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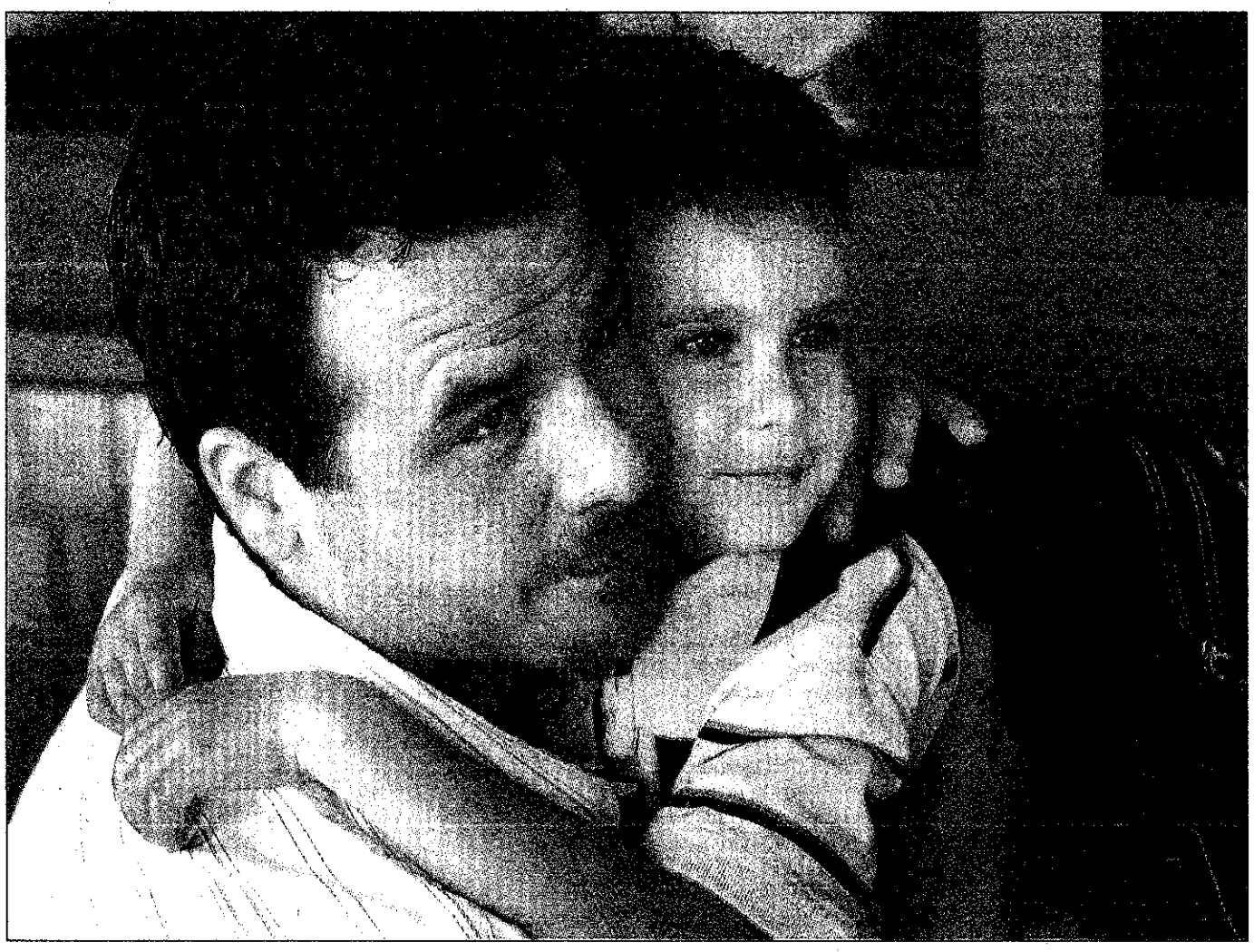


PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Steve Paule holds back the tears as he hugs his son Zachary before he starts his first day of kindergarten at Hamilton Elementary. They were having their picture taken by Andrea Paule.

Tears, excitement fill 1st day of school

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

"He's my first one," said Steve Paule, choking back a tear as he looked at son Zachary waiting to enter Hamilton Elementary School for the first time Tuesday morning. "He's not my baby anymore."

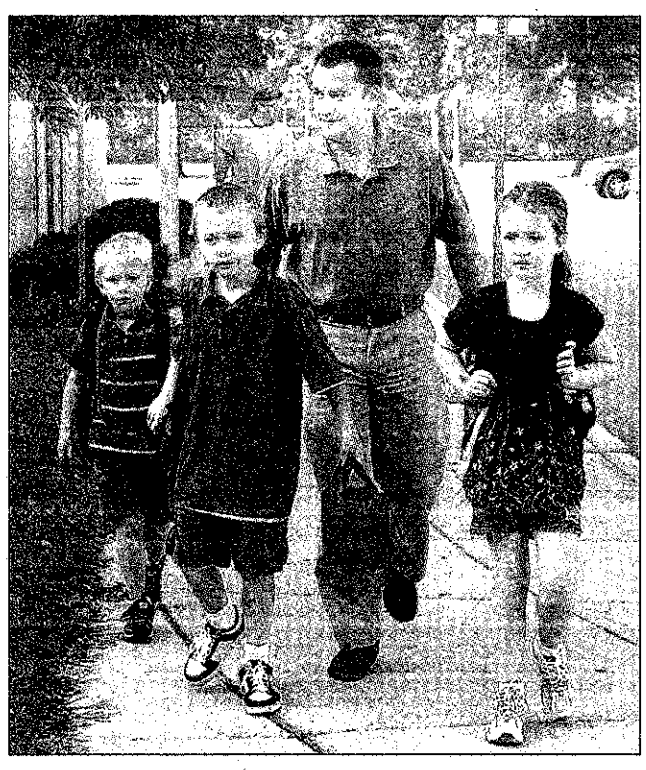
"He's really sad today, he's about to cry," said wife Andrea Paule, snapping a photograph of her husband hugging her son. The Paules were among a group parents waiting with their youngsters for kindergarten teacher Laura Janik and fifth-grade safeties and helpers Miranda Crummey and Ashley Farra to escort the school's newest students inside.

Parents snapped photographs of their children lined up at the "kindergarten door," a ritual Andrea Paule did with her 11-year-old daughter who's a sixth-grader at Marshall Middle School.

"He's so excited," she said. "He's got all the school supplies — the paints, markers, crayons. He even has a lunch bag for his snack."

The sound of the bell was a welcomed sound for parents, students and teachers who

Please see **FIRST DAY, A3**



Twins third-graders Noah and Shelby Luke walk with their little brother, kindergartner Brenden, and dad Phil Luke on their way to the first day of school at Hamilton Elementary in Westland.

District, union agree to continue negotiating

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Worried parents in the Wayne-Westland Community Schools got the news they'd been hoping to hear Monday morning: School would start as scheduled Tuesday.

The message was in the form of a Robo-call, announcing that the teachers union and school district had agreed to a 30-day contract extension.

The agreement came early Sunday evening with the help of a state mediator who had been requested by the Wayne-Westland Education Association last week in hopes of hammering out a contract before a Tuesday strike deadline.

"The mediator was strategically instrumental in getting both parties to reach a contract extension," said Wayne-Westland School Superintendent Greg Baracy just hours after the agreement was reached. "We are pleased that school is starting on time, that students will be in the classroom and that teachers will be teaching."

The contract extension was in response to the latest district proposal presented to union negotiators late Saturday night. The union decided more time was needed reviewing the district's proposal before it could respond.

"We want to have the time to investigate, research and examine the district's latest proposal," said WWEA president Nancy Strachan. "It may or may not lead to a settlement, but it is significantly different enough that it will require a good deal of time before we can react."

The agreement ended a contentious week where the union blasted the school district for not bargaining in good faith and held a strike vote in which 96 percent of teachers present supported the action.

The teachers' contract expired Aug. 25.

The teachers union had gone so far as to organize picketing schedules. However, under state law, public employees, including teachers, are prohibited from striking. Those who do can face penalties ranging from fines to firing for breaking the law.

The district sent teachers a letter, stating that WWEA members who do not report for work or who report but do not perform all their duties would be "engaging in illegal conduct." Baracy also labeled the strike vote "very, very premature" and committed the district to bargaining throughout the Labor Day weekend.

Both sides did just that and with the extension, have agreed to "continue to negotiate in good faith."

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

'Bump in road'

Property owner waffles on sale of land for Nankin Mills Village

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

What appeared to be a road block to the a senior residential complex on Joy in the Westland's north end could be removed as soon as this weekend.

Developer Glenn Shaw Jr. plans to meet by week's end with a resident who had initially indicated he was no longer interested in selling his home, one of three along Joy that Shaw is buying for his Nankin Mills Village development.

"It's a bump in the road," said Shaw. "I hope to be able to talk to him by Saturday. I need to make sure that all three property owners know where we're going so this doesn't happen again."

Shaw was in the process of seeking a second extension of the purchase agreement when the homeowner balked at selling the property. In an Aug. 28 letter to the city council, Shaw indicated that "a critical part of this development is no longer secure" and that it was "back to the drawing boards" for the $35 million senior citizen village.

The development is proposed south and east of Sts. Helen and Constantine Church on Joy east of Newburgh and calls for 54 stand-alone homes, 20 duplex condominiums and an 147-unit, three-story apartment building with certain amenities, such as a hair salon, a theater and a restaurant.

However, Tuesday afternoon the homeowner contacted Shaw, indicating that "he wants to sell and be back in the process."

The news did not reach the council before its meeting Tuesday evening where Councilman Charles Pickering questioned whether the planned unit development rezoning should "be declared null and void" based on Shaw's letter.

"To me the PUD should not exist, the preliminary plan should not because it's part of the PUD," Pickering said. "The property owner should not be encumbered by the PUD zoning, I think the process should start again."

Planning Director Bruce Thompson told Pickering that each of the three property owners "signed the rezoning request."

"They are part and parcel to that request," he said. "If there was a second reading, the property was rezoned. If the owner no longer wants it, he will have to request that it be rezoned."

Shaw said Pickering is "wrong in his assumption," the rezoning was approved by the council as was the preliminary plan.

"We have the PUD approval, the next step is the final plan approval," he said.

Shaw has held one meeting with residents of Gray Street and is planning to hold a second one for those who missed the presentation on the new plan.

"That's the next step," Shaw said. "I'll have my architect and engineer there to discuss the plan."

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Man faces charges in fatal hit-and-run

A 21-year-old Livonia resident will be arraigned Sept. 5 in Westland's 18th District Court on three felony charges stemming from a Aug. 3 fatal hit-and-run accident in Westland's north end.

According to Westland police Officer Jack McIntosh of the department's Traffic Bureau, the Livonia man faces charges of manslaughter with a motor vehicle and operating a vehicle while impaired causing death and leaving the scene of an accident causing death, a five-year felony. The first two charges carry sentences of up to 15 years in prison, the third charge carries a sentence of up to five years in prison.

The driver is accused of striking 27-year-old Gary Brown at 4:55 a.m. Aug. 3 in the eastbound lane of Joy about a half mile east of Newburgh and leaving the scene. He was apprehended about seven hours later on Joy about 800 feet from where the accident had occurred.

According to McIntosh, a newspaper delivery man had seen the victim standing on the lane marker of Joy Road, asking for a ride. When he came back a short time later, Brown wasn't there. Police believe Brown was leaving the roadway and was closer to the edge of the eastbound lane when he was struck, suffering massive blunt force trauma to his head. He was taken to St. Mary Mercy Hospital and then airlifted to St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ypsilanti where he died on Aug. 4.

Alcohol appears to have played a role in the fatal accident. According to McIntosh, nine hours after the accident, the driver "still had some alcohol in his system."

Brown grew up in Livonia and graduated from Livonia Churchill High School in 1982. He had been staying with his father in Livonia at the time of his death. He was married and had two children — son Raymond, 4, daughter D.J., 2.

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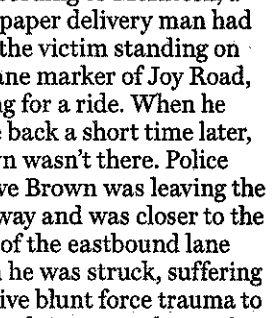

Coming Sunday:
Screen Icons:
Pacino & De Niro

Church hosts picnic, benefit concert

The earthy, acoustic folk rock band, Nick Drake, will perform at a fund-raising concert Sunday, Sept. 14, at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Westland.

The concert at 2 p.m. will follow a 12:30 picnic at the church on Palmer west of Newburgh. A freewill offering will be accepted and all proceeds will benefit the new Camp Michi-Lu-Ca RV campground in Fairview in Oscoda County.

Food will be sold for the picnic, starting at 12:30 p.m., however, guests can bring their own food along with lawn chairs. People interested in attending should contact the church by Friday, Sept. 5, to ensure enough food is prepared for the picnic.

Nick Drake has its roots in Camp Michi-Lu-Ca. Eric Engblade and Nathan Schleicher decided to combine their musical influences together to form the band named for early 1970s singer-songwriter Nick Drake. Now four years later, they have released an all original full-length album, two small EP's and are in midst of promoting their newest full-length album recorded at River City Studios in Grand Rapids, entitled *Northern Skies*, which will be released in the fall of 2008.

Drake has toured throughout Michigan and played in bars, breweries, coffee houses, churches and music festivals in places such as Elizabethtown Ky., Alpena, Chicago and Cleveland. In 2007, they were selected to open for comedian Mike Birbiglia on his Comedy Central Tour at City Opera House in Traverse City.

In addition to Engblade and Schleicher, Nick Drake includes Emily Carlson on violin, Jack Johnson on winds and Paul Wozniak on percussion.

Pweopl interested in attending can call Prince of Peace Church at (734) 722-1735 or send an e-mail to pastorames@sbcglobal.net. Offsite parking will be available at Stevenson Middle School, west of the church at 38501 Palmer.

Book sale boosts brains at library

BY JULIE BROWN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

There'll be books and more Thursday through Sunday, when the Friends of the William P. Faust Public Library of Westland hold their used book sale.

"They do a really nice service for us," Lisa Hausman, department head for children's services, said of the Friends. In addition to quality books donated from the community, librarians are able to weed the collection "and offer the material to the community in that way."

The Friends preview sale will be 2-4 p.m. today, Thursday, Sept. 4, at the library, on Central City Parkway between Warren and Ford. That's for members and those who wish to join for $10.

The public sale will be held 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Sept. 5-6, and noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 7 (Bag Day Sale).

The Friends hold such sales several times a year. There will be keyboards and other items like printers, Hausman said, along with limited furniture: "Mostly it's chairs this time."

The Friends did a lot for the children's summer reading program, she noted, and also support services for adults.

"They do a great deal of good with the money that's raised from the book sales, and we're very grateful," she said.

You can build a terrific home library for your child from the sale, she added, including older computer games and reference materials.

"We always have nice crowds on the preview day. Our Friends are great and they're very supportive," she added.

The sale will be in Community Rooms A and B. For more, call the library at (734) 326-6123.

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KNOW THE SCORE
check out the numbers in today's SPORTS section

Westland resident gets help at the gas pump

Paying for the gas to visit family in Florida is going to be easier now that Mary L. Johnson of Westland has won $1,000 in free cards from TCF Bank as part of its Free Gas Giveaway Sweepstakes.

From June through August, TCF gave away $1,000 in gas cards weekly. Johnson entered the contest at the TCF branch on Warren Road in Westland.

"I only entered once, so I feel winning was kind of a fluke," said Johnson. "It couldn't have come at a better time. We had just cancelled a trip to visit family in Florida because of the high cost of gas. When I got the call from the branch manager Tim Burgess telling me I'd won, we decided to go ahead with our trip."

TCF is a Wayzata, Minnesota-based national financial holding company with $16.5 billion in total assets. The company has 454 banking offices in Minnesota, Illinois, Michigan, Colorado, Wisconsin, Indiana and Arizona, providing retail and commercial banking services, and investments and insurance products.

Tim Burgess, manager of TCF Bank's Westland branch on Warren Road presents Mary L. Johnson of Westland with $1,000 in free gas cards which she won in its Free Gas Giveaway.

City program helps qualified homebuyers

Prospective homebuyers in Westland can get help with their down payment, thanks to a program being offered by the Westland Housing Commission.

Funded through the Federal HOME Program, the city's Homebuyer Program offers qualified home buyers eligible to receive down payment assistance in the amount of $5,000 for a home built before 2000 and $10,000 for homes built since Jan. 1, 2000.

"At a time when communities everywhere are challenged by the national foreclosure crisis, we're pleased to provide some means to encourage the act of home ownership," Mayor William Wild said.

The program forgives the $5,000 loan after the initial five-year ownership period, and for homes built since 2000 the other $5,000 would be payable upon the sale of the property. A lien will be placed on the property specifying those conditions.

Home buyers also can't refinance or sell the home during the initial five-year ownership period. If that occurs, the loan must be repaid.

In order to participate in the Homebuyer Program, the home buyer's current income limit cannot exceed $55,900 for a family of four, a guideline set by the Department of Housing and Community Development. Homes in Westland are indeed eligible provided they complete an inspection and do not exceed the HUD purchase price for the home.

Eligible participants also must participate in home buyer classes.

The Homebuyer Program does not provide refinancing assistance.

Funds are limited and interested home buyers can call Joanne Inglis in the city's Department of Community Development at (734) 595-0288 for more information.

AROUND WESTLAND

Defense seminar

On Saturday, Sept. 6, , the Westland Shopping Center's East Court will host free safety awareness classes designed to empower women, teens and elders through practical self-defense techniques. A class for men and women over age 55 will take place at 10 a.m., while a "Girl Power" session for women and teens is scheduled for 11:30 a.m. Both are free and sponsored by PKSA Karate, Safe & Sound, and the Westland Shopping Center. Westland Shopping Center is at 35000 Warren at Wayne Road. For more information, call PKSA Karate at (810) 653-9984.

Coffee Hours

State Rep. Richard LeBlanc, D-Westland, will hold his next local coffee hour 9-10:30 a.m. Monday, Sept. 8, 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.

For an expanded version of Around Westland, visit our online edition at hometownlife.com and click on the Westland home page.

