run to beat the Cosmos (0-9, 0-2).

Amber O'Halloran scored 15 points to pace a balanced Clarenceville scoring attack.

Chenay Kemp chipped in with 14 points, while Amanda Moody finished with 12 points and six assists. Jenna Burgess contributed 10 points and 13 rebounds.

Marlena Gudel and Dazshavon Hall tallied 16 and 12, respectively, for Hamtramck, which trailed by only one after the first period, 13-12.

HURON VALLEY 37, TAYLOR BAPTIST 36: Westland Huron Valley Lutheran (5-3, 1-0) survived a frantic final 40 seconds Tuesday to hold off host Taylor Baptist Park Christian (1-3, 0-1) in a Michigan Independent Athletic Conference game.

Lauren Adlof scored 13 points for the victorious Hawks, who outscored Taylor Baptist 12-7 in the decisive fourth quarter. Teammate Katie Kipfmiller chipped in with eight.

The Wildcats, who failed to convert on two free throws and a 17-foot jumper in the final seven seconds, got nine points from Emily Blum.

GYMNASTICS RESULTS

GIRLS GYMNASTICS RESULTS
Jan. 7 at Walled Lake Central
TEAM SCORES: 1. Livonia Blue, 144.45 points; 2. Livonia Red, 138.25; 3. Walled Lake Western-Walled Lake Northern, 137.7; 4. Walled Lake Central, 135.58.
INDIVIDUAL RESULTS
Vault: 1. Emily Quint (Blue), 9.45; 2. Taylor Meredyk (WLC), 9.3; 3. Paula Guzik (Red), 9.2; 4. Laura Nomura (Blue), 9.1
Uneven bars: 1. Meghan Powers (Blue), 9.2; 2. Quint (Blue), 9.35; 3. Liz Sumner (WLW-WLN), 9.0; 4. Guzik (Red), 8.9.
Balance beam: 1. Quint (Blue), 9.35; 2. Sumner (WLW-WLN), 9.25; 3. (tie) Guzik (Red) and Alicia DiMauro (Red), 9.0 each; 4. Tatiana Palafax (WLC), 8.85.
Floor exercise: 1. Quint (Blue), 9.7; 2. (tie) Nomura (Blue) and Powers (Blue), 9.35; 4. (tie) DiMauro (Red) and Sumner (WLW-WLN), 9.25.
All-around: 1. Quint (Blue), 37.65; 2. Powers (Blue), 36.25; 3. Sumner (WLW-WLN), 36.00; 4. (tie) Guizk (Red) and DiMauro (Red), 35.80 each.
Dual meet records: Livonia Blue, 4-0 overall; Livonia Red, 3-1 overall.

BOYS SWIM RESULTS

LIVONIA FRANKLIN 119, JOHN GLENN 63
Jan. 8 at John Glenn
200-yard medley relay: 1. Franklin (Joe Michniewicz, Sean Wilson, Scott Ansteth, Scott James), 2:01.38; 2. John Glenn, 2:07.45; 3. John Glenn, 2:20.69.
200 freestyle: 1. Shane Shelton (LF), 2:01.78; 2. James (LF), 2:11.0; 3. Eric Madaj (LF), 2:35.39.
200 individual medley: 1. Nick Anthony (LF), 2:14.17; 2. Brandon Larkins (LF), 2:16.68; 3. Justin Rose (WJG), 2:57.62.
50 freestyle: 1. Billy Lyons (WJG), 25.06; 2. Wilson (LF), 25.37; 3. Shawn Long (WJG), 25.70.
1-meter diving: 1. Cody Rowe (WJG), 179.35 points; 2. Connor Monroe (WJG), 114.55; 3. Mark Robbins (LF), 97.50.
100 butterfly: 1. Anthony (LF), 58.03; 2. Ansteth (LF), 1:04.81; 3. Jon Lara (WJG), 1:25.37.
100 freestyle: 1. Shelton (LF), 54.10; 2. Lyons (WJG), 58.07; 3. Michniewicz (LF), 58.81.
500 freestyle: 1. James (LF), 5:40.65; 2. Brett Woods (LF), 6:55.86; 3. Madaj (LF), 7:01.22.
200 freestyle relay: 1. Franklin (Larkins, Wilson, Anthony, Shelton), 1:40.88; 2. John Glenn, 1:47.25; 3. Franklin, 2:00.8.
100 backstroke: 1. Ansteth (LF), 1:06.18; 2. Lara (WJG), 1:21.25; 3. Danny Kosmalski (LF), 1:32.48.
100 breaststroke: 1. Larkins (LF), 1:10.14; 2. Justin Groves (WJG), 1:17.86; 3. Denis Knight, Jr. (WJG), 1:18.5.
400 freestyle relay: 1. Franklin (Anthony, Shelton, James, Larkins), 3:52.74; 2. Franklin, 4:13.51; 3. John Glenn, 4:38.26.
Dual meet record: Franklin, 1-0 overall; John Glenn, 1-2 overall.

Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property.
Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, ***PS Orangeco, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc.*** *will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage located at 12900 Newburgh Rd Livonia MI 48150 (734)591-6447 on 1/25/08* at 10:00 am. Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due.

Personal property described below in the matter of:
A007 – Robbie Fox – Mattress, 30 Boxes, Treadmill
B030 – Bobbie Pinion – 2 Toll Boxes, Range, China Cabinet
B033 – Vincent Shepherd – Mattress, Sofa, 5 Boxes
B040 – Joseph A DeSanto – TV, Trunk, 20 Boxes
C007 – Kelly Warner – Bike, TV, Microwave
C011 – Mario Mickel – 15 Boxes, Toys, Misc Items
C024 – Dawn McGuinness – Couch, Washer, TV
C053 – Mike Yarbrough – 10 Totes, 10 Boxes, Stereo
C056 – Robin Justin – Guitar, 20 Boxes, Misc Items
D015 – Anthony Fica – Refrigerator, Washer, Dresser
D055 – David Nathaniel – 10 Boxes, 2 Kid Bikes, Misc Items
D085 – Nancy Bebbett - File Cabinet, 10 Boxes, Misc Items
D137 – Alice Hudgins – 8 Totes, 10 Boxes, TV
D159 – Douglas Massey – 8 Boxes, Refrigerator, Jukebox
E002 – TMS Inc. – 20 Boxes, Misc Items
E107 – Willie Drake – TV, Dresser, China Cabinet
E108 – Frederick Justin – 3 Bikes, Couch, Snowblower
F018 – Michael Nation - 2 Boxes, Clothing, Misc Items
F054 – Jonathon Atkins – Keybboard, Guitar, Clothes

Publish: January 10 & 17, 2008
OE08580154 – 2x4

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Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, ***PS Orangeco, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc.*** *will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage located at 30300 Plymouth Rd. Livonia MI 48150 (734)522-2274* on 1/25/08 at 9:30 am. Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due.

Personal property described below in the matter of:
2035 – Carol Uren – 50 Boxes, 2 Totes, TV
3020 – Lynda Jordan – 2 Bags, 35 Totes
3089 – Ericka Murphy – Washer, Dryer, 10 Boxes
3113 – Laura Kidd – Toolbox, 2 Totes, 5 Boxes
3137 – Jahna Bembry – 5 Totes, 10 Bags, Lawnmower
4004 – Robert Johnson – Aquarium, Table saw, 2 Ladders
4035 – Lynda Jordan – 20 Totes, 5 Boxes, Misc Items
4066 – Alex, Asis – 50 Boxes, 3 Bags, 2 Totes
4112 – Betty Davis – 10 Boxes, 2 Totes, End Table
4129 – Jonathan Pryor – 6 TV's, Clothing Table
4130 – Maria Flumerfelt – Chair, Table, Misc Items
4134 – Matthew Ramsey – VCR, 4 Chairs, Entertainement Center
4176 – John Flumerfelt – 2 Ladders, Misc Equipment, Industrial Fan
5072 – Carmen Gordon – Riding Lawnmower, Chainsaw, Lawnmower
5112 – Valerie Cook – Chair, Table, Couch