LeBlanc also invites residents to join him for refreshments and an informal fireside chat 6-8 p.m. Monday, Sept. 8, at the William P. Faust Public Library, 6123 Central City Parkway, Westland.

For information, call LeBlanc toll-free at (888)-737-5325 or at (517)-373-2576 or send an e-mail to richardleblanc@house.mi.gov.

State Sen. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland, also will hold local coffee hours in Westland and Redford Monday, Sept. 8. He will be at the Bailey Recreation Center, 36651 Ford, Westland 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 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.

Historic park events

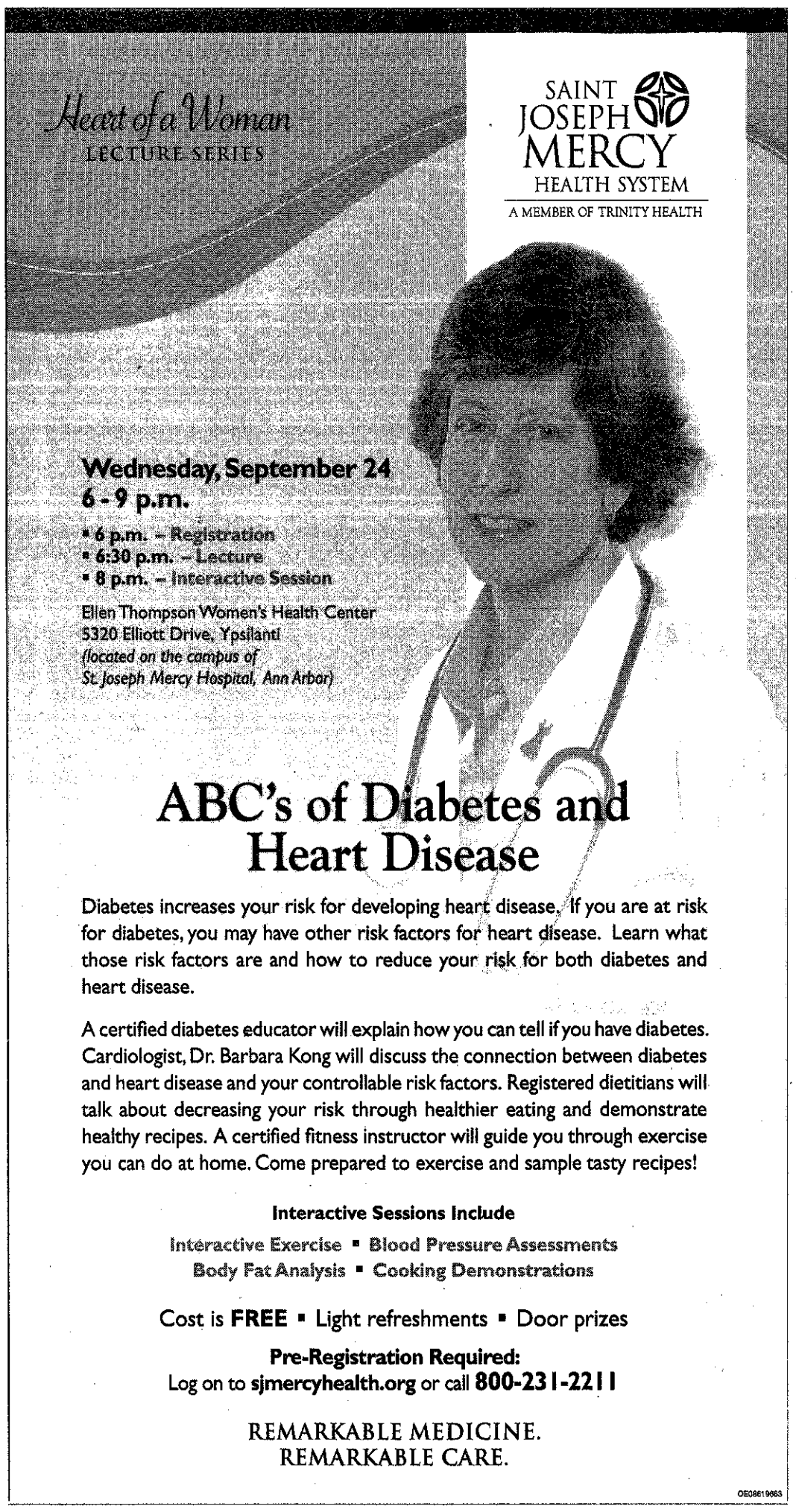
The Westland Garden Club will have a plant exchange 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 13, at the Westland Historic Village Park, on Wayne Road between Marquette and Cherry Hill.

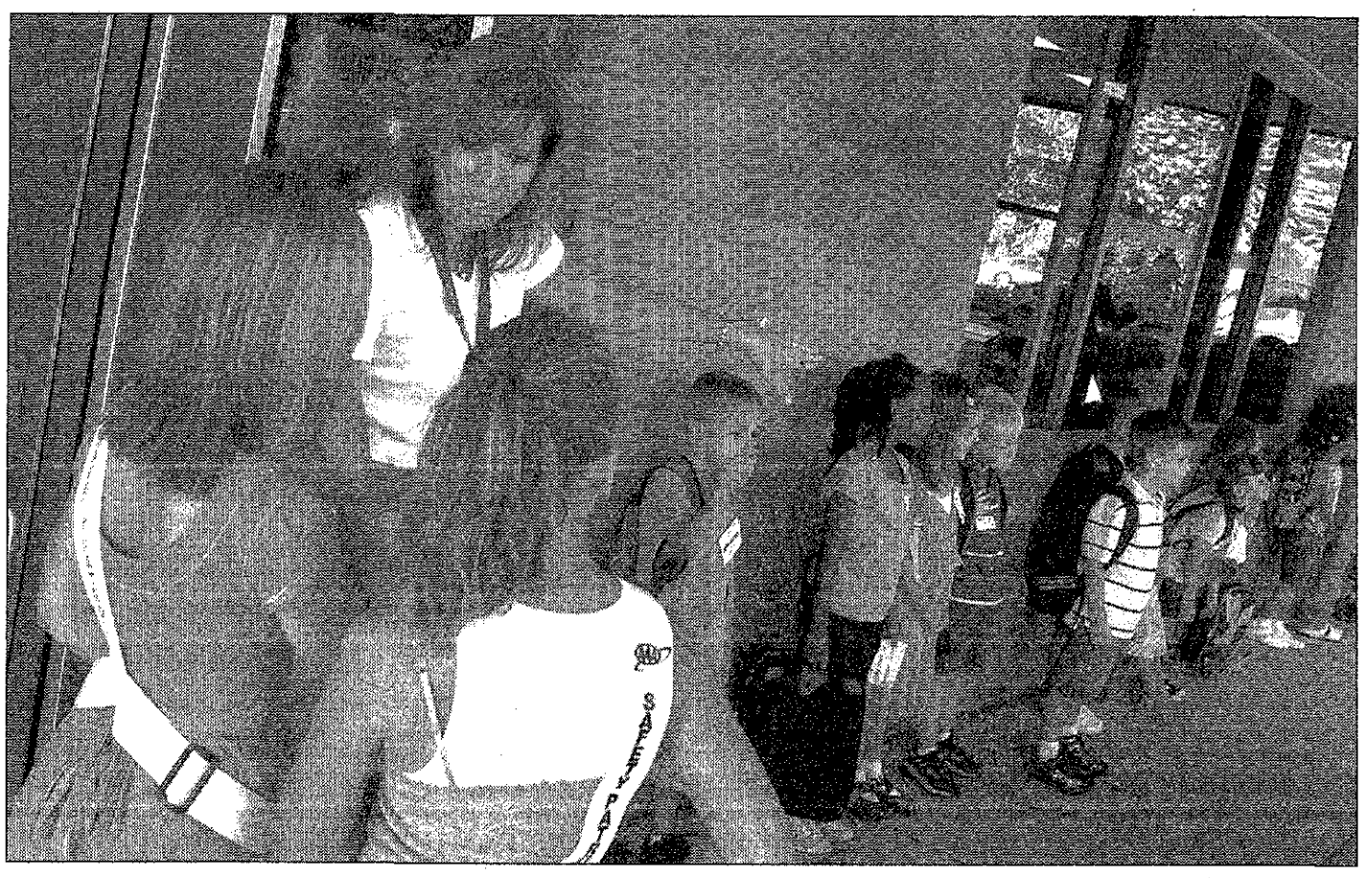
Friends of Eloise.

In other events at the historic park, the Friends of Eloise meets at 7 p.m. on the third Tuesday of the month at the Collins House, and the Westland Historic Society meets at 7 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month, also at the Collins House.

Golf outing

John Glenn High School's wrestling program will have its 11th annual golf outing fundraiser on Saturday, Sept. 20, at Warren Valley Golf Course. Cost is $85 for golf, cart, lunch at the turn, and dinner. Please contact Judy at judylaw1122@yahoo.com or (734) 634-4595 for more information or to make reservations.





PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Hamilton kindergarten teacher Laura Janik gives some instructions to safety patrol fifth-graders/helpers Miranda Crummey and Ashley Farrah.

'Clean Slate' erases fines for youths' overdue items

New classrooms, sharpened pencils and spiral notebooks ... They're all signs of a new start to the school year, and the William P. Faust Public Library of Westland is adding an extra incentive: the Clean Slate Program. Starting this week, the library will erase fines on overdue books, juvenile DVD's, videos and CDs which were accrued before Sept. 1, 2008.

All juvenile card holders who reside in Westland and are currently enrolled in grades kindergarten through high school can return those long overdue library materials without any penalty.

"Our library can be immensely beneficial to students seeking additional resources for their studies," said Westland Mayor William Wild. "We simply do not want to deny them this option, but rather encourage them to use the library."

"There are many families who have stopped using the library because they are frustrated about overdue fines and find it a hardship to pay the charges," said library Director Cheryl Napsha, Director. "We hope to change this by granting amnesty through this program."

In addition, any fines due on items which have already been returned also can qualify for the Clean Slate Program. However, fees for lost and damaged items cannot be erased and materials returned need to be in good condition.

Parents can visit the library's circulation desk and present their Westland library card to ensure that their child's library account receives proper credit. For more information, call the library at (734) 326-6123.

Surplus food distribution dates set

The City of Westland has set the day, times and locations for eligible residents to pick up surplus federal food for the month of September.

All residents north of Michigan Avenue can pick up their commodities 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 18, at the Dorsey Community Center which is located at 32715 Dorsey Road, north of Michigan Avenue and south of Palmer.

Westland residents south of Michigan Avenue can pick up their food 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday, Sept. 15, or the second Monday of each month, at St. James United Methodist Church at 30055 Annapolis, between Henry Ruff and Middlebelt. The church can be reached by calling (734) 729-1737.

Senior citizens living in Taylor Towers can collect their food at Taylor Towers and should contact their building manager for their day of distribution. Greenwood Villa residents also pick up their food items at their complex.

For the month of September, the distribution will include apple juice, beef stew, corn flakes cereal, canned pears and tuna. This program is administered by the Wayne County Office of Senior Services. All food allocations, distribution sites and dates of distribution are determined by that agency.

Questions can be answered by calling the Dorsey Center's surplus food hotline at (734) 595-0366.

FIRST DAY

FROM PAGE A1

didn't find out until Monday that school would start as scheduled. Members of the Wayne-Westland Education Association had threatened to delay the start of school after their contract expired Aug. 25. However, the union and representatives of the school district were able to agree to a 30-day contract extension to "continue negotiating in good faith."

"I was kind of worried about that, but they called yesterday and that was good," said Andrea Paule.

"I had no idea," said Martisa Green who was there with her kindergartner, Lauren, husband Brandon and 2-year-old son Brendon.

While she didn't mean it, she encouraged her daughter to go on in by telling her, "Don't worry, I'll be standing here until noon."

While she didn't plan to be there all morning, lest the school think she was a crazy woman, Green admitted seeing her daughter off to school was hard for her and her son.

"She's been his best friend for two years," Martisa Green said, adding that "it's hard for me. Ever since she was born, it's been me and her."

Lauren is the Greens' first child to head off to school and Green knows she would hear all about her first day when she saw her at noon.

"She's going to have a good time today," she said. While Green waved through the window to her daughter one last time, Lauren and her classmates were learning about kindergarten, including the "Give Me Five" requirement, demonstrated by Janik.

Kindergartner Lauren Green follows teacher Laura Janik's instruction on what to do when she asks them to give her five to get them to be quiet.

It took a couple of tries before the youngsters had the technique down pat.

"When I say High Five, I want you to hold up your hand and put your finger on your mouth," Janik told her students. "You'll give me eyes by looking at looking at me, you'll give me your attention by putting your finger on your mouth, and your hands, feet and body won't be moving."

They also got their first taste of morning announcements, learning how to pronounce Principal April Quasarano's last name and hearing her offer a cheery "Welcome back, Hamilton stars."

Pat Downing talks to his son Colin, 5, who decided he'd be the last kindergarten student to walk into Laura Janik's classroom Tuesday morning. Also waiting is Colin's two-year-old brother Bryce (in foreground).

"I'm very excited to get to know all of you very soon," Quasarano said.

Most parents had left by the time Quasarano had made her morning announcement except for Green, who waved to her daughter one last time through an open classroom window.

"This kind of makes me feel like a kid again," she said.

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Your dog already thinks that it's the star of the family...now let the world see it in print. Celebrate National Dog Week September 21st-27th, 2008! Place your dogs' photo on a page designed just for them! This page will run in our papers on Sunday, September 21st in the Observer & Eccentric Mirror Newspapers.
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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

Enrollment

Registration is being accepted for the fall for preschool 3-year-olds and kindergarten through eighth-grade at St. Damian School, 29891 Joy, Westland. Call the parish office at (734) 421-6130 for more information. Willow Creek Cooperative Preschool is accepting enrollment into the Parent/Tot, Young 3's, three-year and four-year programs. Willow Creek is located at 36660 Cherry Hill in Westland. For more information, call the preschool at (734) 326-0078.

Amateur radio training

Interested in amateur radio? The Garden City Amateur Radio Club is sponsoring an 11-week beginner's class for the technician license. Classes will meet from 7-9 p.m. Oct. 6 through Dec. 8 at the Cambridge Center, on Cambridge east of Middlebelt in Garden City. The final week of class will be the FCC license exam. No prior knowledge or experience is required, but a personal computer with Windows 98 or Windows XP is strongly recommended. Morse code is no longer required for any amateur license, but an optional code class also will be offered and will run concurrently with the technician class. For more information, contact Fred Comps, K8KUZ, at (734) 261-6441 or k8kuz@aol.com.

Charity casino opens

If you are looking for a place to show your skills at Texas Hold 'Em, the Canton Charity Casino, Western Wayne County's only charity-poker room is coming to the Shark Club on Ford in Canton every Thursday through Sunday, beginning Sept. 4. The Canton Charity Casino offers nightly tournaments as well as continuous cash games and a venue for players of all skill levels. Custom tables and equipment, trained dealers, and a professional staff all lend itself to the gaming experience. Non-profit, charitable organizations are licensed by the State of Michigan to sponsor each weekend, allowing them to raise funds for their special causes. The hours are 7 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Thursday-Friday (tournament at 8 p.m.) and 2 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Saturday-Sunday (tournament at 5 p.m.) The Shark Club is at 42070 Ford, just west of Haggerty in Canton. Non-profit groups interested in sponsoring a fund-raising weekend can call (734) 502-7033 or send an e-mail to scpokertb@gmail.com.

Parkinson' program

Physicians, health professionals, people with Parkinson's and family members are invited to attend "Promoting Health in People with Parkinson's Disease" from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, Sept. 12, at the Inn at St. John's, Plymouth. The program will provide a wide spectrum of presentations and panels with topics relating to managing and living with Parkinson's disease. The focus of presentations will be on quality of life issues, including dealing with depression, dementia and other mental health concerns; overcoming difficulties with speech and sleeping, and how to stay healthy. The cost is $150 for physicians, $75 for health professionals and $25 for patients, family members and others. Preregistration is required. Call the Michigan Parkinson Foundation at (800) 852-9781 or visit www.parkinsonsmi.org.

Who will it be?

That question will be answered Saturday, Sept. 6, when five women will vie for the honor of being Miss Wayne County. The scholarship pageant will be held at 4:30 p.m. at Livonia Churchill High School on Newburgh north of Joy. Competing in the pageant are Lauren Allen of Inkster, Kiara Crockett of Saginaw, but attends Wayne State University in Detroit, Dayne Dunne of Livonia, Christina Hastie of Dearborn and Nicole Blaszczyk of Novi who also attends Wayne State University.

Free seminar

Dr. Carol Ann Fischer, a holistic physician, wellness consultant and clinical nutritionist, is presenting "Eat Your Way Thin" from 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 9, at the Noble Library, 32901 Plymouth Road, Livonia. Take a natural approach to a healthier, new you. Learn why diets do not work, ways to avoid weight gain and how to lose weight with diet, nutrition and exercise. This is a no-charge workshop, however, seating is limited to the first 30 callers. Reservations are required. For reservations, call (734) 756-6904 or visit www.TLCHolisticWellness.com.

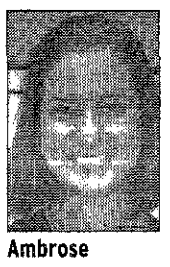
Remote-controlled race day

Kirk of Our Savior Presbyterian Church hosts "Remote-Controlled Race Day," from 2-5 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 6. Racers can bring their R.C. vehicle and race it on the church's large oval track, complete with hill and jump ramp. Ribbons will be awarded to winners. No sign-up necessary. Kirk of Our Savior Presbyterian Church is located at 36660 Cherry Hill in Westland. For more information, call Jenny at (313) 532-4310.

Fish Dial-A-Ride

Fish Dial-A-Ride of Western Wayne County is seeking volunteer drivers. A nonprofit community service group, it provides rides to non-emergency medical and other appointments for senior and disabled residents of Garden City, Livonia and Westland unable to drive and who have no alternative transportation. Volunteers can specify days, times, and areas. For more information, call (888) 660-2007 and leave a message.

Art Van provides free design classes



Ambrose

Looking to get started on a project? You can get help through Art Van Furniture in Westland.

The store is hosting design classes to help individuals get the most out of their design projects. Residents are invited to receive expert advice from Art Van Westland's Visual Merchandiser, Sara Ambrose, during the four-week design curriculum.

The free classes are at 6:30 p.m. and begin Tuesday, Sept. 9, with Determining Your Style, followed by The Impact of Color on Sept. 16, Furniture Placement on Sept. 23 and Accessorizing on Sept. 30.

There also will be refreshments and gifts, and the Kids Castles will be open, offering a free supervised play area for children with climbing structures, ball play area, TV room and other activities.

The classes will be held at Art Van Westland, 8300 Wayne Road, north of Warren, in Westland. Guests can register for the design series or attend the class of interest to them. To register, call (888) 619-2199.

League of Women Voters vital in elections

With a major election on the horizon, political parties and their candidates are inundating us with tremendous amounts of information, through television commercials, news interviews, literature in the mail, political phone messages and even door-to-door canvassers. Not only is it exhausting and annoying, it can be confusing. As we approach the upcoming election, there is one group that we can count on to decipher this information: the League of Women Voters.

On Feb. 14, 1920, just six months before the 19th amendment to the Constitution was ratified, giving women the right to vote, the League of Women Voters was formally organized in Chicago. According to their Web site, the League is a nonpartisan political organization encouraging the informed and active participation of citizens in government. It influences public policy through education and advocacy. They never support or oppose any political party or candidate.

The League of Women Voters of Northwest Wayne County represents the City of Westland. Before every primary and general election, the League sends questionnaires to all the candidates running for election in our city. They then publish the responses of all the candidates who respond. These brochures are available at the Library before each election. The information is also online at www.nwwayne.mi.lwvnet.org.

After elections, the League publishes an update of They Represent You, a brochure that lists all the national, state, county and local representatives for our area. The brochure includes position, name, address, phone number, e-mail address and party affiliation, for each official, along with other helpful information.

We are all looking for trustworthy election information. Keep an eye out for the League of Women Voters literature here at the library, and watch for an election display at the library in October. As usual, there will be an Election Binder at the Reference Desk, with pertinent election information taken from the local newspapers. With a well-informed public, we are more likely to elect the best candidate for the job. Please do not forget to Vote!

The William P. Faust Public Library of Westland exists to serve your informational, educational and recreational needs. Visit us often at 6123 Central City Parkway, call us at (734) 326-6123, or visit our Web site at www.westland.lib.mi.us.

Highlighted Activities

Drop-in Knitting Nights @ the library: 7 p.m. every Wednesday beginning Sept. 3.

Whether you want to learn to knit or are an experienced knitter, all are welcome. Seating is limited. Call the library at (734) 326-6123 for more information.

Balancing Women's Hormones Naturally: 7 p.m. Sept. 8.

Featured Speaker Dr. Brian K. Brackney from the Foundation for Wellness Professionals will be discussing "Balancing Women's Hormones Naturally: An Alternative Approach to Helping PMS and Menopause." Stop by the library or call (734) 326-6123 to register.

Computer Classes: 11 a.m. Sept. 8, Powerpoint for the Beginner and 2 p.m. Sept. 8, Introduction to E-mail.

Check the flyer in the library for a complete description and requirements for all classes. All computer classes are hands-on. Space is limited. Register in advance at the Reference Desk or call (734) 326-6123.

Information Central was compiled by reference librarian Janet Soward. The William P. Faust Public Library is at 6123 Central City Parkway, Westland. For more information, call (734) 326-6123.

CITY OF WESTLAND
SYNOPSIS OF MINUTES
MTG. 15
8/4/08

Presiding: President Godbout
Present: Graunstadt, Johnson, Kehrer, Pickering, Reeves, Stottlemyer
167- Approved minutes of 7/21/08.
-Approved req. from Don Nicholson Enter. for Crusin' Mich. event 7-11-09.
-Approved req. from Target Corp. to hold 2008 Nat'l Night Out Event on 8-5-08, 6-8 p.m.
-Approved Traffic Control Order 2008-05: Install (2) two signs: "HANDICAPPED CHILD IN AREA "on Crown, n. of Ford & s. of Stacy.
-Approved in-car computer maint. agrmt with Motorola, one year, amt. $12,672.00.
168-Approved correction to Res. 2008-06-131 for Amer. Gear & Engr. to include Parcel #052-05-0017-301.
169- Approved correction to Res. 2006-08-190 for R & A Tool to include Parcel #056-999-00-2132-000.
175-Approved Checklist Activity: $2,263,317.65 and Prepaid: $2,697,210.21
Meeting Adjourned at 9:23 p.m.
Minutes available at the Clerk's office.

James R. Godbout, Council President
Eileen DeHart, City Clerk

Publish: September 4, 2008
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CITY OF WESTLAND
SYNOPSIS OF MINUTES
MTG. 14
7/21/08

Presiding: President Godbout
Present: Graunstadt, Johnson, Kehrer, Pickering, Reeves, Stottlemyer
159-Approved minutes of 7/7/08.
-Approved req. from CJG Properties for a flea market 8/23, 8/24, 9/6, 9/7, 9/20 & 9/21.
-Approved req. from Prof. Firefighters Union to hold MDA Fill the Boot 7/25-7/27 in the City.
-Approved req. from Westland Mall for boat show 8/4-8/10.
-Approved req. from Marvaso's to hold 15th year anniversary for Electric Stick Billiards 8/7.
-Approved req. from JGHS to hold Homecoming Parade 9/26.
-Approved Traffic Control Order 2008-04: Install (1) NO OUTLET sign @ Overbrook & Hix Rd
-Approved bid from Unipak, for 2 mil trash bags, 2 yr period.
-Approved bid to Pritula & Sons Excavating, Glover Excavating & an alt. bid from Liquiforce for emergency sewer reprs.
161-Approved prep, res. to file a Pet. for a Contested Case w/MDEQ re: NPDES Watershed Permit MIG 64000 & NPDES Jurisdictional permit MISO49000, to review City's objections as to form & substance of MDEQ Storm Water Permits.
162-Approved Land Div. #079-99-0036-003, 0036-703, 0036-074 & 0037-001, s. side of Palmer, bet. John Hix & Hannan Rds.
163-Approved Land Div. #005-09-0005-000, w. side of Beatrice, s. of Joy and w. of Middlebelt.
164-Approved req. from Funding Development LLC for ltr. of support to use TURBO Development Prgrm for property at 7420 N. Wayne Rd.
165-Approved Checklist Activity: $ 401,310.86 and Prepaid: $1,432,836.62.
Meeting Adjourned at 9:54 p.m.
Minutes available at the Clerk's office.

James R. Godbout, Council President
Eileen DeHart, City Clerk

Publish: September 4, 2008
OE08819009 - 2x5.5

CITY OF WESTLAND
SYNOPSIS OF MINUTES
MTG. 16
8/18/08

Presiding: President Godbout
Present: Graunstadt, Johnson, Kehrer, Reeves, Stottlemyer
Excused: Pickering
177- Approved minutes of 8/4/08.
-Approved Asphalt Repr Test Prgm for Gallagher Asphalt Co., not to exceed $250,000.00.
-Approved pmt to K & B Asphalt, for reprs 2008-2009, amt. $34,980.00.
-Approved Land Div. Res., s of Joy & w. of Middlebelt.
-Introduced Ord. 192-A-4-A, to adopt MI Res. Code by adding Chptr. 22, Art. II, Sects. 22-37 & 22-38 to City Code.
-Introduced Ord. 192-C, to adopt MI Rehab. Code by adding Chptr. 22, Art. II, Sects. 22-35 & 22-36 to City Code.
-Introduced Ord. 107-A, to adopt MI Bldg. Code by amending Chptr 22, Art. II, Sect. 22-31 to City Code.
-Introduced Ord. 192-A-3-B, to adopt Intern'l Prop. Maint. Code by amending Chptr 22, Art. VI, Sects. 22-131 & 22-132 to City Code.
-Introduced Ord. 248-A-61, to amend Zoning Ord. 248, by amending Article III, Zoning Ordinance 248, by amending Article III, Sections 3:5.1, 3:5.2, 3:5.3, 3:11.3, and 3:12.5, Article XII, Section 12:2.6, Article XIII, Sections 13.2.6, & 13:2.8.
-Introduced Ord. 254, declared emergency, waived procedure, adopted Ord. 254, to amend Chptr 34, Art. II, amending Sects. 34-37 thru 34-37 to expand types of housing develop. eligible for pmt in liew of prop. taxes.
-Approved res. for Liv. Boxing Club to be recognized as non-profit org.
178-Adopted Prep. Res. for use of City-Wide Credit Card.
179-Approved Prep. Res. to purchase Parcel #56-074-05-1128-304 from Wayne Co. Land Bank Corp.
180-Approved Prep. Res. to purchase Parcel #56-084-02-0757-301 from Wayne Co. Land Bank Corp.
181-Approved Prep. Res. to purchase Parcel #56-073-03-0394-000 from Wayne Co. Land Bank Corp.
182-Approved Prep. Res. to purchase Parcel #56-074-01-0767-301 from Wayne Co. Land Bank Corp.
183-Approved applic. to transf. rights to renewal escrowed Class C. Lic. Bus., w/dance permit, 36980 Ford Rd., from JPAC1 to L.A., Inc.
184-Approved Spec. Land Use, prop. Used Veh. Sales, 38120 Executive Dr. n. of Ford, east of Hix Roads.
185- Approved Checklist Activity: $424,097.81 and Prepaid: $1,188,675.07.
Meeting Adjourned at 9:24 p.m.
Minutes available at the Clerk's office.

James R. Godbout, Council President
Eileen DeHart, City Clerk

Publish: September 4, 2008
OE08819007 2x7

CITY OF WESTLAND
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
YEAR XXXIII COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM
PROGRAM STATUS AND SUBMISSION OF THE CAPER
(July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008)

The City of Westland will hold two public hearings on the status of Year XXXIII Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME programs, ended June 30, 2008. The first is Monday, September 15, 2008, at the Westland City Council meeting at 7:00 p.m. at 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan. The second is Tuesday, September 16, 2008 at the Westland Housing Commission meeting at 5:30 p.m. at 32715 Dorsey Street, Westland, Michigan. All interested persons, especially low and moderate income, senior citizens, community and neighborhood organizations and minorities, are encouraged to attend. In addition, written comments on the Year XXXIII projects may be received at the Mayor's Office at Westland City Hall or the Department of Housing and Community Development, 32715 Dorsey Road, Westland, Michigan 48186.

CDBG FUNDS EXPENDED FOR YEAR XXXIII, 7/1/2007- 6/30/2008

Project	Status	Amount
C.D. Administration	Annual, Completed	$235,179
Rehabilitation Administration	Annual, Completed	$187,124
Housing Rehabilitation	Annual, Completed	$108,150
Senior Programs	Annual, Completed	$175,000
Hegira Programs	Annual, Completed	$5,000
First Step	Annual, Completed	$5,000
Youth Assistance Program	Annual, Completed	$30,000
Friendship Center Section 108 Loan	Annual, Completed	$32,918
Fire Station Section 108 Loan	Annual, Completed	$87,650
Community Resource Officer	Annual, Completed	$70,000
Outreach Ordinance/Code Compliance Officer	Annual, Completed	$91,000
Dorsey Road Reconstruction	Project Completed	$185,813
Wayne-Westland Family Resource Center	Project Completed	$4,000

TOTAL CDBG EXPENDITURES, PROGRAM YEAR XXXIII 1,216,834

HOME FUNDS EXPENDED FOR YEAR XXXIII, 7/1/2007- 6/30/2008

HOME Administration	Annual Completed	$32,479
Peoples' Community Hope For Homes, (CHDO)	Ongoing	$137,309
Rental Rehabilitation	ProgramProgram Year Completed	$110,685
Liberty Hill Scattered Site Rehabilitation	Program Year Completed	$58,845
TOTAL HOME EXPENDITURES, PROGRAM YEAR XXXIII		$339,318

Total Year XXXIII CDBG program income and prior year adjustments are $49,025. Total Year XXXIII HOME program income and prior year adjustment are $17,605. *All financial data is subject to final reconciliation and audit adjustments.

The City of Westland will submit the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development on September 29, 2008. The draft CAPER will be available for comment from September 15, 2008 - September 29, 2008 at the Department of Housing and Community Development, 32715 Dorsey Road, from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. All written comments will be forwarded to the Detroit HUD Field Office.

WILLIAM R. WILD, Mayor

Publish: September 4, 2008
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Crowds gather for center's 1st Summer Fun Fest

More than 1,000 people enjoyed an afternoon of food and fun at what Westland Convalescent & Rehab Center has decided is officially a new tradition.

The center's recent Summer Fun Fest attracted WCRC patients, family members, staff and residents from surrounding communities and offered activities for young an old alike.

"It is of immense value to the Westland community to have an event such as this Fun Day," said Westland Deputy Mayor Courtney Conover. "We commend the entire staff of Westland Convalescent & Rehab Center for creating such a positive, inviting setting for the entire family to enjoy."

The event included inflatable bouncers like the moonwalk and Titanic, table games with prizes and a petting farm by Zacharias Farms Traveling Petting Farm and Pony Rides in Chelsea. Guests had the opportunity to interact with a multitude of small animals, including chickens, bunnies, lambs, goats, sheep, roosters, ducks, pigs, Guinea pigs, baby chicks and even a baby pony.

There also were free rub-on tattoos for small and big kids alike, and more than 50 girls and boys swung their hips in the Hula Hoop contest. The best Hula Hooper won a $25 Target gift card.

When visitors worked up an appetite, they were treated to free hot dogs, hamburgers, chips, a drink and ice cream for dessert. Complimentary cotton candy and popcorn also were available.

A gas grill, donated by Mack Vending in Plymouth, restaurant gift cards, gas cards, a boy's bicycle and a girl's bicycle were just some of the gifts raffled off throughout the event. Many local business establishments also donated items, including Alexander the Great, Amantea's, Arbor Hospice, Buffalo Wild Wings, Emagine Theatres, Famous Dave's, Joey's Comedy Club, Macy's Lakeshore Grill, Marvaso's Italian Grille, Electric Stick Billiards, Mary Denning's Cake Shoppe, Olga's Kitchen, Parkside Dental Team, Rapid Response, Red Robin Restaurant, Saranda's Hair Salon, Telcom Credit Union, Total Transition Team and Westhaven Manor.

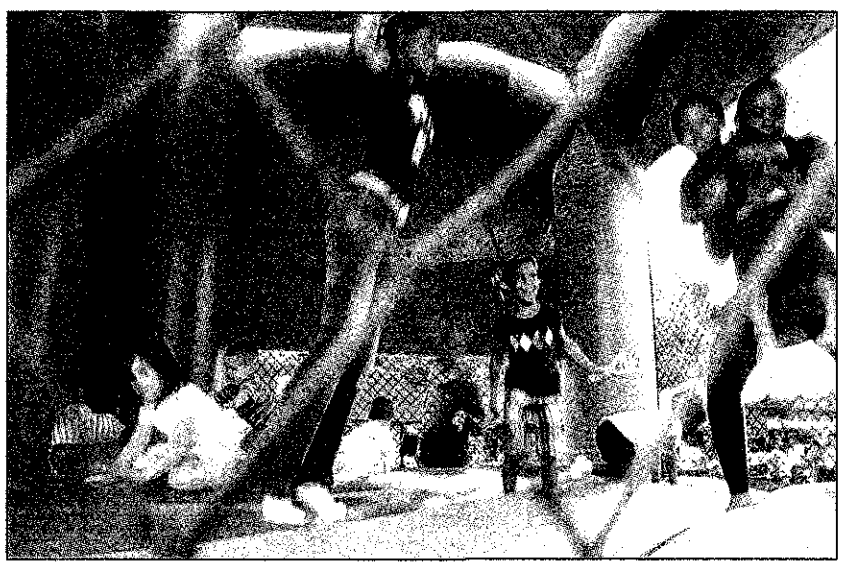
Westland Convalescent & Rehab Center provides sub-acute care for people who are coming directly from the hospital and require recovery from orthopedic surgery, including hip and knee replacements, fractures, dislocations; surgery; acute onset of medical condition; neurological disorders, such as a stroke, traumatic brain injury, Parkinson's and ALS; and neuromuscular disorders and other complex diagnoses.

Care may include physical therapy to help improve overall muscle control and strength, occupational therapy to regain daily living functions, speech therapy to regain language and communication skills, and social services to support patients and family members during treatment and with transitioning assistance in preparing for discharge from the program with a continuum of care at the home, if needed.

For more information, call (734) 728-6100.

PHOTOS BY TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Bo-Bo The Clown entertains Chuck Cornish (center) and Annette Burnham during the first annual Free Fun Fest at Westland Convalescent and Rehab Center in Westland.



A popular spot for youngsters was the inflatable bouncers.

Jenny Cuka, 6, of Westland picks a duck out of the pond to win a prize.

Twenty-two-month-old Cheyenne Henry of Livonia smiles as she checks out the fun fest petting zoo.

ThreeOlBags present writer's workshop

A group of three women who have made a name for themselves as the ThreeOlBags will share information about becoming published writers during a one-day workshop later this month.

Sandra Campbell, Linda Sparkman and Sharon Hegwood, who take their moniker from travel bags, have been collaborating on travel stories since 1998 when they decided to take a chance on being published authors.

Now they're offering the tools they acquired along the way at a Beginning Writers Workshop 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 27, at the Plymouth Baptist Church, 42021 E. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth.

They first got together for fellowship, study God's word and pray and decided to add "learn to be travel writers" to the list. Their plan was to take short trips, write about them, include photographs and get them published, using the money they made to pay for the next trip.

Their venture was a "huge success" and its their experience that they plan to share with workshop participants.

Campbell, a Garden City resident, will lead classes focusing on the tools of the trade, which will identify and explain what tools are essential to writers of any genre, Bare Bones, where good writing begins, will look at finding niche and specialty markets.

Hegwood, also a Garden City resident, is the photographer of the trio, will deal with digital camera photography, choosing the right camera and working with photos for publication.