Publish: January 10 & 17, 2008
OE08580153 – 2x3.5

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE
PURSUANT TO STATE LAW A SALE WILL BE HELD AT:
SECURED SELF STORAGE, 12851 Inkster, Livonia, MI
JANUARY 26TH @ 10:00 AM
#243 MATHEW BEN
#274 THOMAS BROWN
#440 RONALD COLLINS
#487 SHAWN BAILEY JR.
#1201 PHYLLIS WILLIAMS
#1206 LATOSHA STOKES
#3138 PAMELA HUTCHINS
#3165 ERIC PATTERSON
UNITS CONTAIN: MISC HOUSEHOLD ITEMS
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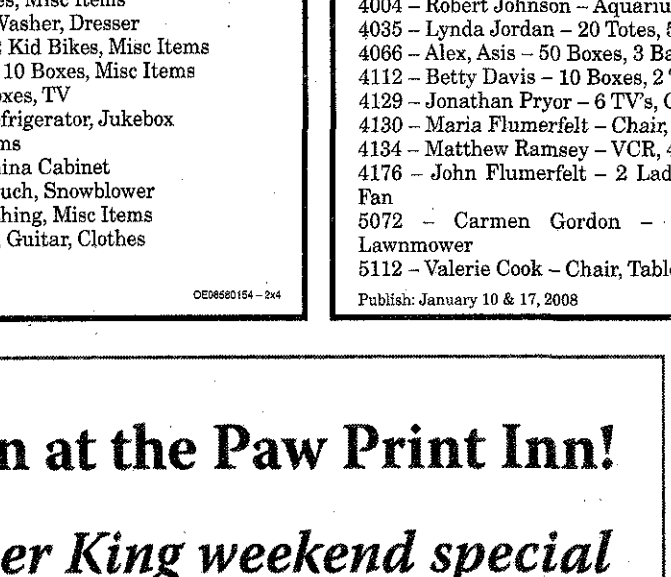

Detroit Pistons Youth Basketball Clinic
Conducted by
Coach Steve Moreland
Saturday, January 26, 2008
Space Limited - Pre Registration Required
Boys & Girls Grades 1-3
12:00 to 12:30 p.m. - Warm-up time
12:30 to 1:45 p.m. - Basketball Clinic
1:45 to 2:00 p.m. - Coach's Corner
Boys & Girls Grades 4-6
2:00 to 2:30 p.m. - Warm-up time
2:30 to 3:45 p.m. - Basketball Clinic
3:45 to 4:00 p.m. - Coach's Corner
Only $20 per child • Parents bring your cameras
Each participant receives an Authentic "Piston Basketball" T-Shirt Free
• Parents can purchase discounted Pistons tickets & be invited to attend with their children the pre-game "shoot around" at courtside at the Palace of Auburn Hills.
WARD *Evangelical Presbyterian Church*
40000 Six Mile Road (Just West of Haggerty)
248-374-5932
margy.burkhart@wardchurch.org
HT00391923

WOMEN

FROM PAGE B1

points over the final eight minutes to keep the visitors close.

Schoolcraft held just a 29-28 lead after Meharg's second three-ball, but the Lady Ocelots took a 35-30 advantage into the intermission.

"We made too many turnovers (in the first half) that were uncharacteristic," said Lafata, whose team gave the ball away a dozen times before halftime.

It was a four-point differential (37-33) early in the second half following a bucket by St. Clair sophomore guard Kim Lackowski.

That's when Warczinsky started to take control, hitting triples from the right flank and top of the arc in quick succession and driving through the lane before dishing off to sophomore forward Shana King (10 points, 10 rebounds) for a layup.

"She (Warczinsky) brings a lot of energy," Lafata said. "She's just a real head-sy player."

Back-to-back baskets by sophomore guard Adrena Walker-Price (15 points) increased the lead to 53-36, with about 13 minutes remaining.

But, to Lafata's chagrin, her team did not "clamp down" as she wanted it to. The Lady Skippers charged back, and cut the deficit down to eight (68-60) in the final minute.

Even though St. Clair had no reasonable chance to come all the way back, hurt by their poor free-throw shooting (11-of-20), the Lady Skippers perhaps earned a moral victory of sorts.

"I'm really proud of them and the way they just went after them," said St. Clair head coach Carrie Lohr. "We really had nothing to lose.

"Going into it, I said to them 'We're the underdogs, we've just got to give it all we've got for 40 minutes.' Quite frankly, I thought we played a really strong 35 minutes, probably the best we could play."

Also scoring 10 for the Skippers was freshman guard-forward Abigail Schlaegel, with a seven-block performance from 6-3 freshman center Tyesha O'Neal (a 2002 Redford Union graduate) doing plenty to rattle the home team.

St. Clair's hustle and defense clogged up the lane for stretches, effectively minimizing offensive contributions from Schoolcraft sophomore power forwards Janelle Harris (five points, 10 rebounds) and Antoinette Brown (three points, five boards). But the Lady Ocelots did get help from other players, including King, sophomore guard Brittney Ivey (11 points, five assists) and freshman guard Sheray Brown (12 rebounds).

Lafata said she is confident the harder-than-expected victory will turn into a learning experience.

"We're going to learn something from it and realize people are going to come and play us hard," she said. "We have to be ready and not take things for granted."

On Saturday, Harris and Brown had no such problems scoring — tallying 13 and 19 points, respectively — as Schoolcraft blew past host Macomb, 87-48. Chipping in with 14 points was Walker-Price.

Cassie Patrick scored 12 for Macomb (6-6, 1-2).

MEN

FROM PAGE B1

as it sounds. But that's because we play with a lot of defensive energy and toughness, and that's how we get our offense."

John Kotermanski came off the bench to add 11 points for the Skippers, who improved to 14-of-32 from the floor (43.7 percent) during the second half.

Greg Leavell (Farmington Hills Harrison) led the Ocelots with 13 points, while Anthony Wafer (Belleville), who missed a put-back two-handed jam to start the game, and Alex Nason (Clawson) added 11 and 10, respectively.

To make matters worse, three of the Ocelots' eight players fouled out.

Things don't get any easier for the Ocelots, who traveled Wednesday to Flint to meet Eastern Conference leader Mott CC (11-2, 4-0). Henry admitted he may be down to seven players with one currently on the fence academically.

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CHURCHILL

FROM PAGE B1

Trailing 26-21 at intermission, while being outrebounded 19-5 (including 13 Salem offensive rebounds), Solak went into his bag of trick and pulled out a full-court press. It resulted in 15 second-half steals (20 for the game) led by senior guard Daran Carey's nine.

"We did not panic and we locked up defensively," said Solak, whose team trailed by as many as 11 points in the third quarter. "The second half we started playing well defensively. We played defensively the way we prepared to play defense."

Grant Stone's 22 points led Salem (2-6, 0-3), but the senior swingman was held by Whittum to two fourth-quarter points.

Ross Davis added 14 and 14 rebounds for the Rocks, who attempted just one free throw.

Churchill was 8-of-11 from the line.

WAYNE 57, NORTHVILLE 51: Mike Lee tallied 13 points and John Hill turned in his best outing of the season with 11 points and 10 rebounds to propel Wayne Memorial (6-2, 3-0) to a WLAA Western Division win over the host Mustangs (4-4, 2-1).

"It was his (Hill's) best game by far," Wayne coach Wayne Woodard said. "We shared the ball and were able to rebound against their (Northville's) size."

Jeremy Lovelady, a 6-foot-11 senior center, chipped in with 10 points for the Zebras, who led 30-26 at halftime.

Greg Hasse's 18 points led Northville and all scorers. Teammate Dan Kirkpatrick added 13.

FRANKLIN 63, CANTON 54: On Tuesday, Livonia Franklin (3-5, 2-1) posted a 29-point fourth quarter to rally and down the host Chiefs (3-5, 0-3).

Junior forward Jeff Poole led the comeback with 21 points — 15 of which came during the final eight minutes. Senior forward Israel Woolfork added 15 points for the winners.

Neil Sharma led Canton with 17 points and seven rebounds.

Canton led 15-12 after one quarter, 30-25 at the half and 44-34 with eight minutes left.

"Our full-court pressure is what did it," Franklin coach Jeremy Rheault said.

Canton hit 13-of-16 free throws, while the Patriots made 19-of-31 attempts.

JOHN GLENN 57, W.L. CENTRAL 31: Junior guard Austin Anderson's 14 points paced a balanced scoring attack Tuesday as host Westland John Glenn (7-1, 3-0) routed Walled Lake Central (5-4, 2-1) in WLAA Lakes Division game.

The Rockets, who trailed 17-13 after one quarter, outscored the Vikings 16-2 during the second quarter and put it away with a 17-7 third-quarter run.

Keshawn Martin added 11 points for Glenn, which shot 12-of-16 from the foul line. Jordan Manier, a 6-foot-8 senior center, added eight points and 12 rebounds.

Derek Mitchell scored 10 of his team-high 14 for Central in the first quarter. Cody Rzeznik added 10.

STEVENSON 58, W.L. NORTHERN 57: Junior Brian Rowe tallied 12 points, including the game-winning free throw with only five seconds remaining, to give Livonia Stevenson (3-5, 1-2) a WLAA Lakes Division triumph Tuesday over visiting Walled Lake Northern (0-8, 0-3).

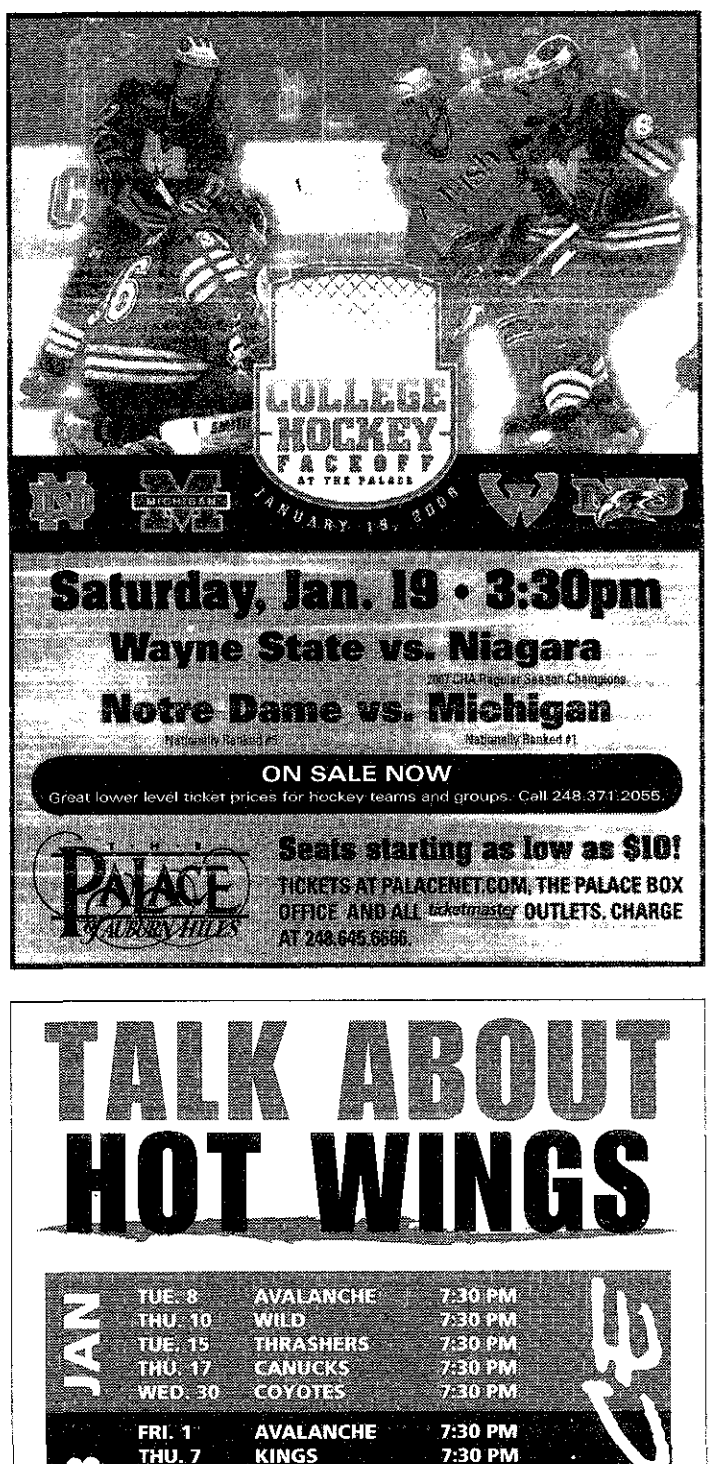
"It was a complete team effort, good balance, a good team victory," Stevenson first-year coach Mike Allie said.

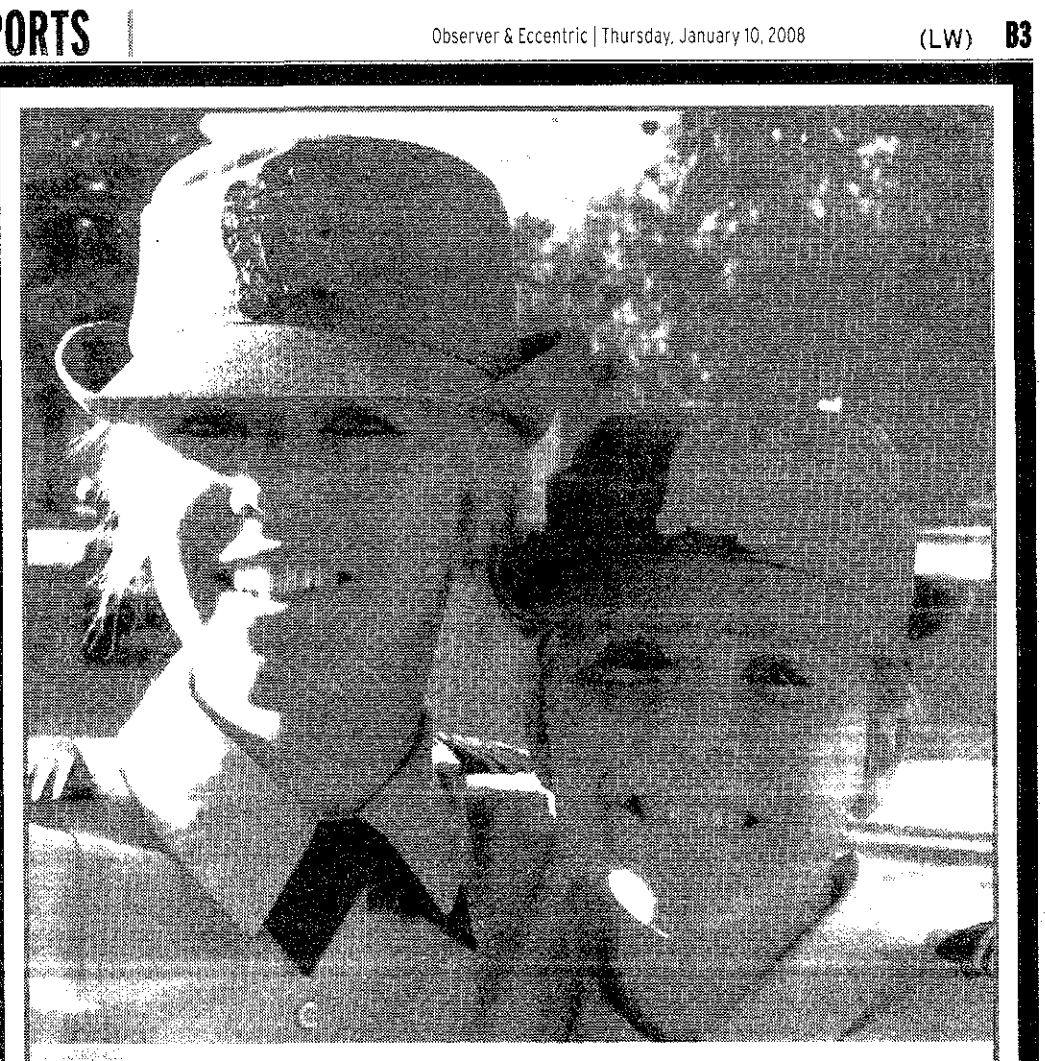
The Spartans, who rallied from a 50-37 third-period deficit, also got 11 points from junior Mark Grisa and 10 from junior Gary Cobb (including a high-rising dunk in the final quarter).

Sophomore Austin White added nine, while junior center Kendal Snow chipped in with eight.

Andy Tinkey (16), Tim Ferenc (14) and Leroy Jackson (13) paced the Northern scoring effort.

Stevenson was 15-of-23 from the foul line, while Northern hit 6-of-13.





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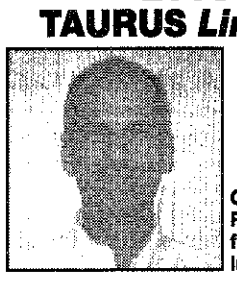

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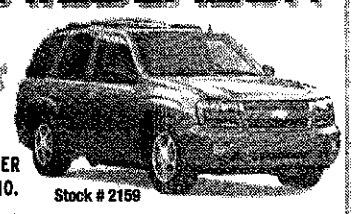

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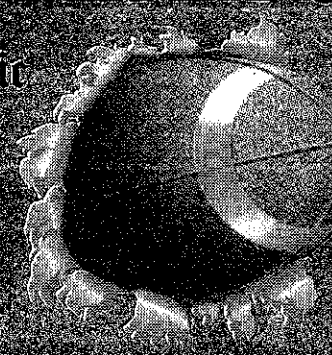

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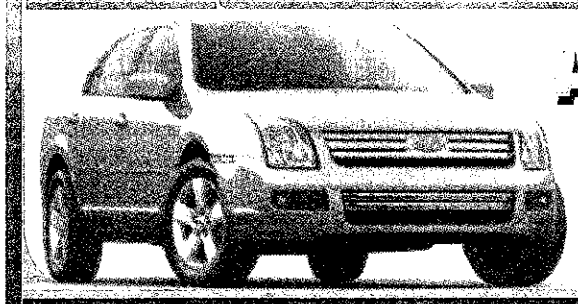