Sparkman, who is the editor of the ThreeOlBags will explain the who, what, where, why and how of query letters and contacting editors and publishers.

The workshop also will answer such questions as what is a clip, how to write for magazines, how much money to expect and do you need and agent.

The workshop costs $100 and includes a textbook, continental breakfast, luncheon and afternoon snack. Space is limited. A $30 nonrefundable deposit is required to reserve a spot. Call (734) 644-6655 to reserve a spot. Interested budding writers can also send an e-mail to threeolbags@yahoo.com.

LIVONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Teaming together to ensure learning for all.

HELP THE LPS FOUNDATION HELP OTHERS
through the Competitive Edge College Scholarship Program

Buy or Lease a vehicle from one of the Livonia Dealers listed below

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35000 Plymouth Rd.
Livonia, MI 48150
(734) 524-2807
Contact: Kevin Herring

TENNYSON CHEVROLET
32570 Plymouth Rd.
Livonia, MI 48150
(734) 425-6500
Contact: Keith Lang

LIVONIA CHRYSLER JEEP
30777 Plymouth Rd.
Livonia, MI 48150
(734) 525-5000
Contact: Dave McDonald

and $200 will be donated to the LPS Foundation

Clip this coupon and bring to one of these three Livonia Automotive Dealers when purchasing or leasing a new or used car or truck.

Not only will you get a great deal on your next vehicle, but you will also be helping the LPS Foundation.

Does not include prior sales.
Coupon must be presented at time of purchase.

For more information, contact the Foundation at (734) 744-2510.

Offer Good until December 31, 2008

Want a lower gas bill this winter?

SHARON'S
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"Your comfort is our business!"

For over 25 years, Sharon's has been taking care of area households providing installation & service for furnaces, air conditioners, heat pumps, water heaters, boilers & package systems.

Avoid costly repairs this winter with a furnace tune-up...
Only $69.95

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31776 Cowan • Westland, MI 48185
Serving your area for over 25 years!
OE08617916

OUR VIEWS

Letters, Web page provide your voice

Over the years, we have enjoyed — and taken seriously — the responsibility we have to be your eyes and ears in the communities we cover as your hometown newspaper.

But there's another role we play on your behalf, another thing we can be for you — particularly as the world moves farther along the information highway.

Your voice.

With the established opinion pages inside our print editions, and our interactive, user-friendly Web site (www.hometownlife.com) readers have an unprecedented opportunity to take part in the coverage of their own community.

Our "Letters to the Editor" section continues to be a leading means of expression for our readers. The section was particularly popular during the recent political primary, as it always is during an election season. The section served as a springboard for ideas, a canvas on which to paint a portrait of a candidate, and a venue for public discourse about the issues facing our community, and those we wanted to face those issues.

But the letters serve a valuable purpose in non-election times, as well. A range of topics — from taxes to budgets and zoning to public safety — are debated in these pages twice a week. At 400 words apiece, that's a lot of discussion.

But increasingly, readers are finding it more convenient and more interactive to get into discussions via our Web page (www.hometownlife.com). There are several ways to do it, and all of them are easy. You can become an Observer blogger (all you have to do is register, and the Web site walks you through the easy-as-pie instructions). There are community forums, where you can either start a discussion about anything you wish, or join an existing discussion. Or you can leave a comment about an individual story posted to the site.

Upset with your elected officials? Let us know. Want to thank a police officer or a firefighter? Drop us a line. Prefer the Internet to old-fashioned paper-and-pencil, feel free.

For years, we've been your watchdog, keeping our eyes on your community for you. Now, we've found more ways than ever to provide you with a voice of your own.

Whichever way you choose to do it, all you have to do now is make sure your voice is heard.

Court was right to reject reform ballot proposal

On Aug. 20, the Michigan Court of Appeals rejected the Reform Michigan Government Now ballot proposal.

The unanimous decision reads: "The RMGN initiative petition is overarching, of a reach and expanse never before seen by any constitutional initiative in Michigan's long history. It proposes fundamentally to redesign the very framework of the Michigan Constitution of 1963, which emerged after an historic convention and subsequent voter approval."

The RMGN advocates filed an appeal with the Michigan Supreme Court on Aug. 22. The Supreme Court has no obligation to hear the case. The proposal calls for eliminating two Supreme Court seats and proposal advocates are asking that the two junior justices not participate in the appeal.

We believe the Court of Appeals has made the correct decision in rejecting this overstuffed and partisan amendment. The proposal is designed to enhance the position of the Democratic Party within the state. It throws in many attractive parts in an effort to distort its real intent.

The removal of the two Supreme Courts justices, for instance, would create a Democratic Party-endorsed majority on the court, a reverse on the disastrous attempt by Franklin Roosevelt to increase the seats on the U.S. Supreme Court to win support for his New Deal programs.

While we oppose the ballot issue, we believe there are many items in the proposal that have merit. But as the court ruled, voters should not have to decide on so many issues buried within a single ballot issue. Rather, voters should be asked to consider the issues fully and separately.

Among the proposals within in the ballot issue are: reducing the membership of the state Senate and House, rolling back legislative compensation, reforming redistricting by appointing a bipartisan panel to set legislative districts, placing restrictions on legislators becoming lobbyists, reducing judicial salaries, toughening conflict of interest requirements, reducing the salaries of the four statewide elected officials by 25 percent, reducing the cap on the number of state government departments from 20 to 18 and more. Much more — too much more.

If proponents believe there is so much to amend in the state Constitution, perhaps it is time for a Constitutional Convention. Or, perhaps, some of these issues can be settled legislatively or through separate ballot initiatives.

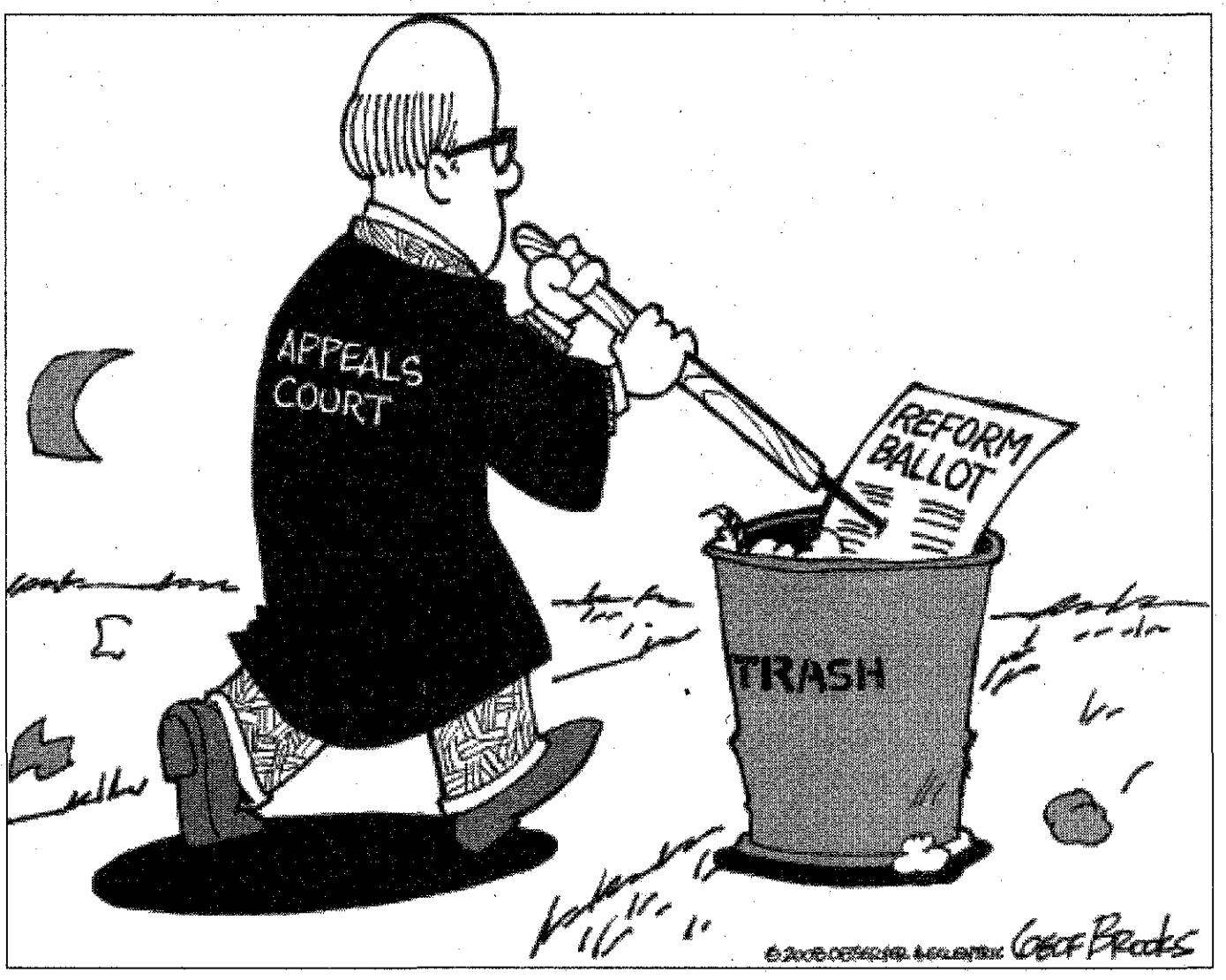
But this proposal is a terrible approach to government reform.

WESTLAND Observer
GANNETT

Sue Mason, Community Editor | Susan Rosiek, Executive Editor | Peter Neill, Vice President General Manager
Hugh Gallagher, Managing Editor | Marty Carry, Director of Advertising

Richard Aginian – Publisher Emeritus

Our fundamental purposes are to enhance the lives of our readers, nurture the hometowns we serve and contribute to the business success of our customers.



LETTERS

Supports police

I would like to respond to Ms. Dana Trapper's letter directed to me on Aug. 28, 2008. I feel it's important that I clarify her comments in regards to my letter written Aug. 17, 2008.

First I'm not sure how Ms. Dana Trapper confused my comment, "I know our police force is doing the best they can and I don't fault them for doing their job," to mean I'm "knocking the officers attempting to keep the criminals under control" and I am quoting Ms. Trapper. If she would care to review my letter the criticism was directed at our "city leaders" not at the police. I have nothing but support for our police force.

Secondly, I have been actively writing our city council and our mayor with my concerns in regards to the recent crime wave in our city, and I, too, have asked that we not make tax cuts that would affect our police force and fire department. I have to mention I have received some positive response from Councilman (Bill) Johnson.

So please Ms. Trapper don't just wake up and smell the coffee, have some, too, and understand I am aware of the crime in our city and I am voicing my concerns to our city leaders.

I do agree we need to be proactive, which is why I will continue to keep a watchful eye on what goes on in my neighborhood. I'm all for bringing our city back to a safer standard which is why we have to pitch in by keeping a watchful eye in our neighborhoods and reporting any suspicious activity to the local authorities.

This is another way I support our local police force, Ms. Trapper.

Carlos Manzo
Westland

Develop prevention tactics

After reading the Aug. 21 article, "City leaders angry at Romulus police over shoot-out," in the *Westland Observer*, I couldn't help but think that the city leaders and business owners are naïve. This shoot-out is only an issue, because it is not a regularly occurring event. I'm not saying that it would be better if this were to happen more often, but there are cities that face that trouble on a much more consistent basis. We should be grateful that this is such a rarity.

The real issue here is that we shouldn't be condemning Romulus police for what they did, but instead commending them for doing what they had to do to take these criminals off the streets. These officers didn't plan on a shoot-out and not tell Westland about it. Once they realized the sting had turned sour they did their best to apprehend the criminals.

The City of Westland shouldn't be demanding an apology from Romulus, but rather Westland should be working with Romulus, and other cities, to create prevention tactics so this doesn't happen again — in Westland or anywhere else.

Jeff LeBlanc
Westland

Return to K-6 configuration

(The following is an open letter submitted to Livonia school board President Cynthia Markarian.)

For the past two years, the Livonia Public Schools school district has been losing students at an unprecedented rate and the cost of fuel has reached historic levels. The combination of these two occurrences has resulted in the district losing large amounts of money. The district needs to reverse the trend of declining enrollment and reduce the amount of fuel used. I would like to share with you some thoughts I have regarding these two issues and how the district could begin to turn things around.

I believe very strongly that the only way to attract new students to the district, retain the students still with us and possibly bring some of our lost students back is to return to the K-6 configuration. Clearly the district cannot "undo" the changes brought about by the Legacy Initiative, however, over the course of the next two or three school years, changes can be made to make the district more appealing to young families. The following is an outline some of these possible changes.

Move back to K-6 in phases. The first phase could begin as early as this September. Due to the unfortunate fire at Webster, those students were moved to Taylor for the remainder of the school year, which makes Taylor a logical place to start since it is already up and running. Reopen Taylor School as a K-6 elementary school beginning this fall. Hull School could be cleaned and ready to go by September as well. By moving students back to Taylor and Hull, Hoover and Kennedy schools would then have room to bring their fifth- and sixth-grade students back.

Moving those four schools back to K-6 accomplishes several goals. One, it reduces the number of students at Johnson and Riley, making for less crowded conditions at these two schools. Two, it puts Hull School, which has fallen victim to vandals, back in operation, which would be a welcome sight in the Hull neighborhood. Three, and most importantly, it reduces several bus runs, thus saving money in fuel costs.

Tyler is slated to be the new home of Webster beginning this fall, which could remain on course for this year, however, that would have to be revisited for the following year. Moving the Webster program back to Webster, makes Tyler available for the second phase in the year 2009-10. This would alleviate the crowded conditions at Coolidge, so the fifth- and sixth-grade students could return there in 2009-10 also.

Nankin Mills can remain closed and the boundaries redrawn to move students between Rosedale and Johnson. It is possible that Washington could remain closed as well. McKinley could reopen and the boundaries be redrawn to move students between McKinley, Grant, Cleveland and Hayes and close Cooper. The district still ends up with three closed buildings and bus runs are even further reduced.

I realize this plan is incomplete, as it leaves out the necessary changes at several other schools (Buchanan, Cass, Randolph, Roosevelt), but it is a place to start and time is of the essence. If an entire district can be rearranged in 2½ months' time, most certainly two buildings can be readied in 2½ weeks. By implementing the plan in phases, those details could be worked out as we move forward, but the district needs to take action now. Welcome back parties and events at the mall are all well and good, but they don't attract new students to the district. The K/6 configuration and neighborhood schools do. Please take these ideas to your colleagues on the board. Should there be a need for help from the community, I can assure you, there will be many eager volunteers.

Bear in mind that the sinking fund millage is up for renewal soon. The voters in this district may be more willing to renew the millage if they see a good-faith effort by the district to listen to them and address some of these concerns.

Thank you for your consideration.

Lindsay Spence
Livonia

No help for change

Joe Biden was a TV celebrity during the "high-tech lynching" of Clarence Thomas. Supreme Court hearings reached a new low when a former Thomas employee, lovely Anita Hill, testified that her boss spoke suggestively to her 10 years earlier. He also purchased sexy magazines.

Sen. Biden seemed to intimate behavior of a Supreme Court justice should be more honorable than required for a president or senator.

Justice Thomas has upheld the Constitution honorably for many years now. His decisions are without racial prejudice, but more conservative than Sen. Biden would like.

Barack Obama, possibly our first black president, chose a white politician unfair to a black Supreme Court nominee. The vice presidency will get Biden out of the Senate for a while, but not help Obama's promise of worthwhile changes.

Hank Borgman
Farmington

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

"When Tony died, my heart broke. It broke four more times when I saw his brothers react."
– Amy Adams, fiancée of the late Cosenza, about how the actions of Daniel Andreassi affected several lives

Obama's message of national unity was life-altering one

What I also remember is the almost 10 minutes of the speech devoted to chastising the Democratic Party for past mistakes. While challenging your friends and allies is an uneasy path, it has been the journey that Sen. Obama has chosen to take.

Michael Siegrist

Four years ago I sat transfixed on my sofa, not knowing that the words I was hearing would change the course of my life. It was July 27 and the Democratic National Convention was in full swing, on its way to nominating John Kerry for the presidency. Whatever misgivings I had about the party or the candidate at the time, I tuned into the coverage looking for some reason to vote.

I found that reason from an unlikely source; a self-defined "skinny kid with a funny name" who would challenge me to get involved in more ways than I could have imagined.

"Tonight is a particular honor for me because — let's face it — my presence on this stage is pretty unlikely," Barack Obama said.

This son of a Kenyan goat herder and a mother from the heartland of America told me to ignore the pundits and politicos that divided this country into warring sides, clutched together in a freefall to the bottom. He professed a new way to view politics; one where you can disagree without being disagreeable.

As a student who worked as the director of a camping program for emotionally impaired children, I had a strong leaning to liberal politics and an even greater suspicion of partisan politics. I grew up in a conservative Catholic household with certified public accountants as parents.

I did not hate Republicans, only disagreed with them on solutions to our common problems. Sen. Obama's words were music to my ears.

In two years time I had changed my major to political science, become editor in chief of my student newspaper, managed a campaign and begun interning for a congressman. I would later invest what little spare time I had toward drafting Obama to run for president and working for him in the primary.

In 2006 I attended a rally in Detroit where Obama came to campaign for Gov. Jennifer Granholm. In a union hall, full of Democratic supporters, Sen. Obama touched on many issues and reasons to vote for Granholm; all of which I have forgotten. However, what I do remember from the evening is that it was nothing like the speech I had seen by President Bill Clinton who spoke in Taylor. Moving away from demonizing Dick DeVos and not focusing on common cheerleader-like antics, Obama chose to elevate the discussion by activating the crowd outside of partisan politics to create a stronger country for everyone.

What I also remember is the almost 10 minutes of the speech devoted to chastising the Democratic Party for past mistakes. While challenging your friends and allies is an uneasy path, it has been the journey that Sen. Obama has chosen to take.

In another speech I attended at the Detroit Economic Club — dubbed by a friend as the dumbest speech he has given — Obama challenged the domestic auto industry's failure to manufacture fuel efficient cars that are more marketable.

What I saw in Sen. Obama was an eagerness to speak hard truths and face ugly facts in order to address our past and present course so that we could all move forward.

So now, in my last year at the University of Michigan and working as a community organizer — a path also inspired by the Senator — I have returned in the wake of a national convention. I was elected a delegate last spring and traveled to Denver to cast my vote for the person I campaigned for in the primary and who inspired me to get involved not only in politics, but in my community as well.

On Thursday night of the convention I sat nine rows from the stand and watched in awe as one of my heroes made yet another convention speech. I sat transfixed yet again in wonder at how unlikely my presence was.

Michael Siegrist of Canton is a student of political science at the University of Michigan and is a community organizer. He served as a Michigan delegate at the Democratic National Convention last week in Denver.

LETTERS

8 facts about Nankin Mills plan

The debate on the Nankin Mills development reminds me of the movie *A Few Good Men* and the great line that Jack Nicholson had: "You want the truth, you can't handle the truth." I hereby encourage the research, discussion and thought about the following truths or facts.

Fact # 1: A master plan is a *strategy*. A strategy points you in a direction, but is *often* altered by economic pressures, changes in demographics and social needs. This is from J. Pearce & Robinson, noted experts and authors on planning and strategies.

Fact #2: "No city needs a developer - a developer needs a city." Are you kidding me? Why are we paying an economic development director (as we should) to work full time on finding developers, offering plans and incentives and then noting a progressive and reasonable mayor and council to work with, all in order to lure them here. A council recalled for "working with a developer" or "thinking progressively" instead of curling up in a protective shell will certainly go a long way in helping lure future business to our city. NOT!

Fact #3: Closed minds and not looking forward has left Westland with a closed movie theater, empty buildings on Cowan, two large stores built in Canton instead of here, should I go on? Residents squeal and complain about businesses moving or not locating here and blame the mayor and council. When they do vote for something new and progressive, you recall them.

Fact #4: We have a problem with citizens who think they know more than investors. Well, I got news for you - *you don't*. Investors are the ones spending millions of dollars when it comes to locations and how they run their businesses. If they wanted *your* location and could strike a deal with the current owner, they would have. Showcase Cinema sure listened to a few council members and complaining citizens last year on how they should run their business, didn't they?

Fact #5: I was told by more than one council member that the infamous petitions with "300 signatures" that the council "ignored," the same petitions that Gray Street residents refer to when pointing out the council's "disregard for citizens," actually contained *less than 50* signatures of Westland residents. The rest were signed by people as far away as Walled Lake and Novi.

Fact #6: If you really listen to the meeting instead of hearing what you want or looking for a conspiracy around every corner, you would realize that the "invitation only" part of the meeting with the developer was for the council members. This way they would not break the Michigan Open Meetings Act. I am sure that no one who lived on Gray Street was turned away. Residents that did not live close by should not have been invited. The meeting was for previously notified property owners, a few select city employees and the developer, just like it should have been.

Fact #7: This property was already zoned for R-1 development so all the "save the property" or "save the natural beauty" people give me a break. Have you seen how they level the *entire area* when they are building R-1? I also believe that the traffic will be the same or *less* than an R-1 development. People in this age group simply won't use Joy Road at busy school drop off times. Would you, if you had a choice? Of course, you wouldn't neither will they. Hix at Cherry Hill has the same (or more) density and traffic, so does Joy Road by Franklin High School. Both are two-lane roads and similar to this situation. This one should have even less traffic.

Fact #8: "The loss of property values" and the "3-story building is only 50 feet from houses." If you actually look at the plan, only one house is anywhere near that building. This particular house is on such a large deep lot it was actually built *behind* another house that fronts Gray Street. All the lots on Gray Street are more than 500 feet deep and the 3-story building will be *a minimum of two football fields away* from the next nearest house. Ninety percent of the residents will have a very nice residential type development beyond their very deep property lines. They also will have more green area and walking paths with this plan than they would with a strict R-1 plan. Most of the current residents will need binoculars to see what their new neighbors look like.

I encourage you to check on everything I pointed out. This debate has become an emotional issue with many of these facts conveniently passed over to make things look worse than they really are. Letters about conspiracies, due process, save the trees and "build it over there" have started. Let's stick to the facts of the development and whether or not it will be an asset to our city.

It is simple for 99 percent of Westland residents. There is no conspiracy. Nothing was done improperly. Do you want our city to grow and prosper? Do you want the city's tax burden shared with more businesses and developments or do you want to carry the tax burden all by yourselves. We can change and grow or we can stand pat and slowly wither away.

By the way, Ms. Hudson, I put my money on Mr. Poger in a debate any day.

Robert Welch Jr.
Westland

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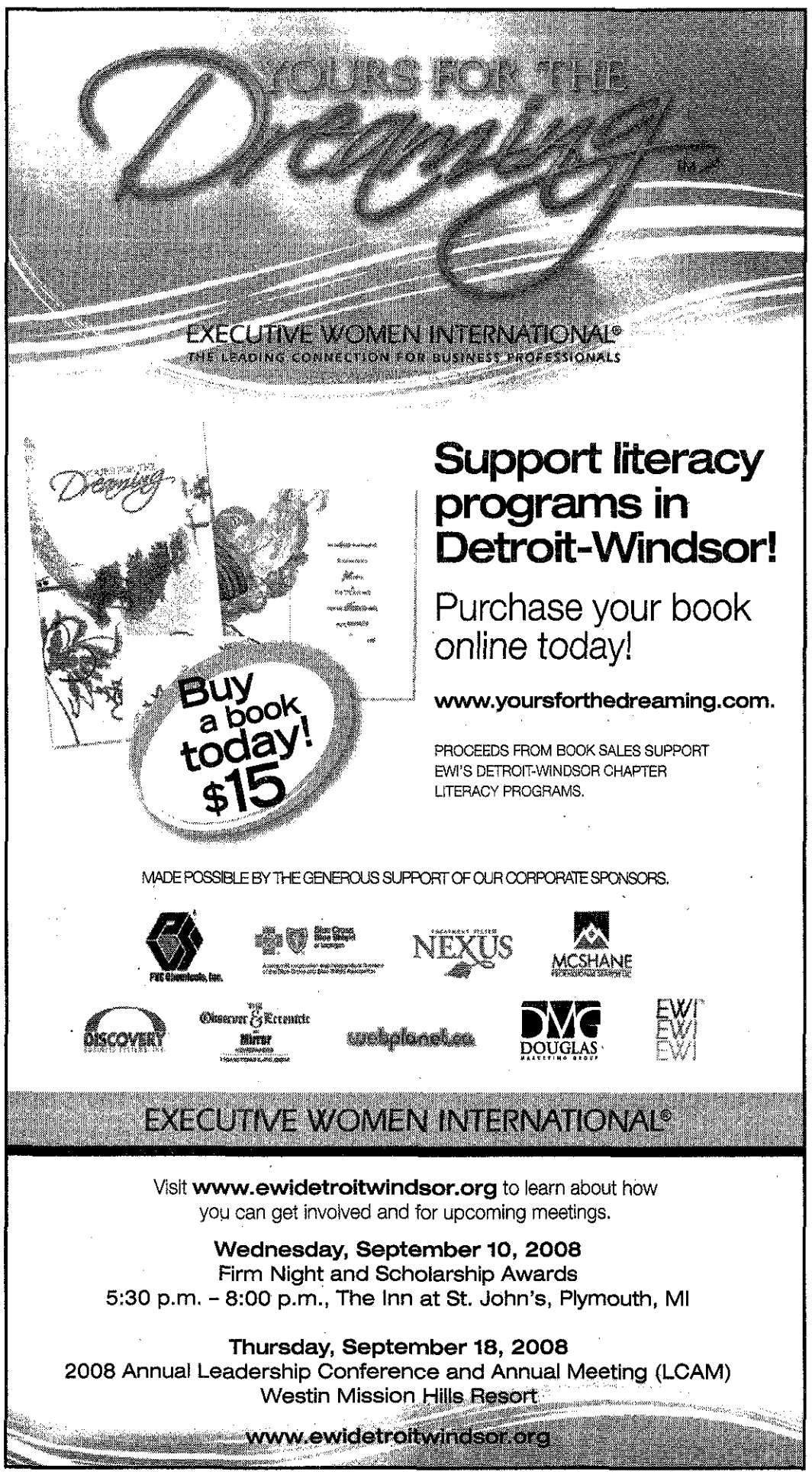

Salvation Army seeks good people's help in tough times

BY JULIE BROWN
O&E STAFF WRITER

The Salvation Army for Eastern Michigan is seeking funds, with leaders concerned about cuts including the Denby Center for Children and Family Services in Detroit.

There's hope on the horizon. The Matilda Wilson Fund, a generous benefactor, has promised to match donations, dollar for dollar, up to $50,000. With the match, the total would be $100,000.

"We're anticipating a response because we've done things like this in the past," said John Hale, director of development for the Salvation Army for Eastern Michigan. "It absolutely is a slow time" for fund raising. He and other leaders appreciate the foresight and generosity of the late Matilda Wilson.

"We are concerned," said Rochester Hills resident Hale, citing high unemployment and foreclosures. "I think that the need is still high right now."

In a recent letter to supporters, Maj. Norman S. Marshall, divisional commander, cited steeply rising grocery prices, as well as gasoline and utility costs. Marshall noted one-third of Detroit residents already live in poverty, and "the struggle to care for our neighbors in need is getting much harder."

The Denby Center includes a maternity program for single at-risk mothers, and could be closed. Denby houses pregnant teens and their newborn babies, and prepares the young women to make a healthy transition to motherhood. In addition, its residential treatment program gives pre-adolescent girls from broken homes support to find the way to a productive future, through physical, emotional, medical and educational help.

A memo in the August letter from Capt. Katherine Clausell, who runs the Denby Center, notes many teens would otherwise terminate their pregnancies if not for help received. "Our maternity program prepares young, first-time mothers for the critical challenges of motherhood and for a self-sufficient future," Clausell wrote.

Marshall and other Salvation Army leaders have asked for a response by Oct. 3. Hale said Aug. 20 officials anticipate the Denby Center will stay open, but it's too early to gauge response to the major's August letter.

Also cited in the letter was after-school tutoring at the Wayne-Westland corps on Venoy in Westland.

Wayne-Westland corps commander Capt. Derek Rose just hired a certified teacher for the after-school tutoring. "So we're looking to start full-force Sept. 15," he said.

"It's very important," Rose agreed about late summer and fall funding. "We are scraping the bottom of the barrel financially. We are in somewhat of a deficit right now, so we are looking to increase any funding we can."

Rose, whose wife, Joanna, is also a Wayne-Westland corps commander, agreed some people think of Christmas efforts involving the Salvation Army. "It's kind of one of those things that gets set to the side," Derek Rose said. "As always we appreciate any support our community in Wayne-Westland can provide."

Checks payable to the Salvation Army may be sent to the Salvation Army, Eastern Michigan Division, 16130 Northland Drive, Southfield, MI 48075. You can also donate online at www.salmich.org, or by calling (877)SAL-MICH.

"I think we can do it as a community," Hale said of the fund-raising goal.

Mutual funds should be judged by long-term track record

Money Matters

Rick Bloom

As an investor, there is one reason you invest money and that is to make money. Because the goal is to make money, never forget that how an investment performs is the most critical issue. That being said, how do you evaluate performance?

I believe what happens in an investment, particularly a mutual fund, over a one-year period is relatively immaterial. Any investment can have a good year. If you just look at any one year, you get a distorted view.

I use the analogy of whether a college education is a good investment over a one-year period. You need to judge the benefit of a college education over a much longer period of time. The same theory applies with investments. I generally judge investments over three-, five- and 10-year time frames.

Looking at long-term track records, you have a better understanding of a fund. If you just look at three-year returns, any one year might significantly impact that fund.

In addition, I like funds that have more consistent performance vs. funds that are traditionally on roller coaster rides. Some funds will have wide fluctuations in performance. I prefer funds that have a little more consistency.

Another factor I consider is whether the mutual fund management team is invested in their fund. When the management team has money invested, it tends to be more sensitive to certain issues such as taxes and fees.

The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) has changed the disclosure rules over the years and now requires managers to report ownership interest in a fund. Some mutual fund companies make it easy to obtain this information. They have posted it on their Web sites and they report it in their statement of additional information.

Most investors ignore the statement of additional information issued by the mutual fund company, however, that document has a wealth of information for investors including how mutual fund managers are compensated and their bonus arrangement.

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).

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Going to the well

Hot conditions can't stop Waterbury, Churchill

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

How can a guy name Waterbury ever be dehydrated?

But that's how the newly crowned Livonia City cross country meet champion felt after a couple of minutes into the 5,000-meter race late Tuesday afternoon at Cass Benton Park.

Mark Waterbury, the Churchill senior, fought through blistering 90-degree heat to win the event in 17 minutes, 11 seconds, as the Chargers garnered their sixth straight city title with 21 points.

Stevenson, under new coach Jerry Young, was runner-up with 37 followed by Franklin in third with 70.

"I went out like the weather was perfect," said Waterbury, who jumped to an early lead and never looked back. "I had to keep pushing to win it. About a mile into it told myself, 'It's too late to give up now.' I kept saying to myself, 'Don't back down.' That Tom Petty song was going through my head."

Churchill swept the first three places as sophomore Tom Windle was runner-up in 17:33 followed by Steve Zoski in 17:36. The Chargers also had two others in the top 10 — Quinn Osgood in sixth (18:04) and Mark Freyberg in ninth (18:51).

"I told them to be careful, but they trained hard last week," Churchill coach John McGreevy said. "They knew what their goals were. After last week's meet (South Lyon Invitational) there were a lot of questions. I thought Windle, Zoski and Osgood all stepped up. We felt better today than after the last meet, but we're still looking up to a lot of people in this new league (Kensington Lakes)."

The 6-foot, 160-pound Waterbury, third a year ago in the city cross country meet, had been bothered by shin splits during the spring track season which limited him to only the 1,600.

"I took a month off, all of June," said Waterbury, who was an individual state qualifier last fall. "I can still feel it. I ice it, take a lot of Motrin and stretch a lot — which is the most important part of prevention.

"I gained 10 pounds while I was off, and I was a little worried, but none of it's fat."

Waterbury's time of 17:11 under scorching conditions was certainly a positive.

Stevenson's top two finishers were Shawn Howse and Joe Urso, who finished fourth and fifth, respectively, in 17:58 and 18:03. Matt Williams added a seventh in 18:33 and Andrew Longhi was 10th in 18:55.

Sophomore Austin Jones was Franklin's lone finisher in the top 10, taking eighth with a clocking of 18:41.

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LIVONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS
CROSS COUNTRY MEET RESULTS
Sept. 2 at Cass Benton Park

BOYS TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Churchill, 21 points; 2. Stevenson, 37; 3. Franklin, 70.

Individual winner: Mark Waterbury (Churchill), 17 minutes, 11 seconds (5,000 meters).

Churchill finishers: 1. Waterbury, 17:11; 2. Tom Windle, 17:33; 3. Steve Zoski, 17:36; 6. Quinn Osgood, 18:04; 9. Mark Freyberg, 18:51; 19. Ryan Keeling, 19:56.

Stevenson finishers: 4. Shawn Howse, 17:58; 5. Joe Urso, 18:03; 7. Matt Williams, 18:33; 10. Andrew Longhi, 18:55; 11. Brian Fenech, 18:59; 12. Tom Kaman; 19:03; 13. Joe MacDonald, 19:07.

Franklin finishers: 8. Austin Jones, 18:41; 14. Pete Walblay, 19:16; 15. Bobby Wilson, 19:30; 16. Alex Curry, 19:32; 17. Nik Gherardini, 19:38; 18. Jason Riffel, 19:47.

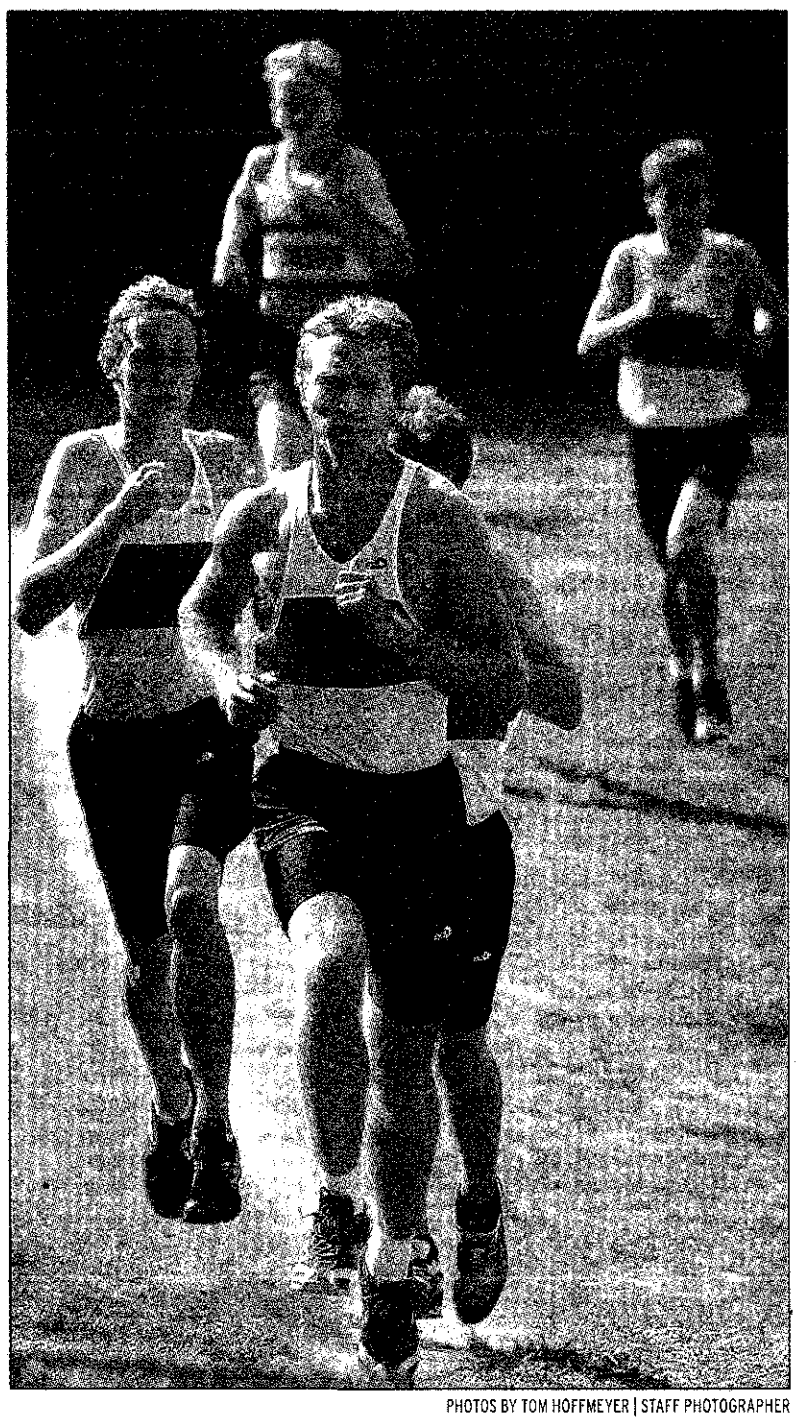
GIRLS TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Stevenson, 34 points, 2. Churchill, 35; 3. Franklin, 54.