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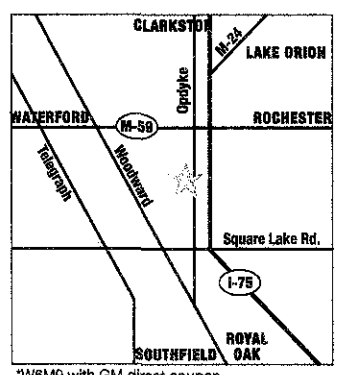

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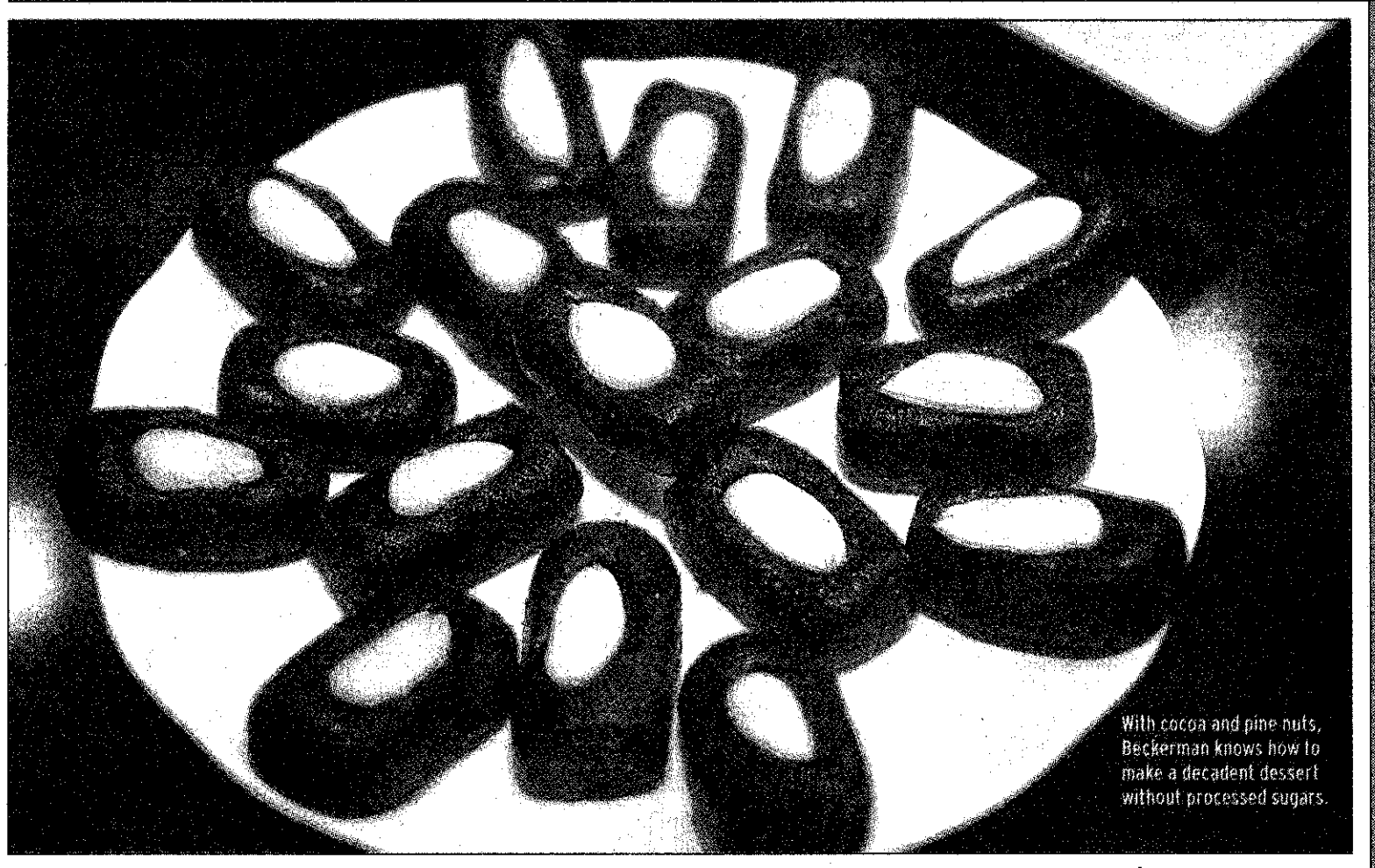
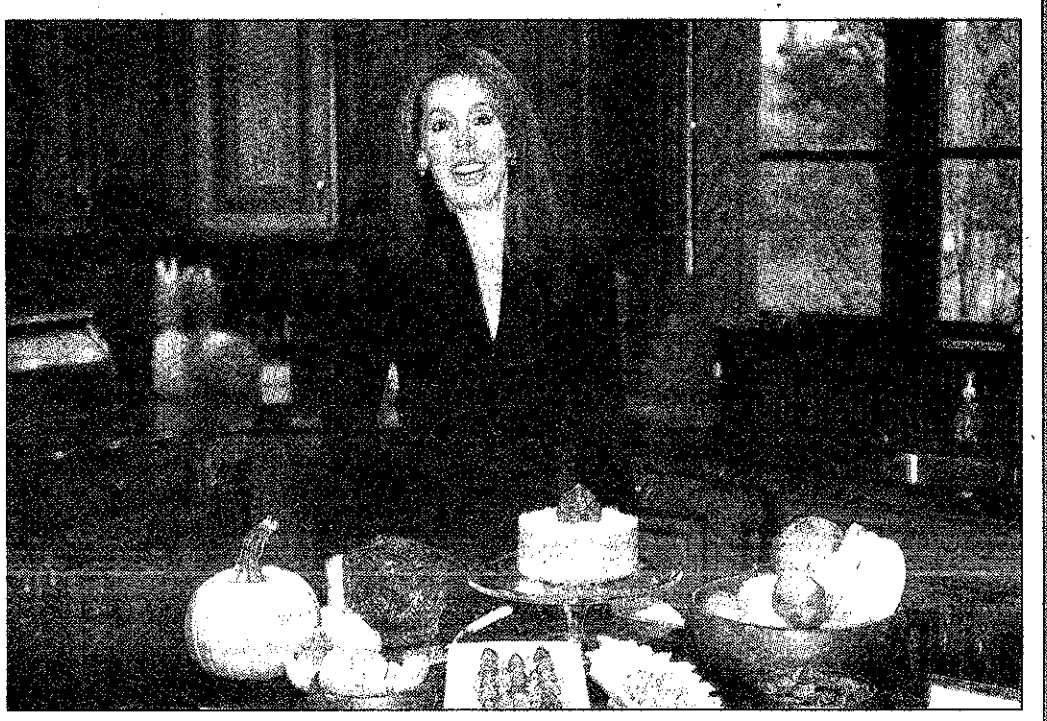


With cocoa and pine nuts, Beckerman knows how to make a decadent dessert without processed sugars.

Eat it Raw!

Local chef is on a quest to stop cooking

BY LANA MINI
STAFF WRITER



Mary Beckerman and her creations of raw, healthful gourmet desserts.

Chef Mary Beckerman has a solution for those who want to eat well, but have little time to cook:

Stop cooking.

Simple.

Just stop cooking and eat your food raw.

Does the idea of just chewing naturally on a celery stalk sound boring? Probably. In the modern world, we rarely eat food in its pure form — unless it's in a salad.

But Beckerman's meals are raw and not limited to bowls of lettuce.

A food connoisseur and professional chef, Beckerman relishes gourmet cuisine.

The only difference between her and the majority of the us is that her decadent foods aren't cooked. She's part of the growing raw food movement is spreading nationwide in popularity.

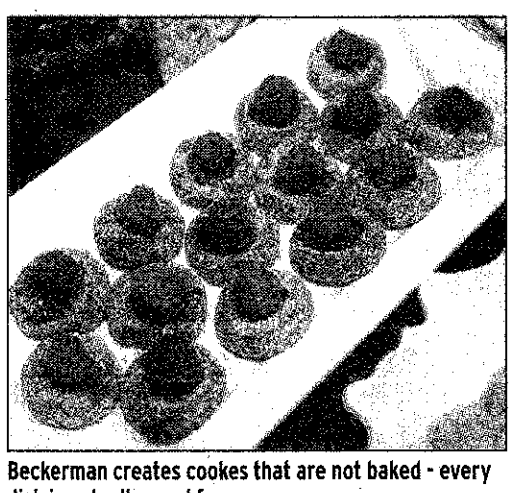
Raw pasta (zucchini or squash based); raw deserts of cakes and cookies; gourmet wraps of kale, raw dairyless cheeses derived from almonds or cashews and breads that are dehydrated rather than baked are part of the cuisine. Raw foods are so nutritious and low in fat, there's hardly such thing as over-eating — so you can eat all you want and stay trim.