Individual winner: Courtney Calka (Stevenson), 18 minutes, 57.04 seconds (5,000 meters).

Stevenson finishers: 1. Calka, 18:57.04; 6. Victoria Saferian, 21:54.87; 8. Karli Kuchka, 22:08.22; 9. Katie Vidler, 22:12.98; 10. Julie Capeneka, 22:29.23; 18. Michelle Krawczyk, 24:41.73; 21. Rebecca Gidley, 25:07.0.

Churchill finishers: 3. Amanda Southwell, 21:24.9; 4. Alyssa Mira, 21:30.69; 5. Emily Clairmont, 21:37.47; 11. Bethany Pilat, 22:37.08; 12. Lindsay McMullen, 23:07.33; 19. Tiffany Raisanen, 24:45.12; 20. Allesandra Iadipalo, 24:46.9.

Franklin finishers: 2. Megan McPherson, 19:50.96; 7. Brittany Dilley, 21:59.53; 14. Shannon Niznik, 23:50.81; 15. Tiffany Lamble, 23:58.8; 16. Tiffany VanOrden, 24:24.69; 18. Megan Wickens, 24:32.01; 27. Kelly Walblay, 25:47.3.



PHOTOS BY TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Churchill's Mark Waterbury leads the pack during the Livonia City boys cross country meet held Tuesday afternoon at Cass Benton Park.

Stevenson's Courtney Calka blisters the course on her way to a first-place finish, breaking 19 minutes for 5,000 meters, during the LPS girls cross country meet Tuesday at Cass Benton Park. It was Calka's fourth-straight individual title.

Stevenson girls bump off Churchill

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The heat took its toll late Tuesday afternoon at Cass Benton Park, but when the final results were tabulated, Stevenson claimed its first Livonia Public Schools girls cross country title since 2003 by edging four-time defending champion Churchill, 34-35.

Franklin placed third with 54 points in a meet where each of the three schools had a runner bow out.

Senior Courtney Calka led the way once again for Stevenson, capturing her fourth straight LPS individual title in the 5,000-meter race with an impressive clocking of 18 minutes, 57.04 seconds.

Franklin's Megan McPherson, a sophomore, was runner-up in 19:50.96 and three Churchill girls followed — Amanda Southwell (21:24.9), Alyssa Mira (21:30.69) and Emily Clairmont (21:37.47).

Stevenson placed four others in the top 10 to pull out the victory led by junior Victoria Saferian, sixth (21:54.87); senior Karli Kuchka, eighth (22:08.22); sophomore Katie Vidler, ninth (22:12.98); and freshman Julie Capeneka, 10th (22:29.23). Franklin's Brittany Dilley took seventh in 21:5

Churchill did not run its top returning runner, 41st-place state meet finisher Sara Kroll, who sat out the meet with an illness, and Stevenson took advantage.

"I sent my team out hard — that's what Churchill does — we wanted to be right with them," Stevenson second-year coach Nancy Gavoor said. "Churchill is a very good team and they're not going to take it lightly. It was Victoria Saferian's second best time at Cass Benton. Both Kuchka and Saferian were at the state meet last year. Kuchka didn't finish. And Vidler was not even in the top seven on JV last year.

"These girls have trained hard. I'm happy. This is us, this who we are. It's a different group than last year. We wanted to beat Churchill and be city (LPS) champs. It's a real positive for them."

Calka, who has aspirations of running track and cross country at a Division I col-

Please see **STEVENSON, B2**

Franklin's Megan McPherson, who broke 20 minutes for 5,000 meters, makes her way through the course en route to a second-place finish during the LPS girls cross country meet.

Prognosticating can be a hair-raising experience

Grid Picks

Ed Wright

The instant several Plymouth football players removed their helmets for the national anthem last Thursday night and exposed their mohawked lids, I knew the Wildcats were on the verge of a stellar performance.

In all the years I've been submerged in football — as a player, sports writer and fan — I have yet to see a team that executes the team-unity haircut play poorly.

Sure enough, Plymouth rolled 47-7 over Salem to get its season off to a hair-raising start.

Although the victory was the direct result of strong play from Matt Skubik, Connor McKinney, Connor Martin and friends — not Fantastic Sam, Bo-Ric or Vidal Sassoon — whoever wielded the clippers on the 'Cats deserves at least a pat on the back.

After some exhausting research, I discovered the team-unity haircut ritual dates back to the late 1920s. That's when members of the Canton Bulldogs — looking for a psychological edge before a pivotal showdown against the Frankford Yellow Jackets — conspired to take the field with bowl-cut haircuts.

While not quite as intimidating as mohawks, the bowl cuts prevailed — but only by a whisker.

The trend spilled over into hockey in the 1950s, when a number of Canadian teams bonded thanks to the now-defunct (except for Barry Melrose's) mullet hair-dos.

They won most of their games; unfortunately, they lost most of their girlfriends.

My up-close-and-personal experience with hair-related gridiron motivation techniques came in the fall of 1978, when I was the quarterback (junior, 5-foot-9, 160 pounds) for the Lansing Harry Hill Panthers. Before every game, members of the offensive unit would rub senior running back Aaron Hegman's incredibly large afro,

Please see **PICKS, B2**

Spotlines

Shaw released

Because of a logjam at linebacker, former Livonia Clarenceville High standout Tim Shaw was one of 15 players released and put on unconditional waivers Saturday by the Carolina Panthers of the National Football League.

Shaw, who played defensive end, linebacker and running back at Penn State, was a fifth-round draft choice of the Panthers in 2007 and played exclusively on special teams last season where he led that unit in tackles with 14.

The 6-foot-1, 236-pound Shaw had a total of five tackles, including two solo, in the Panthers' four preseason exhibition games.

Stillman leads MU

Sophomore Austin Stillman (Livonia Franklin) carded back-to-back 75s to lead the Madonna University men's golf team to eighth-place team finish in last weekend's Lou Collins Classic at Bedford Valley Golf Club.

Stillman was 12th individually followed by Steve South (Franklin), 75-78-153; Matt Robinson (Livonia Churchill), 81-78-159; Kyle Lawrey, 75-87-162; and Brett Quitquit, 83-80-163, for a 306-311-617 total

Host Olivet, led by medalist Brock Gleadal's 74-69-143, captured the team title with a two-day total of 588.

Football Webcast

Livonia Stevenson football fans who aren't able to make it to this Friday's game at Howell will have a chance to listen to the game live on the Internet.

The Livingston County Daily Press & Argus in Howell will be broadcasting the game via its Web site, www.livingstondaily.com, starting at 7 p.m. Friday.

Daily Press & Argus sports editor Tim Robinson and former Howell coach Bill Simmons will be doing the broadcast. To listen, click on the livingstondaily.com home page.

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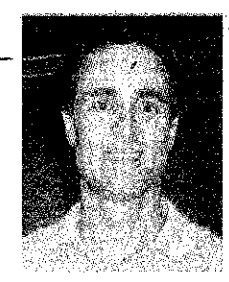
JEFF LESSON
CBS RADIO

SCOTT ANDERSON
97.1 RADIO

OE08619849

PICKS

FROM PAGE B1

which resembled an overwatered Chia-Pet.

The routine only worked twice in nine games, but — trust me on this one — it wasn't the 'fro's fault.

Led by Redford-Garden City sports editor Tim Smith, all three *Observer* grid pickers were stylin' last week. Smith went 10-2 followed by myself at 8-4 and Livonia-Westland sports editor Brad Emons, who compiled a 7-5 mark.

Despite our early triumphs, overconfidence will not be an issue due to the football selectors' creed we all adhere to: "Success: Hair today, gone tomorrow ..."

FRIDAY'S GAMES
(ALL 7 P.M. UNLESS NOTED)

LIVONIA STEVENSON (1-0) at HOWELL (1-0): This Kensington Lakes Activities Association crossover clash probably won't provide the down-to-the-last-second thrills that last week's Stevenson-Livonia Franklin game offered, but it may come close. The Highlanders crushed Walled Lake Northern, 48-17, in Week 1, so they give the Spartans a stern test. **PICKS:** Wright (Howell); Emons (Stevenson); Smith (Howell).

SALEM (0-1) at WALLED LAKE NORTHERN (0-1): Both of these squads are looking for the kind of early-season triumph that could spark a sudden resurgence following subpar 2007 campaigns (Salem finished 1-8; Northern was 0-9). After both teams gave up a total of 95 points last week, expect this one to be a barn-burner. **PICKS:** Wright (Salem); Emons (Northern); Smith (Salem).

WATERFORD MOTT (1-0) at WAYNE MEMORIAL (0-1): Mott's defense turned Westland John Glenn's offense to apple sauce in last week's 7-0 victory over the Rockets. Can it turn the trick again against a team in the same school district? The Zebras hope not. **PICKS:** Wright (Mott); Emons (Mott); Smith (Wayne).

WHITE LAKE LAKELAND (1-0) at CANTON (1-0): This is the first-ever meeting on the gridiron for the Eagles and Chiefs, both of whom are coming off impressive Week 1 wins. Teams that are facing Canton's run-oriented, ball-faking offense for the first time usually struggle, but Lakeland's offense can score, too. **PICKS:** Wright (Canton); Emons (Lakeland); Smith (Canton).

WALLED LAKE WESTERN (1-0) at LIVONIA FRANKLIN (0-1): These two squads know each other well after several years of squaring off against one another in the Western Lakes Activities Association's Western Division. The Patriots are still stinging from a tough one-point loss to rival Stevenson, while the Warriors are riding a wave of momentum in the wake of their thrilling 22-21 triumph over Monroe. **PICKS:** Wright (Franklin); Emons (Western); Smith (Western).

WATERFORD KETTERING (1-0) at LIVONIA CHURCHILL (0-1): The Chargers' hopes of getting into the win column for the first time this season won't get any easier against a Kettering defense that yielded just seven points to Wayne last week. **PICKS:** *Wright (Churchill); Emons (Kettering); Smith* (Kettering).

WESTLAND JOHN GLENN (0-1) at PINCKNEY (0-1): The Pirates suffered a tough 21-7 setback to Northville last week, while the Rockets fell, 7-0, to Waterford Mott. With several ominous opponents on deck, both units need a "W" to propel them in the right direction. **PICKS:** Wright (John Glenn); Emons (John Glenn); Smith (John Glenn).

BRIGHTON (0-1) at PLYMOUTH (1-0) at PCEP junior varsity stadium: Ironically, the Bulldogs will be playing their second straight game on the PCEP campus' junior varsity field, so they may have home-field advantage – at least for a few minutes. The Wildcats took to the air last week as quarterbacks Matt Skubik and Ryan Barrera combined for five TD passes. **PICKS:** Wright (Plymouth); Emons (Brighton); Smith (Plymouth).

BLOOMFIELD HILLS CRANBROOK-KINGSWOOD (0-1) at LIVONIA CLARENCEVILLE (1-0): Clarenceville made a statement in last week's 53-0 trouncing of Detroit University Prep, while Cranbrook was dropping a 47-14 decision to Detroit Loyola. **PICKS:** Wright (C'ville); Emons (C'ville); Smith (C'ville).

GARDEN CITY (1-0) at ROMULUS (0-1): Could this be the year of the Cougar? Judging by last week's convincing win over Taylor Kennedy, the answer could be a resounding "yes." **PICKS:** Wright (Garden City); Emons (Garden City); Smith (Garden City).

RIVER ROUGE (0-1) at REDFORD THURSTON (0-1): The Eagles will look to get on track after getting clipped in their opener by Croswell-Lexington. Mega Gold rival River Rouge is hoping to rebound from a demoralizing 28-point loss to Harper Woods. **PICKS:** Wright (Thurston); Emons (Thurston); Smith (Thurston).

WYANDOTTE ROOSEVELT (1-0) at REDFORD UNION (1-0): This game may prove to be one of the marquee matchups in the Mega White this week as both squads look to start the season unbeaten. **PICKS:** Wright (RU); Emons (Wyandotte); Smith (RU).

REDFORD COVENANT (1-0) at DETROIT LOYOLA (1-0) – 4 p.m.: The Loyola defense better *be prepared to deal with Covenant wide* receiver Jamonne Chester, who's headed to Indiana to play football in 2009. **PICKS:** Wright (Loyola); Emons (Loyola); Smith (Covenant).

SATURDAY'S GAME

HARPER WOODS (1-0) at LUTHERAN WESTLAND (0-1), 1 p.m.: Things can only get better for the Warriors, who were drubbed by Dearborn Heights Annapolis in their 2008 debut. **PICKS:** Wright (Harper Woods); Emons (Harper Woods); Smith (Harper Woods).

New frontier

Spartans devour Lions in KLAA division opener

BOYS SOCCER

Host Livonia Stevenson entered new territory Tuesday night, earning its first boys soccer victory in the newly formed Central Division of the Kensington Lakes Activities Association, 2-0, against previously unbeaten South Lyon.

"This was our introduction into the KLAA and we found out how different the regular season schedule is going to be this year," said Stevenson coach Lars Richters, whose team improved to 4-0-1 overall and 1-0 in the KLAA-Central. "It's a good opponent that we've never seen before, an energetic hard-working team."

Brian Klemczak scored both goals for Stevenson – one coming in the opening half off an assist from Nick Anagnostou and a second half tally from Chris Long.

"We got outstanding play in the center-midfield, especially from Klemczak and Joe D'Agostino," Richters said.

Goalkeepers Conner Burton (first half) and Justin Collins (second half) combined on the shutout.

The loss drops South Lyon to 6-1 overall and 0-1 in the KLAA-Central.

CHURCHILL 8, WAYNE 0: Max Washko had a pair of goals and two assists Tuesday night, leading host Livonia Churchill (1-2, 1-0) to the KLAA-South Division triumph over visiting Wayne Memorial (0-4-1).

The game ended two minutes into the second half because of the eight-goal mercy rule.

Adam Bedell and Simon Bank each contributed a goal and assist for the Chargers, who led 7-0 at intermission.

Other Churchill goal scorers included Etienne Lussiez, Chris DeNapoli, Tyler Varney and Matt Regan.

Adrian Motta started and Christian Adams finished in goal for the Chargers.

PLYMOUTH 4, JOHN GLENN 0: In a KLAA-South Division game Tuesday, Brad Finnegan's hat trick propelled the host Wildcats (3-3, 1-0) to a win over Westland John Glenn (1-3-1, 0-1).

Sam Maccini also scored for Plymouth, which scored three times in the second half after leading 1-0.

"It was a little sloppy, but eventually we took control," Plymouth coach Jeff Neschich said.

Kyle Brindza earned the shutout in goal for the Wildcats.

"We had some opportunities in the first half and could not finish," Glenn first-year coach Jimmy Mortada said. "The second half we got caught pushing up too much. I thought Nelson Kenne played a beautiful game at center midfield."

CANTON 7, FRANKLIN 0: On Tuesday, the host Chiefs (3-1-3, 1-0) broke open a tight contest with six second-half goals to beat Livonia Franklin (0-5, 0-1) in a KLAA-South Division *opener for both teams.*

"We only led 1-0 at the half, so Franklin deserves a lot of credit for keeping it close early on," said Canton coach George Tomasso. "Tonight – especially in the second half – we had great all-around team play. This is a very unselfish team and it showed tonight."

Senior midfielder Scott Zech tallied the lone first-half goal off a helper from fellow captain Kyle Breitmeyer.

Six different Chiefs scored second-half goals: Joey Krizanek, Josh Hurst, Collan Baker, Mitch Reinhart, Sherif Hassanien and Brandon Burt.

Registering *second-half assists* for the winners were Hassanien (two), Kyle Biega, Reinhart (two) and Zech.

Senior net-minder Nick Turnbull recorded his fourth shutout for Canton.

GREENHILLS 7, CLARENCEVILLE 1: Peter Jacobson scored four goals Tuesday to spark Ann Arbor Greenhills (3-0) to the non-conference triumph over host Livonia Clarenceville (3-1).

The Gryhons wasted little time getting on the board, scoring at the 7-second mark en route to a 3-1 halftime lead.

Garet Hintzman's unassisted goal proved to be Clarenceville's lone score.

STEVENSON

FROM PAGE B1

legiate program, was able to withstand the brutal conditions and win by almost a minute.

"It was definitely a lot hotter than any race I've race I've run," said the senior standout. "And it's the first time we raced there (Cass Benton) this year. We've practiced there, but I didn't realize hot much harder it was during a race. It was hard the entire meet. It was hard to get through it."

And winning the team title proved to be a welcome bonus.

"I'm so excited because haven't beaten Churchill in four years," Calka said. "I'm glad for the other girls and I'm glad that everybody can wear that (LPS meet) patch on their (letter) jacket now. It's exciting."

It was the second straight win for Calka, who also won the South Lyon Invitational, Aug. 23, at Island Lake State Park in 19:11.

"I feel like times are still dropping, even by a little bit," she said. "I still have work on my strength. I don't feel as powerful as before. I really have to work on my form more. Track form is different than cross country form. Track — it's a lot different than cross country race."