Sound intriguing?

Chef Beckerman, of West Bloomfield, is a graduate of both Wayne State University and Living Light Culinary Arts Institute in California. She's lived a raw, vegan diet for years, meaning none of her food is cooked over 118 degrees because any temperature above that mark kills essential enzymes and other nutrients, she said.

All of her foods are plant-based. She refrains from all meats, poultry, fish, eggs, dairy and other animal by-products. She's a vegan — a term that is also soaring in popularity since the New York Times Bestselling book and cookbook *Skinny Bitch* came out last year.

"If humans were meant to eat animal products, we wouldn't have to cook or pasteurize it to make it safe," Beckerman said. "Humans are herbivores by nature — our teeth and digestive tracts are the same as herbivores, not carnivores."



Beckerman creates cookes that are not baked - every dish is actually good for you.

LIVING RAW

Beckerman is president of Lovin' Goodies and Marbec Ltd. Her passion are delicious cuisine and superior nutrition, and her work to cultivate healthy minds, bodies, and spirits is done through demonstration workshops, catering, training and consultations.

She also chairs the Healthy U Steering Committee program at the Jewish Community Center, where she is developing programs in partnership with health organizations such as Henry Ford Hospital, Detroit Medical Center, Abbot Labs and Weight Watchers.

Beckerman teaches classes and also works with corporations to help offer healthier foods in their cafeterias; less employee sickness saves money.

"Plant foods also promote healthy weight and help prevent chronic illnesses such as diabetes and heart disease," Beckerman said and groups like the American Cancer Institute confirm.

Stylish, svelte, physically fit and radiating with energy, Beckerman is one of those people who never seem tired even though she's a multitasker.

Eyes turned to her recently as she walked through the Rugby Grille of the Townsend Hotel. Her long auburn hair, designer clothing and cosmetics seemed to scream: celebrity.

And raw food is credited as a beauty and healthy lifestyle for many celebrities like Demi Moore, Woody Harrelson, and Red Hot Chili Peppers frontman Anthony Kedis. She's catered for David Bowie, Kiss and Aerosmith.

Please see **RAW, D2**

Recipes

BASIC ALMOND COOKIE BY MARY BECKERMAN

1 cup almonds (soaked and dehydrated)
½ cup walnuts (soaked and dehydrated)
1 & ½ cup pitted dates (about 15)
¼ teaspoon almond extract
pinch of salt

You will need a food dehydrator to dry the nuts. Or, see bottom information for a variation. In a food processor with an S blade add almonds and walnuts and process till crumbly.

Add extract, salt and dates one at a time while processing till entirely mixed. Use a small scooper to form into one-inch balls. Place on tray in refrigerator for about one hour. Garnish with one blanched almond on each cookie Variations: Coat with shredded coconut to make "Almond Coco-NUT Snowballs." Coat with fine almond flour and garnish with whole almond, fresh raspberry and date jam to make "Thumbprint Jewels." Or, add one-quarter cup cocoa powder, replace almond extract with vanilla and coat with cocoa to make "Heavenly Truffles" You can still make cookies if you are not able to soak and dehydrate the nuts. However, soaking and dehydrating releases enzymes trapped inside nuts.

COLLARD GREEN WRAPS BY RAWGURU.COM

Nutty Filling
½ cup soaked hazelnuts
½ cup soaked sunflower seeds
½ cup soaked almonds
1-2 sticks celery (chopped)
½ cup of water
1 tablespoon olive oil
1 tablespoon agave nectar (found at natural food stores, it looks like honey)
3 tablespoons lemon juice
Salt to taste

Process everything for the filling in a food processor. Spoon 2-3 tablespoons of the nutty filling in each collard green. Tie 1 green onion around the wrap to keep it from falling apart. Garnish the sides with chopped tomatoes.

SPAGHETTI

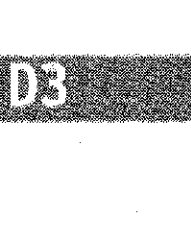
4 yellow zucchini cut on a saladacco, toss in a dash of lemon juice and set aside.
Sauce
2 cups organic cherry tomatoes
1 cup sun dried tomatoes soaked in three-quarter cup water for 90 minutes
1 teaspoon tomato paste
2 dates, soaked for two hours
3 tablespoons olive oil
2 cloves garlic
2 tablespoons fresh parsley
1 pinch fresh oregano
1 handful fresh basil
1 teaspoon sea salt

Blend sauce ingredients until smooth. Add a little soaked water from the tomatoes for a thinner sauce. Toss with "spaghetti" and top with blended almonds if desired.

Looking back on the best tech of 2007

Many years ago, I made a resolution to stop making new year's resolutions, and I'm proud to say I've stuck to it.

I do, however, enjoy looking back on the year gone by. 2007 witnessed some truly peachy products and services (along with a few lemons); I've corralled some of the year's best and worst.



Tech Savvy

Rick Broida

BEST PHONE: APPLE IPHONE

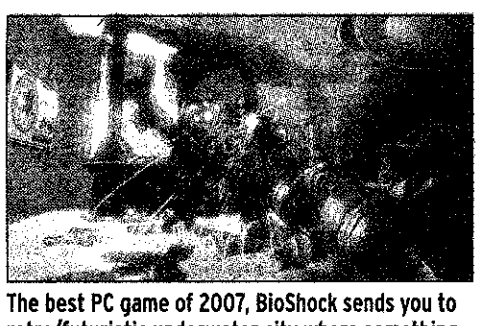
I know it's the obvious choice, but nothing else came close. The iPhone redefines the category, proving that a cell phone can do more than just make and take calls. A lot more.

In addition to calling amenities like visual voicemail, the iPhone serves up music, movies, photos, and Web browsing that's functional instead of aggravating. Here's hoping 2008 brings new models with more storage and a faster network.

BEST PHONE SERVICE: VERIZON CHAPERONE

For working parents who want to keep tabs on their kids' whereabouts, there's no better solution than Chaperone. In addition to real-time location tracking, it can alert you when a child reaches a designated area (like home or school).

Your child will need a Chaperone-compatible phone (standard prices apply) and the service itself, which costs $9.99 monthly. That's a small price to pay for this kind of peace of mind. (Even so, I'm still waiting for Verizon to get smart and make it free.)



The best PC game of 2007, BioShock sends you to retro/futuristic underwater city where something has gone horribly wrong.

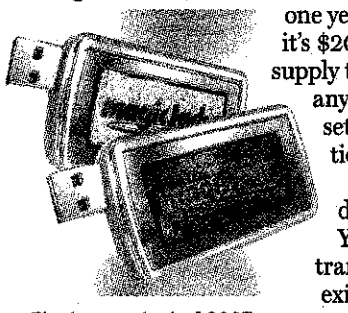
BEST GAME: BIOSHOCK

Imagine waking up inside a Stephen King novel and you'll have a pretty good idea what it's like to play BioShock. Somehow retro and futuristic at the same time, BioShock combines terrific storytelling (yes, storytelling!) with white-knuckle first-person action.

Though I don't recommend it for casual gamers or those with low-end PCs (it requires a lot of horsepower), I definitely rank it as my favorite game of 2007.

BEST PRODUCT: MAGICJACK

Almost too good to be true, the $40 MagicJack (magicjack.com) plugs into a USB port and provides unlimited local and long-distance calling for one year. After that, it's $20 per year. You supply the phone: any corded handset or base station will do.



The top product of 2007, MagicJack offers unlimited local and long-distance phone calls for just $40.

The only downsides: You can't transfer your existing phone number (one reason this works best as a second line), and you have to leave a computer running 24/7. But who cares? $40!

BEST MUSIC STORE: AMAZONMP3

Better late than never: It took Amazon years to get into the music-download game, but it was worth the wait. AmazonMP3 (amazonmp3.com) sells restriction-free MP3s that play on any computer or portable device. No hassles, no b.s., just fair and affordable music downloads.

Amazon just added Warner Music's catalog, bringing its library close to 3 million songs. For anyone who likes to buy music online, there's no reason to shop anywhere else.

Please see **TECH SAVVY, D2**

TECH SAVVY

FROM PAGE D1

BEST TECH COMPANY: GOOGLE

Google could charge for Gmail and I'd pay for it. Google could charge for Picasa and I'd pay for it.

Same goes for Google Docs, Google Earth, and countless other Google applications and services.

But the company continues to give away the store, and I love them for it.

WORST PRODUCT: WINDOWS VISTA

We waited all those years for this? Microsoft's new OS is a sluggish, buggy, complex disaster. I can't think of a single new feature that makes it worth having, except perhaps for Media Center (which has changed for the worse over the 2005 version).

Unfortunately, we're stuck with it. Although a handful of PC vendors still offer Windows XP, at some point we'll all be living in a Vista world. It's almost enough to make me want to buy a Mac. Almost.

WORST TIME-WASTER: SCRABULOUS

I don't use social-networking service Facebook for anything except Scrabulous, the startlingly addictive turn-based Scrabble knockoff played online against friends (real and virtual).

It's great fun, but it can easily eat up 30 minutes of my day before I even realize it. I may have to break my no-resolutions resolution and resolve to break the habit!

Rick Broida writes about computers and technology for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. Broida, of Commerce Township, is the co-author of numerous books, including How to Do Everything with Your Palm Powered Device, Sixth Edition. He welcomes questions sent to rick.broida@gmail.com.

RAW

FROM PAGE D1

Beckerman said humbly that her beauty comes from within. She hasn't had a flu or cold in years, she said.

"I'm healthy on the inside and maybe that radiates to the outside," she said. "I put living foods, fresh foods into my body. Why do we want to eat dead foods?"

Dead food, raw foodists say, is food cooked at the 118 degree mark or above. Many studies help validate the raw case. For example, it's known now that olive oil cooked too high can cause the release of free radicals and kill the oil's antioxidant effects, according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Preparing raw foods is easy and can please the most finicky eater because you can still have foods like pizza and chips, just healthy versions of it, Beckerman said.

When Beckerman dines at the Rugby Grille she works with chefs there who prepare raw meals for her. On one day she had a gourmet salad with exotic greens, pomegranates, avocados and sprouts. Her dessert was a raw pistachio parfait.

TEACHING RAW

Beckerman teaches raw food classes at several locations including Designs Unlimited in Birmingham where this month's class is about healthy condiments and sauces.

"There's so much sugar and hidden fats in our condiments," she said. "It's an easy way to improve your diet.

In February she'll teach a class there about healthy meals for families and in March the topic is super-cleansing foods. At the Whole Foods store in Ann Arbor she's taught courses on raw desserts and wraps — which she will do again this year.

Her raw fundamental courses teach the importance of incorporating more living foods into the diet.

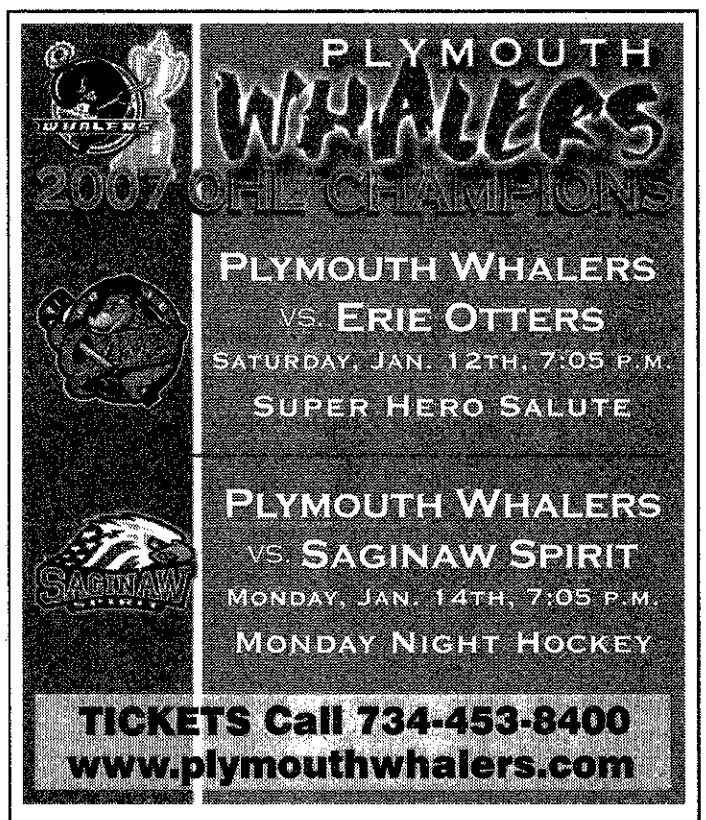
Her "antioxidant and phytochemicals" class teaches about nutrients and delicious ways to incorporate antioxidants, vitamins and minerals without sacrificing flavor.

Other courses include: guide to managing your raw food kitchen, eat your veggies, low-fat diets, beyond dairy, wheat and gluten-free diets, peak performance for athletes and divine desserts.

She teaches how to make foods like pies, tarts, cookies, cakes and candies; wraps and more.

Beckerman currently serves as director of corporate wellness at Trillacorpe, an international government contractor focused on health care, homeland security, and environmental clean-up. Plus she's director of wellness for the annual Raw Spirit Festival in Sedona, Ariz., the most prestigious raw event in the country. She received extensive food service training while working at Hyatt Corporation.

"I don't care how old you are — everybody wants energy and vibrancy," she said. "Everybody wants to feel good, and if they're not getting that from their current diet, I'm going to tell them it's time for a change."



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"Hearing Aid Sizes and Technologies"

Dr. Karissa L. Jagacki
Licensed Michigan Audiologist

If you are a candidate for hearing aids, you have two very important decisions to make. You need to decide what size you want and what type of technology you want for your new hearing aids.

The size hearing aid you choose is usually only a cosmetic option. Some people are restricted to certain sizes of hearing aids because of the severity of their hearing loss.

Technology is the biggest determination of how you will hear with your new hearing aids. Better technology means better hearing in a variety of listening situations, like noise.

Today, there are more choices than ever before for consumers purchasing hearing instruments. One recent count showed there were more than 600 different models from which to choose. How do you decide which is the right one for you? The best way is to come to PERSONALIZED HEARING CARE for an evaluation by a licensed Audiologist, we are experts in the hearing health care field.

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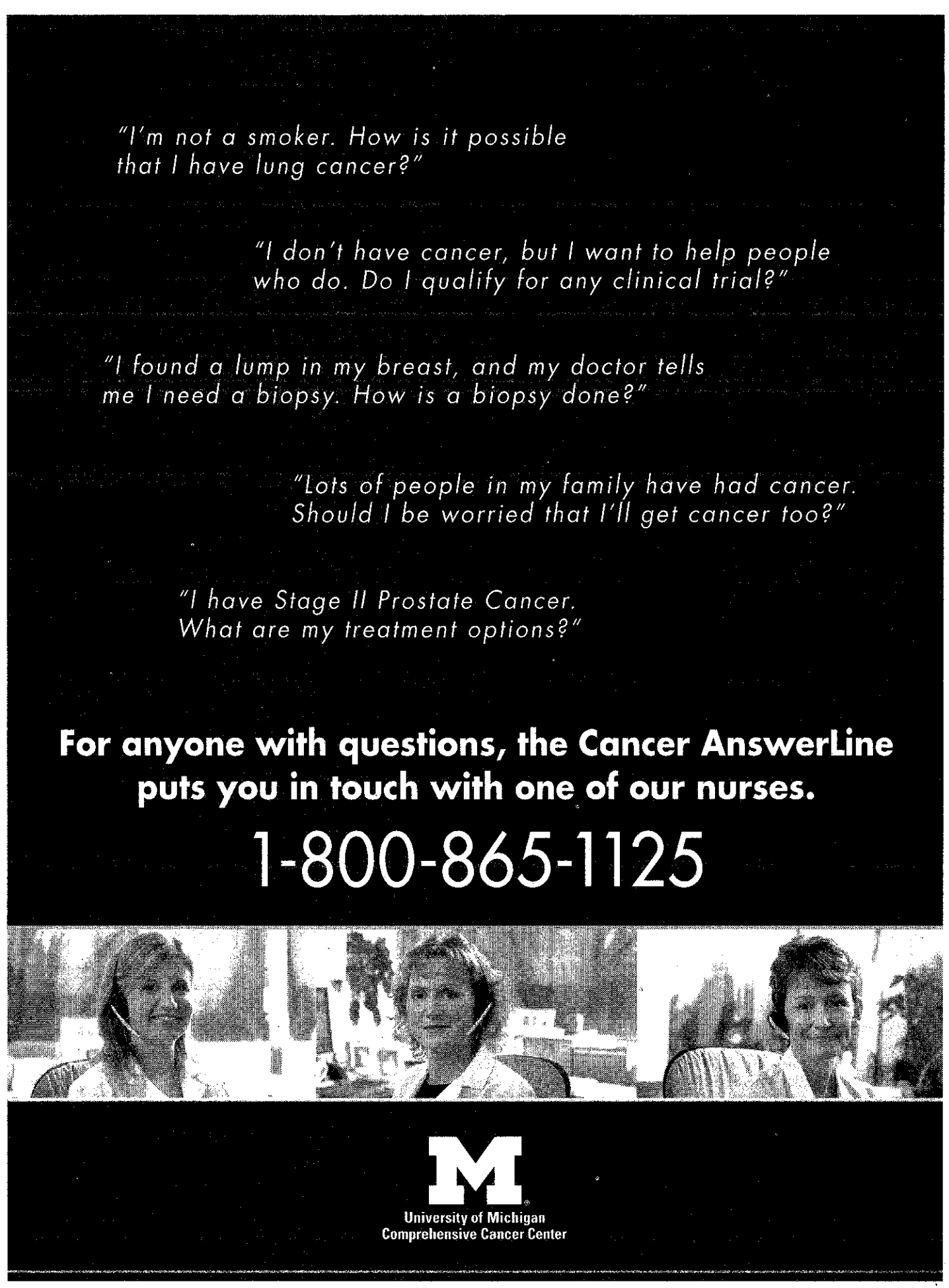