GIRLS SWIM RESULTS

FARMINGTON HIGH 107
LIVONIA CHURCHILL 79
Sept. 2 at Churchill

200-yard medley relay: Farmington (Sarah Fredericks, Mackenzie Smith, Molly Tyler, Sheelagh McCarthy), 2:08.23; **200 freestyle:** Samantha Reid (LC), 2:07.85; **200 individual medley:** Annie Newton (F), 2:46.56; **50 freestyle:** Fredericks (F), 27.36; **1-meter diving:** *Churchill* (name not available); **100 butterfly:** M. Tyler (F), 1:06.4; **100 freestyle:** Katrina Nelson (LC), 1:07.56; **500 freestyle:** Lauren Nash (F), 5:45.41; **200 freestyle relay:** Farmington (McCarthy, M. Tyler, Fredericks, Laura Tyler), 1:52.34; **100 backstroke:** Fredericks (F), 1:15.06; **100 breaststroke:** *Smith* (F), 1:23.1; **400 freestyle relay:** Farmington (Katie Tyler, M. Tyler, Jessie Vial, Nash), no time available. **Dual meet records:** Farmington, 1-0 overall; Churchill, 0-3 overall.

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MU ends California trip at 2-1

MEN'S COLLEGE SOCCER

The Madonna University men's soccer team finished its west coast road trip with a 2-1 record after dropping its first match of the season Monday to Bellevue (Neb.), 2-1, in double-overtime in a match hosted by Point Loma Nazarene.

Casey Friend's goal in the 105th minute from Mark Heath-Preston and Tom Garrick proved to be the game-winner in a match played off the shores of the Pacific Ocean in San Diego, Calif.

Garrick's goal in the 79th minute from Trevor Eastman knotted the count at 1-all after MU led 1-0 on Mark Pikula's goal from Doron Drai in the 11th minute.

MU goalkeeper Steve Besk made 12 saves in the loss, while counterpart Sebastian Narvaez had to make only four *stops.*

Both teams are now 2-1 on the season.

In a match Saturday at Point Loma, MU rallied past MidAmerica Nazarene University (Kan.), 2-1, as newcomer Corbin Titus tallied the game-winner in the 70th minute after being set up by Drai.

MidAmerica's Jon Lemon scored on a penalty kick after being fouled inside the 18-yard line at the 9:16 mark of the first half, but MU answered four minutes later on Emilio Giorgi's goal after taking feeds from Drai and Daniel Amaya.

Besk had to make just two saves in the victory.

Much like Friday's 2-1 OT win over host Point Loma, Saturday's match became physical with five cards handed out.

Ocelot men romp

On Aug. 27, the Schoolcraft College men's soccer team stands at 1-0-1 overall following a 7-0 victory in an MCCAA-Eastern Conference opener at Kellogg CC.

Leading the attack with two goals and an assist each were freshman Andy Adlington and sophomore Michael Iyoha while freshman Mark Djokaj (Farmington Hills/North Farmington) scored on an assist from freshman and Livonia Churchill product Vinny Carozza. Djokaj also assisted on freshman YaYa Toure's goal.

Splitting the shutout for the Ocelots were sophomore Chris Riley, freshmen Dan Horton and Billy Irvine. They had plenty of defensive support from sophomore Hunter *Robertson of Novi.*

Lady Ocelots boot Jackson, 5-1

WOMEN'S COLLEGE SOCCER

After a lackluster first half in the season opener, Schoolcraft College's women's soccer team bounced back with four second-half goals to knock off visiting Jackson Community College 5-1 in a Michigan Community College Athletic Conference match.

"The first half, we made a lot of mental errors and easily turned over the ball," said Schoolcraft head coach Deepak Shivraman. "The second half, we really changed our mindset and came out much more focused and this resulted in more possession and better scoring opportunities. We were much more composed in the second half."

Schoolcraft's lone first-half tally was scored by Stephanie Gutkowski (Livonia Stevenson), on an assist from Ally King Stevenson).

After the intermission, it was the combination of Brittany Pickett to Katie Shull (Salem) that really got the Lady Ocelots rolling. That tandem accounted for two goals, sandwiched around Dena Sana's goal (from Gutkowski). The final marker was scored with about nine minutes left, when Tara Pietila sent a pass over to Pickett who finished the job.

Shivraman cited the defense of Sally L'Esperance, Jessica Lusardi and Meghan Horgan (Livonia Franklin) for keeping the Rams' offense in check.

SC spikers go 3-3 in Owens Classic

COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL

An up-and-down weekend ended on a high note for Schoolcraft's volleyball team, which went 3-3 at the Owens Express Classic Volleyball Tournament in Toledo.

The Lady Ocelots went 2-1 on Friday, before losing extended matches Saturday to nationally ranked Vincennes and Haggerstown. But a 3-0 victory over Edison in Saturday's finale helped take the sting out of those defeats.

"This was a nice win for us," said Schoolcraft head coach Richard Lamb about the 25-17, 25-18, 25-18 win over Edison. "Last year, Edison made it to the national semifinals in Division III and it was a great way to finish the day after struggling earlier against Vincennes and Haggerstown.

"Overall, while we went 3-3 on the weekend, we did struggle. We learned a lot about where we are as a team and what we need to work on."

Cutting down on unforced errors is one area Lamb will attend to during upcoming practices.

Leading the attack for Schoolcraft (7-3 overall, 4-0 in the Michigan Community College Athletic Association) against Edison were freshman outside hitter Kaitlyn Litteral (14 kills) and sophomore outside hitter Virginia Butler (Canton/Westland John Glenn) who tallied 11 kills.

Leaders in other departments included freshman setter Katie Williams (23 assists) and sophomore defensive specialist Hillary Colomina (13 digs).

Schoolcraft lost 25-23, 16-25, 13-25, 17-25 to Vincennes and 25-9, 25-23, 18-25, 19-25, 10-15 to Haggerstown, despite a combined 31 kills from Butler and 47 digs from freshman defensive specialist Jordan Kerr (Livonia Churchill).

On Friday, the Lady Ocelots opened with a 25-15, 25-23, 25-15 win over Lakeland (Ohio) and followed up with a 3-1 victory over Owens (25-11, 12-25, 25-19, 25-16).

Schoolcraft, however, lost a 3-2 match to Sinclair to finish Day 1 of the tournament (game scores were 25-18, 25-17, 23-25, 21-25, 9-15).

Top Schoolcraft performers on the first day of action included freshman setter Brittany Denter (86 assists), Butler (33 kills) and Kerr (59 digs). Chipping in with five blocks against Sinclair was sophomore setter Sarah Button (Churchill).

Lamb said the win over 13th ranked Owens was the highlight of the weekend, with "huge strides" from freshman outside hitter Kaitlyn Litteral (13 kills, three blocks) as well as excellent performances from sophomore middle hitter Whitney Clay (24 digs, two aces) and Denter (36 assists, 14 digs).

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SPORTS ROUNDUP

O&E Men's golf

The 2008 *Observer & Eccentric* Men's Open 36-hole medal play event will be Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 20-21, at Livonia's Fox Creek and Whispering Willows golf courses.

The entry fee is $95 (cart not included) with a maximum handicap of 20.

Entries close at 6 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 13. Entries will be limited to the first 200 golfers.

(Starting times and pairings will be available after noon on Thursday, Sept. 18.)

For more information, call (248) 476-4493.

St. Colette hoop tryouts

Tryouts for the Livonia St. Colette Cougars Catholic Youth Organization boys basketball teams, both JV (grades 5-6) and varsity (grades 7-8) teams, will begin the week of Oct. 27.

Boys from St. Colette, St. Aidan, St. Kenneth and St. Priscilla are eligible to try out. The Cougars are also seeking a JV coach.

If interested, or for more information, call Michele Belczak at (734) 953-5746; or e-mail michelebel@sbcglobal.net.

MU Sunday fall hoops

The Madonna University men's basketball program and All-Star Basketball Camps will stage its 2008 fall basketball league on Sundays, Sept. 7 through Oct. 26.

The league will provide instruction in preparation for the upcoming winter basketball season from MU players.

Division II (ages 11-13) starts at 1 p.m. each followed by Division I at 3 p.m.

The cost is $125 per player (includes reversible game jersey with number).

For more information, call Chuck Henry at (734) 432-5991 (office) or (734) 398-5975 (home); or e-mail him at chenry@madonna.edu.

Girls softball tryouts

Additional tryouts for the Livonia Storm girls fastpitch softball team age groups will be from 10 a.m. until noon, Sunday, Sept. 7, at Bicentennial Park (fields nos. 9-10), located off Seven Mile Road (at Wayne Road).

For more information, visit http://www.livoniastorm.com.

Boys hoop league

Beginning the week of Sept. 23, the City of Livonia Department of Parks and Recreation will stage a fall boys basketball league at the Livonia Community Recreation Center gym.

Team placement tryouts for Division I (ages 9-11) will be from 6-7 p.m. and Division II (ages 12-14) from 7-8 p.m., both Tuesday, Sept. 9 at the LCRC. Team notification will be Tuesday, Sept. 16.

Division I practices will be Tuesday, Sept. 23 and 30 followed by games on Oct. 7, 14, 21, 28; Nov. 4 and 11.

Division II practices will be Thursday, Sept. 25 and Oct. 2 followed by games Oct. 9, 16, 23, 30; Nov. 6 and 11.

The registration deadline is Monday, Sept. 8 (LCRC pass holders) at the LCRC, located at 15100 Hubbard (at Five Mile Road).

Fees are $49 (pass holders), $58 (Livonia residents) and $65 (nonresidents).

For more information, call (734) 466-2900.

Girls hoop league

Beginning the week of Sept. 28, the City of Livonia Department of Parks and Recreation will stage a fall girls basketball league for ages 10-13 at the Livonia Community Recreation Center gym.

Team placement tryouts will be from 6-7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 12, followed by practices on Sept. 26 and Oct. 3. League games follow Oct. 10, 17, 24; Nov. 7, 14 and 21.

The registration deadline is Thursday, Sept. 11, at the LCRC, located at 15100 Hubbard.

Fees are $49 (pass holders), $58 (Livonia residents) and $65 (nonresidents).

For more information, call (734) 466-2900.

Men's fall basketball

The City of Livonia Department of Parks and Recreation will hold a managers meeting for its seven-week, 2008 men's fall basketball league beginning at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 17, at the Livonia Community Recreation Center (conference room), located at 15100 Hubbard (at Five Mile Road).

The fee is $320 per team (plus officials fees each game). The season starts Nov. 5.

For more information, call Erin Knieper at (734) 466-2412.

Youth baseball tryouts

■ Tryouts for the Westland Warthogs, a 13-and-under travel baseball team will be from 6-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 10, at Wayne-Ford Civic League baseball fields, located at Wayne Road, just south of Ford.

For more information, call Keith Kiesznowski at (734) 846-3513.

■ Tryouts will be staged the next few weeks for the 2009 WaCo Wolves, a 14-under team which will play in the 15-and-under division of the Kensington Valley Baseball-Softball Association, along with regional events.

The Wolves will start play in early April and end in late July with close to an 80-game schedule which includes the Omaha (Neb.) Slump Buster held during the College World Series.

For more information, call Bill Hardin at (734) 560-0820.

Baseball Academy

The Pro Secrets Baseball Academy will be conducting showcase sessions for high school players as well as skill sessions in power pitching, hitting and fielding.

The latest pro pitch trainer will be used and former Phillies pitcher Mark Rutherford will be the featured instructor.

For more information, call (734) 421-4928.

Travel baseball-softball

The Kensington Valley Baseball Softball Association is accepting applications for travel baseball and softball teams for the 2009 season.

There are currently openings in all age brackets in both baseball and softball for new and existing teams.

Baseball features multiple divisions – community, advanced, open – for under-9 through under-18. Softball divisions will be determined by interest for under-10 through under-18.

Meetings for the upcoming season will begin in October.

For more information, e-mail Jeff David at jeff.david@kvbsa.com; or visit www.kvbsa.com.

THE WEEK AHEAD

PREP FOOTBALL
Friday, Sept. 5
Cranbrook at Clarenceville, 7 p.m.
Wat. Kettering at Churchill, 7 p.m.
W.L. Western at Franklin, 7 p.m.
Stevenson at Howell, 7 p.m.
John Glenn at Pinckney, 7 p.m.
Waterford Mott at Wayne, 7 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 6
Harper Woods at Luth. Westland, 1 p.m.
GIRLS VOLLEYBALL
Thursday, Sept. 4
Clarenceville at Wayne, 7 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 5
Huron Valley at Macomb Christian, 4:30 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 6
Ladywood Tournament, 9 a.m.
Mich. Lutheran Tournament, 9 a.m.
Portage Northern Invitational, 9 a.m.
Oakland Christian Tournament, TBA.
Berkley invitational, TBA.
BOYS SOCCER
Thursday, Sept. 4
John Glenn at Wayne, 4 p.m.
Clarenceville at Harper Woods, 4:30 p.m.
Luth. Westland at Luth. North, 6 p.m.
Canton at Churchill, 7 p.m.
Plymouth at Franklin, 7 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 5
Franklin at Garden City, 4 p.m.
W.L. Northern at John Glenn, 4 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 6
Luth. Westland at R.O. Shrine, 11 a.m.
BOYS & GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY
Thursday, Sept. 4
Wayne at Ypsi Early Bird, 4 p.m.
Annapolis, Lutheran South at Lutheran Westland, 4:15 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 6
Bath Invitational, 8:30 a.m.
W. Bloomfield Inv. at Kensington, 9 a.m.
U-D Mercy Inv. at Cass Benton, 9:45 a.m.
GIRLS SWIMMING & DIVING
Thursday, Sept. 2
Wayne at Annapolis, 6 p.m.
BOYS TENNIS
Friday, Sept. 5
Farmington at John Glenn, 4 p.m.
Wayne at Garden City, 4 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 6
Monroe Invitational, TBA.
GIRLS FIELD HOCKEY
Friday, Sept. 5
A.A. Huron at Ladywood, 4:30 p.m.
WOMEN'S COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL
Thursday, Sept. 4
Flint Mott CC at Schoolcraft, 7 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 5
(Julie Martin Memorial at Madonna)
Madonna vs. Davenport, 3 p.m.
Madonna vs. Cedarville (Ohio), 7 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 6
(Julie Martin Memorial at Madonna)
Madonna vs. Univ. of Windsor, 9:30 a.m.
Madonna vs. Spring Arbor, 1:30 p.m.
MEN'S COLLEGE SOCCER
Friday, Sept. 5
Schoolcraft at Suffolk CC (N.Y.), 2 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 6
Schoolcraft at Nassau CC (N.Y.), noon.
WOMEN'S COLLEGE SOCCER
Friday, Sept. 5
Schoolcraft at Elgin CC (Ill.), 5 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 6
Schoolcraft at DuPage CC (Ill.), 11 a.m.
TBA – time to be announced.

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Canton golfer chips in toward Guinness Book's fastest round

BY ED WRIGHT
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Canton resident Jeff Marcero is headed straight for the pages of the *Guinness World Records* book — and he's taking his putter with him.

On July 20, Marcero was one of 40 people who chipped in to break the world record for the fastest round of golf.

And, no, the group didn't include Tiger Woods *or* Usain Bolt.

The record-setting contingent, which was put together by radio station WJR and Boyne Mountain Resorts, played 18 holes on the Monument at Boyne Mountain layout faster than it takes some PGA Tour pros to line up a putt: 7 minutes and 56 seconds.

The previous record of 8:47 was set in August of 2003 at Bridelwood Golf Club in Flower Mound, Tex.

Marcero and his fellow record-breakers were strategically placed on three of the Monument's holes (a par 3, par 4 and par 5), which they played six times consecutively.

The clock started each time the initial tee shot was struck. Players stationed in the fairways and around the greens ran to the resting spot of each shot and proceeded to move the ball toward the hole.

Once a golfer drained a putt, the player on the ensuing hole immediately hit a tee shot.

Among the stringent requirements put in place by *Guinness* were that video had to be taken of the event, the total yardage of the holes played had to exceed 6,000 yards and two elected officials – in this case, a mayor (not Kwame) and a sheriff – had to witness the occurrence.

"I was more anxious than nervous," said Marcero, who was stationed on the fringe of one of the three greens with his putter and wedge in hand. "There was no time to line up putts or anything. It was all about getting to the ball in a hurry and hitting it. I think the longest putt we made the entire round was eight feet."

Marcero, a sales executive at WJR, said the record almost didn't happen.

"The first time we tried it, we were just over nine minutes," said Marcero, "so everybody was really fired up. But the next time it took longer and the time after that it took longer still.

"It was raining the whole time, so after the third try, myself and Dan Turcott – the Boyne events director– talked about whether we should give up or keep trying. When we decided to give it one more shot, Dan got on the megaphone and delivered this awesome speech that got everybody fired up.

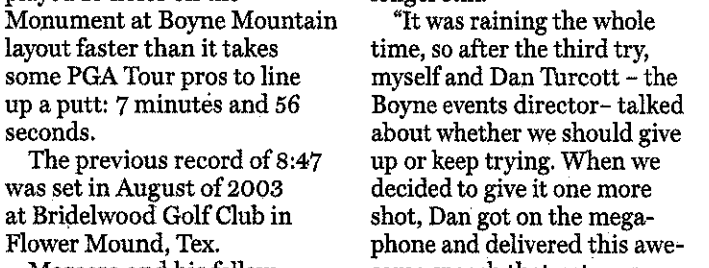
"When we broke the record, every shot was pure and every approach shot was tight. It's hard to explain how perfect it turned out."

WJR has coordinated the record-breaking attempts since the mid-90s, Marcero said.

"One of the things that helped this year was that the Tournament of Champions was being held at the same time up there and we recruited a lot of those golfers to participate," said Marcero. "I'm a 13 handicap and I was probably the worst golfer out there."

Marcero credited Turcott and WJR marketing director Bridgette Burns for orchestrating the successful effort – one that even Tiger and Bolt could envy.

ewright@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2108



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To advertise in this directory, call Jim Sabatella at (586) 826-7388.

RELIGION CALENDAR

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.