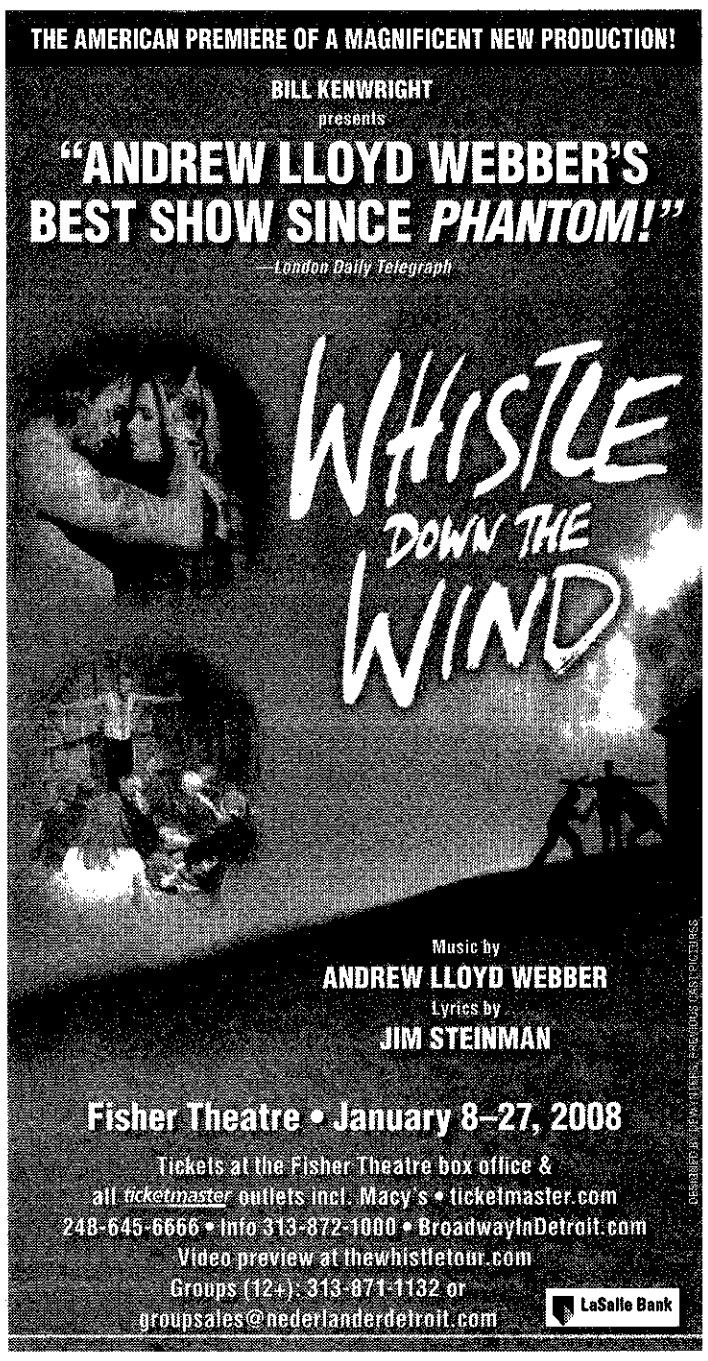

Hot water temperature is important for health

I was listening to a radio broadcast on New Year's Day where Consumer Reports Magazine was giving out winter tips. They were very good except for one that I completely disagree with. Then again, isn't it just like me to disagree with somebody!

Appliance Doctor

Joe Gagnon

They stated that you should set the temperature of your hot water heater at 120 degrees and that this temperature is sufficient for washing clothes and operating a dishwasher.

I guess that this could be true if you don't care how clean your clothes are or how well the dishes are cleaned.

First is the clothes washer, which when set on hot water wash is designed to take care of not only dirt but perform some function in regards to bacteria. I don't think a baby should be wrapped in diapers washed in 120-degree water temperature. It certainly wouldn't be healthy because it is a known fact that bacteria are not killed in this low a water temperature.

I'll tell you that my underwear goes through our washer at 160-degree temperatures and occasionally they are soaked in bleach for 10 or 15 minutes.

Now for those of you with little children you must use care when setting your hot water heater at high temperatures. There are several thousand children hospitalized each year because of accidents. I wonder if Consumer Reports has ever taken a 10-year-old washer apart to notice over an inch of slime and grime built up in the inner drum. I used to use a fireplace shovel to remove it and that is caused by water not hot enough to dissolve the detergent. Not too healthy folks.

As for the dishwasher, I called my friend Kim at Bill & Rod's Appliance.

"Kim, what is your recommended setting for a hot water tank?" He replied without any hesitation, 140 degrees.

He also suggested always turning on the hot water faucet at the sink and letting it get hot there before using the dishwasher.

I mentioned to Kim that the recommendation set forth not long ago by NSF is 150 degrees in residential homes. NSF is a testing laboratory based in Ann Arbor, which has been approving products for the restaurant industry for many years.

Do you know that a temperature range of 185 degrees or higher is the standard for the restaurant industry? They want to make sure that bacteria are removed during their dishwasher operations.

A temperature of 120 degree is not going to cut it folks, no matter what Consumer Reports says.

Here is e-mail from Gary & Jan who ask, "If you were buying a dishwasher, what one would you recommend?"

I would go with a Maytag or Whirlpool if I just wanted something in a regular price range. BUT — My wife just purchased a Bosch two months ago when she finished spending a fortune on re-doing the kitchen.

It is so quiet you have to put your ear against it when it runs. She loves it. BUT — very expensive, like $1,100. If you take any regular dishwasher and you glue corkboard on the sides and back, it will reduce the noise by over 50 percent. The biggest complaint on dishwashers is the noise level.

Good hunting and remember that whatever Jan wants, Jan should get.

Stay tuned.

Joe Gagnon can be heard on Talk Radio WAAM 1600 at 8 a.m. Saturdays. He is a board member of Spectrum Human Services and the Society of Consumer Affairs Professionals (SOCAP). His phone number is (734) 971-1600, Ext. 28. Do you have a question about an appliance or a problem you have with an appliance? E-mail your question to wvonb@hometownlife.com and it will be forwarded to Joe Gagnon.

HOME CALENDAR

NEW LOOK FOR TIRED ROOM

Instructor Renea M. Lewis, owner of Design By Choice, will host "REDESIGN: A New Look for a Tired Room," 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 15 at The Community House. Learn to use furnishings you already own to maximize impact using principles of color, positioning and scale. Bring photos of rooms you would like to redesign. Fee, $25. Call (248) 644-5832, or visit www.communityhouse.com.

GREEN DESIGN WORKSHOP

Learn about sustainable 'green' remodeling and building materials as The Community House hosts "Green Design: Remodeling Our Homes and Our Future" 7-9 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 17. Instructor Debra Christy-Merriman, interior designer and owner of "Wake Up Your Space," will share how and where to find products and materials that have the lowest negative impact on our planet. The Community House is located at 380 South Bates Street in Birmingham. Call (248) 644-5832, or visit www.communityhouse.com.

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$89.95 automatic transmission service
Change up to five quarts of automatic transmission/transaxle fluid. Inspect and lubricate linkage and controls (where applicable). Road test. Offer valid on most vehicles. Disposal fee extra, if applicable.
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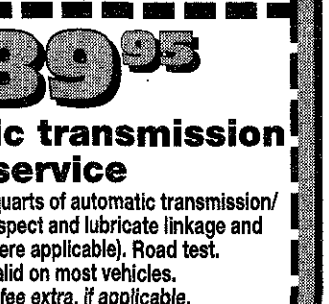

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pink

NYLO Wear by Daniel Vosovic debuted in December at the loft-lifestyle hotel's first location outside Dallas.

Daniel Vosovic launches trendy hotel clothing line

Project Runway favorite Daniel Vosovic has turned his talents from the catwalk to the bellhop. The Michigan native recently created a 20-piece collection for the new loft lifestyle hotel NYLO.

NYLO Wear by Daniel Vosovic blends comfort with couture and is meant to flatter its wearers in the hotel as well as on the street.

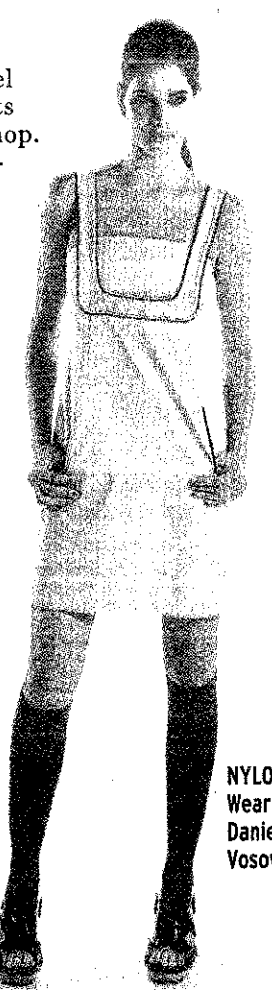
"Project Runway" favorite Daniel Vosovic

The versatile, mix-and-match clothing line includes sweaters, skirts, pants, blouses, shirts and more. Each piece features Vosovic's signature clean lines and sophisticated styling.

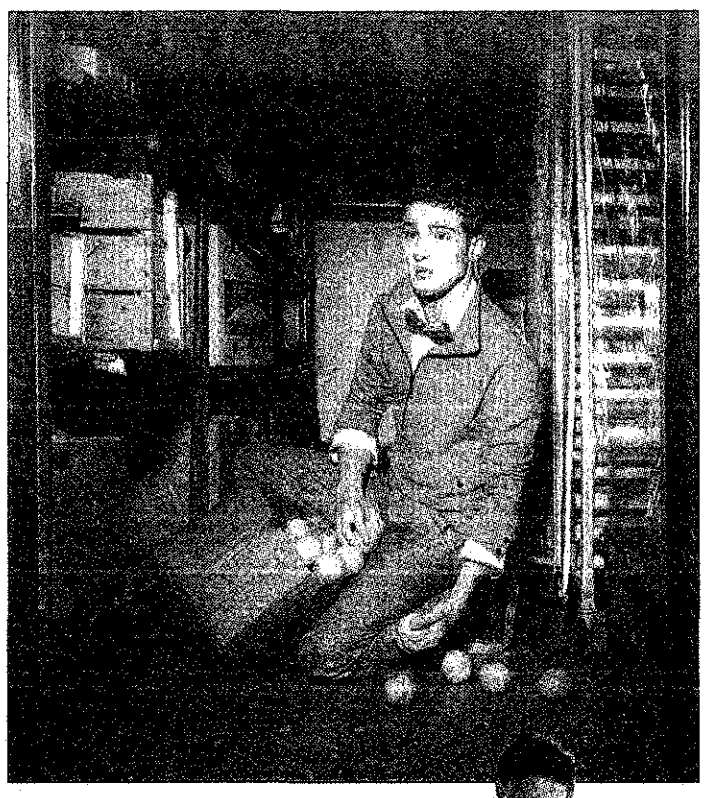
From jackets and jumpers to polos and pants, the collection is varied enough for a day in the office or a night out with friends. Eighteen months in the making, the line premiered in time for the opening of NYLO's first hotel in Plano, Texas on Dec. 18. Later this winter, the casual, fashion-forward apparel will be available for consumers to purchase in the hotel boutique shops and online at www.nylohotels.com.

During Project Runway's season two, Vosovic, 26, who hails from Lowell, Mich., won a record-setting five design challenges. He is consistently the hands-down favorite in Bravo's online and on-air polls, winning over fans with his talent, outgoing personality and grace under fire.

Read Vosovic's fashion blog at www.bravotv.com/blog/danielvsblog.



NYLO Wear by Daniel Vosovic.



NYLO Wear by Daniel Vosovic blends form and function for employees of the new loft-lifestyle hotel.

Pink picks

Wear It!
Cool Sets "hot flash lingerie" at Susan's Special Needs in Birmingham

Don't Wear It!
Sport shoes with a suit

Read It!
The Sweet Potato Queen's Guide to Raising Children for Fun and Profit (get it signed by Jill Conner Browne at Borders Detroit 7 p.m. Monday)

Kick It!
T-strap peep toes

Tote It!
Detroit Industry Tote at Detroit Institute of Arts Museum Shop

PHOTO BY ERIC WHEELER COURTESY OF DIA

The Detroit Industry Tote is $36 at the new Detroit Institute of Arts Museum Shop.

Eat It!
Toasted Lobster Ravioli at 220 in Birmingham

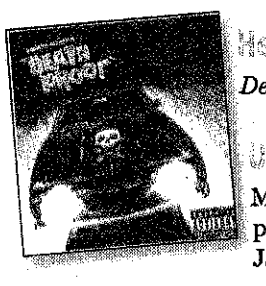
Drink It!
Emergen-C

Shop It!
Syms

See It!
The Diving Bell and the Butterfly

DVD It!
The Nanny Diaries

Can't TiVo It!
The Golden Globes Jan. 13 — cancelled due to the WGA strike



Hear It!
Death Proof soundtrack

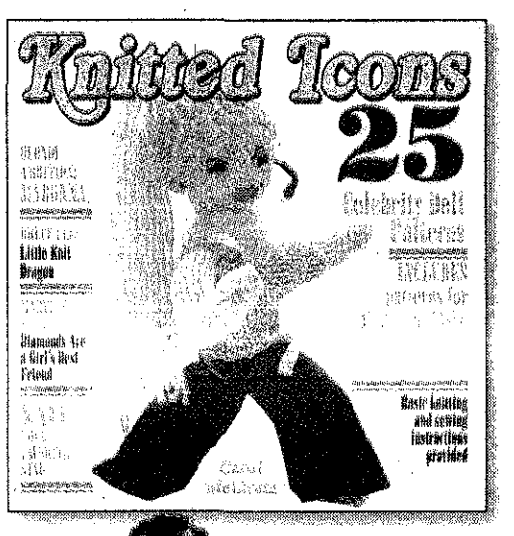
Understand It!
Michigan's presidential primary Jan. 15

Do It!
Avoid costume jewelry in 2008 and save up for a real gem

Try It!
Endermologie at Mei Li Treatment Center, Farmington Hills

Knit Yourself a Celeb

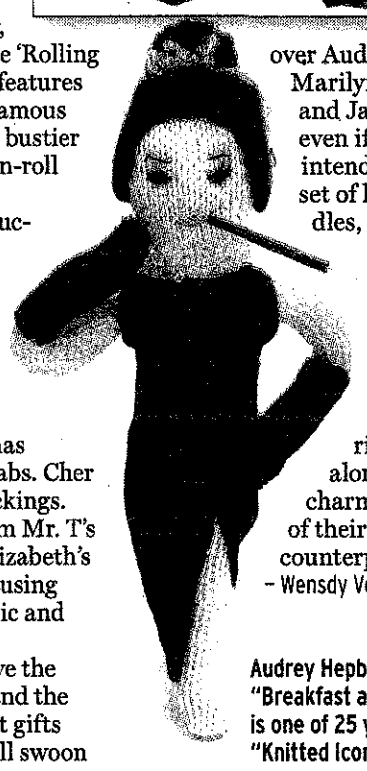
Whether you're a 'Crafty Gal' or not, you'll love "Knitted Icons" by Carol Meldrum (Quirk Books, $15.59). Meldrum, of Glasgow, Scotland, works as a design consultant for Rowan Yarns, and her charming little tome is a guide to making yarn dolls of 25 famous icons ranging from Elvis and The Beatles to Ghandi and Bob Marley. The cover, crafted to look like 'Rolling Stone' magazine, features Madonna in her famous Christian Lacroix bustier and sets the rock-n-roll tone of the book.



Inside are instructions for creating a Basic Doll, along with patterns for apparel, accessories and signature details. Muhammad Ali has stitched six-pack abs. Cher wears fishnet stockings. Everything — from Mr. T's bling to Queen Elizabeth's crown — is made using scraps of felt, fabric and yarn.

Crafters will love the unique projects, and the dolls make perfect gifts — fashionistas will swoon over Audrey Hepburn, Marilyn Monroe and Jackie O. But even if you never intend to pick up a set of knitting needles, the book is a fun coffee table find filled with delightful quotes and quips about each celebrity, printed alongside charming photos of their yarn star counterparts.

– Wensdy Von Buskirk



Audrey Hepburn a la "Breakfast at Tiffany's" is one of 25 yarn stars in "Knitted Icons."

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