SEPTEMBER

Charity basketball game
The Council of Orthodox Christian Churches of Metropolitan Detroit (COCC) and Wright & Filippis sponsor a charity basketball game 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 4, at Franklin High School, 31000 Joy, Livonia, for the benefit of Children's Hospital of Michigan. Teams are the AmpuTeam Spartans and the Saints. Halftime activities include 50/50 drawing and silent auction. Suggested donation $10 adults, $5 seniors and children ages 11-18, children 10 and under free. For tickets or details, contact Richard Shebib at (734) 422-0278 or paschabooks@sbcglobal.net, or Brad Shebib at (248) 829-8327 or bshebib@wright-filippis.com. The Spartans are a team of amputeess. The Saints are volunteers from COCC member churches. COCC church members interested in playing for team may contact (313) 770-3733 or fakhourn@cooley.edu.

Kirby 5k run
10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 6, at Willow Metro Park, Big Bend. For details go to www.kirbychurch.com.

Mom to Mom Sale
Features 75 moms selling their kids' clothes, toys, books/DVD's, baby equipment, etc., that their families have outgrown 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 6, at Connection Church, 3855 Sheldon, north of Michigan Ave., Canton. Admission $1. Refreshments available. Strollers welcome. For information, visit mom-2momlist.com.

Bethany Suburban West
Monthly dance 8 p.m. until midnight Saturday, Sept. 6, at St. Robert Bellarmine, 27101 W. Chicago at Inkster Rd., Redford. No dance lesson this month. Cost $10, refreshments included. Doors open a 7:30 p.m. Call Diane K. for information, (734) 261-5716. Bethany is a Catholic organization under the auspices of the Archdiocese of the Detroit and provides spiritual, social and educational assistance through peer-to-peer ministry to divorced and separated of all Christian faiths.

Yard sale
9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 6, at St. John's Lutheran Church in Redford. Food and drinks available. Call (313) 538-2660 or (313) 533-1646.

Seekers of spiritual intelligence
Beacon Hill Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) pastors use the Bible to identify spiritual gifts that may be yours 1 p.m. Sunday worship services in September at St. Michael Lutheran Church Chapel, 7000 N. Sheldon, south of Warren, Canton (enter through south double doors next to play area) For information, call (313) 402-6900 or (313) 806-PRAY, send e-mail to beaconhillccdoc@aol.com.

Rally day
For Immanuel Lutheran Church 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 7, at 27035 Ann Arbor Trail, east of Inkster Rd., Dearborn Heights. Sunday School starts Sept. 14 at 10:30 a.m. Visitors welcome.

Wednesday activities
Have resumed at 7 p.m. at Grace Christian Fellowship, on the west side of Middlebelt, one block south of Six Mile. The special four week study focuses on the Hebraic Roots of Our Christian Faith, taught by Yvonne Moore. For information, visit www.gcfellowship.org or call (734) 525-6019.

Remembering Sept. 11
Program hosting Dr. A. T. Ariyaratne, from Sri Lanka, a Nobel Peace Prize Nominee, Gandhi Peace Prize Winner and Founder of Sarvodaya, hosted by Detroit West District Peace Center 7-8:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 11, at Hope United Methodist Church, 26275 Northwestern Highway at Lahser, Southfield. Includes interfaith prayers offered by Christians, Jews, Muslims, Sikhs, and Hindus and others coming together in unity for peace with music, songs, liturgical dancing, and lighting of candles for peace. The public is welcome. For information, call (248) 356-1020, Ext. 137.

Dorje Chang is living in America
Presentation focusing on reincarnation of the highest leader of Buddhism, HH Dorje Chang Buddha III, 7-9 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 11, at 960 E. Jefferson, Detroit. For information, visit www.zhaxizhuoma.net/. Respected Zhaxi Zhuoma, a close disciple of HH Dorje Chang Buddha III will lead the congregation in Detroit.

Music at St. John's
Opens the 2008-2009 concert series with a performance by Scott Woolweaver, an internationally renowned violist, 7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 12, at St. John's Episcopal Church, 574 S. Sheldon, Plymouth. No charge and open to the public. For more information, call (734) 453-0190.

Mom to Mom Sale
10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 13, at Wellspring Church, 36350 W. Eight Mile, Farmington (north side of Eight Mile between Halsted and Gill). For more information, call (248)471-4667.

Tent sale
Begins at 9 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 13, at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 37775 Palmer, Westland. Household item, specialties like Avon, candles, tools, houseplants, books and crafts. Also a used clothing sale inside the church for $2 a plastic grocery bag. All proceeds donated to area organizations to help people in the community. Cost to participate is $25 if you bring your own table, $35 to use one of the church's 8-foot tables. For details, call (734) 722-1735 or (734) 722-4363.

Victorian fashion show/tea
Shows at 2 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 13, at First Presbyterian Church of Northville. Tickets $10 adults, $5 students age 12 and under. Red Hat Society members receive $1 discount for 3:30 p.m. show. For information, visit www.firstpresnville.org/finearts.html. For directions, visit www.firstprenville.org.

Mom to mom sale
9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 13, at St. Mel Church, 7506 Inkster Rd., Dearborn Heights. Tables $25. Call (734) 525-3607 or (313) 274-0684 by Sept. 8.

Bethany Suburban West
Monthly breakfast meeting 9:30 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 20, at Leon's 30149 Ford Rd. next to Tim Horton's, Garden City. All separated, divorced and singles welcome; for details call, Kathy M. (734) 513-9479. Bethany is a Catholic organization under the auspices of the Archdiocese of the Detroit and provides spiritual, social and educational assistance through peer-to-peer ministry to the divorced and separated of all Christian faiths.

Celebration
This year, Israel celebrates a significant milestone that provides a great opportunity to celebrate the achievements and history of the Jewish State. In honor of this momentous occasion, The Russian Chapter of American Friends of Magen David Adom (Israel's equivalent to the Red Cross) will host a celebration 5:30 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 21, at Adat Shalom, Farmington Hills. The evening includes Russian-Jewish delicacies, entertainment by Ben Opengeim, door prizes and auction. Tickets $90, with proceeds benefiting ARMDI. Friends and families of all faiths and backgrounds welcome, but space is limited. For details, visit www.lifetosave.org.

Organ recital
Robert Bates, associate professor of organ at University of Houston, performs 2 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 22, at Metropolitan United Methodist Church, 8000 Woodward, north of Grand Blvd., Detroit. $10 per person at the door or call (313) 875-7407. Reception follows concert. Free supervised parking adjacent to church.

Sacred music concert
Let the Heavens Rejoice: Sacred Hymns of the Carpathian Mountains, the seminary choir of the Blessed Theofdore Romzha Theological Academy of Uzhorod, Ukraine sing selections from liturgical services and religious hymns in Church Slavonic 7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 26, at Sacred Heart Byzantine Catholic Church, 29125 Six Mile, Livonia. No charge, but free will offering requested to support the seminary. Open to the public. Several audio and video recordings will be available. For information, call (734) 522-3166 or visit www.seminaryconcerttour.com.

Mom-to-Mom sale
9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 27, at Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia. Call (734) 422-0149.

Safety/health fair
10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 27, physical fitness competitions for kids, bicycle safety, health screenings for adults, parent information on child safety and health, free car seat inspections by Canton police officers, child safety identification, at All Saints Catholic School parking lot and gym, 48735 Warren, between Beck and Ridge, Canton. For more information, call (734) 459-2490.

Marian rally
Sunday, Sept. 28, join the Felician Sisters of Livonia as they honor the Blessed Virgin Mary at the annual Marian Rally beginning at noon with the Celebration of the Eucharist (Mass), in the Motherhouse Chapel, 36800 Schoolcraft, Livonia, followed by the praying of the rosary alternating decades in English and Spanish at the shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa at 1:30 p.m., and a procession to the Fatima Shrine and Crowning of Our Lady, by students from St. Adalbert Parish, South Bend, Ind. Refreshments available after the liturgy. Wheelchair participants welcome. Parking available at Montessori Center of Our Lady at Newburgh entrance. For information call (734) 591-1730.

Bethany hay ride
Saturday, Sept. 27, for Bethany Suburban West and Bethany South in South Rockwood. Cost is $20, includes hay ride, hot dogs with all the fixings plus beverages and a DJ. They have an indoor facility for dining and dancing. Call Kathy M. at (734) 513-9479 or Judy at (313) 389-4730 for tickets.

Spirit of Manresa
Dinner and auction begins with 5:30 p.m. Mass Saturday, Sept. 27, at The Marriott at Centerpoint, 3600 Centerpoint Parkway, Pontiac. Cost $150, $250 patron, includes dinner, silent and live auctions, dancing. Call (248) 644-4933, Ext. 34 or visit www.manresa-sj.org. Manresa Jesuit Retreat House is a place of quiet, peace and prayer that seeks to help people grow in their spiritual life.

Parenting class
Parenting Families DVD based classes help address issues in a positive way that will enhance your family life, from 6:30-8 p.m. Monday, Sept. 29 to Nov. 3, at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington Rd., north of I-96, Livonia. For information, call (734) 522-6830. Please register at www.christoursavior.org under Adult Fall Classes.

UPCOMING

Crop walk
Sunday, Oct. 5, at Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church, Livonia. For information, call John Hirtzel at (248) 477-5181.

Tiny Tots Preschool
Now enrolling for 2008-2009, openings for 3- and 4-year olds at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 39020 Five Mile, Livonia. Cost $25 for the first child, $20 for each child thereafter. Call (734) 464-0211.

Crafters wanted
The Women's Guild of St. Michael Catholic Church of Livonia invites all interested crafters to participate in their annual Craft Fair and Bake Sale 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 25, in the cafeteria of St. Michael's School, 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth Rd. 8-foot-long tables are available for rent at $25 each. Applications available at parish office or on-line at www.livonistmichael.org. A photo of the item(s) sold must be submitted.

Fall craft show
Applications are now being accepted for the Fall Craft Show noon to 6 p.m. Friday, Oct. 24, and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 25, at Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh, Livonia. For details, call (734) 464-0990.

ONGOING

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 $8. Call (313) 534-7730.

Eucharistic adoration
St. Michael the Archangel Church in Livonia continues its monthly program of Prayer and Eucharistic Adoration on the third Wednesday of each month. The church will be open for prayer and private worship from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Benediction service in the evening. All are welcome. Call (734) 261-1455.

Worship schedule
11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Sunday (9:45 a.m. Sunday School), at Community Free Will Baptist Church, 33031 Cherry Hill, west of Venoy, Westland. Wednesday prayer and Bible study is 7 p.m. Youth fellowship every other Friday at 7 p.m.

Time change
Come to hear about the love of Jesus Christ for you 9:30 a.m. Sundays (May 25 to Sept. 7) at Faith Lutheran Church, 30000 Five Mile, west of Middlebelt, Livonia. For information, visit www.livonfaith.org.

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 will continue to be at the Livonia YMCA at 14255 Stark Road, between Lyndon and the I-96 service drive. The Web site is www.hischurch.us.

Reformed Protestant services
The doctrines and teachings of solid, Reformed Protestantism are preached by the Rev. Sean Humby 3:30 p.m. Sundays at the Detroit Preaching Station of the Free Church of Scotland (Continuing), at Cherry Hill School, 50440 Cherry Hill, corner of Ridge, Canton. For information, call (734) 402-7186, send e-mail to sean.humby@att.net, or visit www.members.aol.com/rsiworship/detroit.html.

Sanskrit chanting
An ongoing, weekly class taught by Ania Kopczynski, 7-8:30 p.m. Thursdays, at Renaissance Unity, 11200 E. 11 Mile, Warren. No pre-registration required. A free-will collection taken at the session. For information, call (586) 353-2300 or visit www.renaissanceunity.org.

Church schedule
Garden City Presbyterian Church continues its 10 a.m. Sunday worship service with traditional hymns, scripture readings and choral music (fellowship follows). Youth Sunday School and nursery care also available at 10 a.m. Adult Sunday School at 8:30 a.m. Informal gathering 6 p.m. every Sunday with scriptures and discussion at the church on Middlebelt, one block south of Ford Rd. Call (734) 421-7620.

Single Place Ministry
Single Place Ministry continues to meet 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 E. Main St., Northville. Call (248) 349-0911 or visit www.singleplace.org. Cost is $5.

Prince of Peace Church
Recovery, Inc., meets at 10 a.m., every Wednesday at the church, Walnut Lake Road and Green, West Bloomfield. Recovery, Inc., is an international, non-profit, self-help community based service organization that helps people with nervous and emotional disorders reduce their suffering and improve their quality of life. Call Martha Paul at (248) 682-9362 or e-mail her at marthapaul@sbcglobal.net.

Tai Chi and strength classes
Orchard United Methodist Church is hosting a Tai Chi class 7-8:30 p.m. Mondays in the Mac at the church, 30450 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills. The cost per class is $10 or $40 prepaid for five classes. The strength class takes place 9:30-10:30 a.m. Monday and Wednesday. Cost is $5 per class. Drop-ins welcome. For information, call (248) 626-3620 or visit www.orchardumc.org.

Church offerings
Riverside Park Church of God, Sunday worship is at 10 a.m., Wednesday bible classes (child through adult) at 7 p.m. Youth outings held monthly.
The senior group (age 50 plus) has lunch together every month.
The men get together for breakfast the first Saturday of the month plus we offer choir practice for all singers. All visitors welcome. The church is at 11771 Newburgh at Plymouth Road, Livonia. Call (734) 464-0990 for details.

Church services
Want a unique church experience? Join in Sunday mornings at 10 a.m. for a service that will lift your entire family, but be prepared for what will happen after just one service at Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh (corner of Plymouth Road), Livonia. Call (734) 464-0990 for information.

Tai Chi class
Orchard United Methodist Church, 30450 Farmington Road, 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 continue every Monday. 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.

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.

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.

Couple prayer series
St. Colette Church, 17600 Newburgh, Livonia, is offering a Couple Prayer Series (www.coupleprayer.org) for married or engaged couple, began 7-9 p.m. Friday, Jan. 4, in the Activity Center Hall. For registration information, call Mary Ellen at (734) 464-4435.

New schedule
9 a.m. Sunday school for all ages and Faith Forum, 10 a.m. Worship Service with Communion and nursery, at Holy

Please see **CALENDAR, B5**

Passages

Obituaries, Memorials, Remembrances

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BETTY JO FUGATE

83, of Brazil, passed away at St. Vincent Clay Hospital September 2, 2008 at 3:10am. Born in Brazil, she was the daughter of Cornwell R. "Cornie" and Anna (Stott) Treager. Mrs. Fugate graduated from Brazil High School with the class of 1943. July 5, 1945 she married Norman G. Fugate. Although she spent much of her life as a homemaker, she also worked as a realtor and later as a real estate broker. Betty was the first woman realtor in Brazil having worked for Paul Cunningham, Aaron Royer and Gayle Hughes. In her spare time she enjoyed collecting antiques, working cross words and watching the news. She is preceded in death by her parents, husband Norman Fugate and brother Robert E. Treager. Survivors include her son: Norman G. Fugate Jr. and wife Lynne of Shelby Township, Michigan and daughter: Pamela J. Fugate of Brazil; grandchildren Gregory G. Fugate and wife Allyson and Geoffry E. Fugate and wife Kim; great grandchildren Graham Fugate and Landon Fugate. Services will be at French Funeral Home Saturday September 6, 2008 at 11:00am with Rev. William Price officiating. Burial will follow at Clearview Cemetery. Visitation will be at the funeral home Friday from 4-8pm. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the Clay County Humane Society. Sign a heart of condolence at www.frenchfuneral-home.com

CHARLES ROBERT ROBERTSON

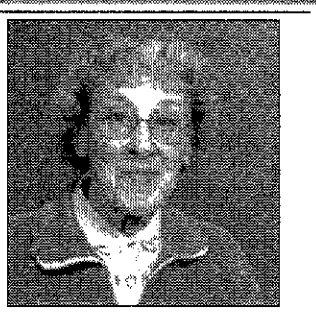
Age 75, August 31, 2008, formerly of Harbor Beach, MI. Beloved husband of Virginia. Dear father of Rick, Sandra, Gary, Cindy, Terry and the late Craig. Grandfather of 7, great-grandfather of 2. Brother of Jack (Rita) and June Hazel. Uncle of Steve and Mike Hazel and Jack Robertson. Son of the late Robert and Lutisha Robertson. Retired Garden City Fire Fighter. Korean War Navy Veteran. Private Services were held. Arrangements by Santeiu & Son.

CLEO HIVELEY

September 1, 2008 age 99 of Westland. Beloved wife of the late Joseph Hiveley. Dear mother of Betty J. (Weldon) Van Alstine, Doris (Bill) Brown and the late Jack L. Sheppard. Also survived by sister, Sue Bosell, daughter-in-law, Joan Sheppard, 11 grandchildren, 22 great grandchildren and 14 great great grandchildren. Services Friday 10 am at the Uht Funeral Home, 35400 Glenwood, Westland. Family will receive friends Thursday 12 - 9 pm. Please visit and post a note of condolence at www.uhtfh.com.

DOROTHY "Dottie" LAPHAM

Age 84, of Canton, formerly of Traverse City and Dearborn, died August 16, 2008. Beloved wife of the late James. Mother of Susan Hussein (Mahmoud), Step-mother of Linda Oke (Stuart). Loving grandmother of three and great-grandmother of one. Memorial Service 2 p.m. Saturday, September 6 at First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth, 701 Church St., Plymouth, MI 48170. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to The Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute or First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth.

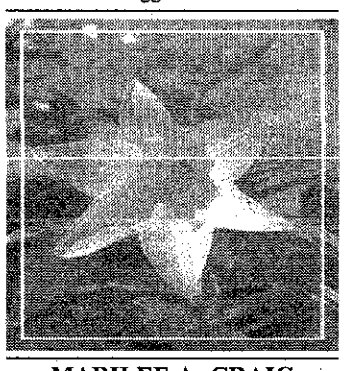


ESTHER DEXTER

Of Birmingham, age 88, died peacefully on August 19, 2008. Esther was born A. Esther Hall on October 12, 1919, in Syracuse, NY. Her husband, Leonard, predeceased her in 1995. The couple moved to Birmingham when Leonard was transferred here by Chrysler. Esther worked in a Birmingham insurance agency. Esther was a member of Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, Birmingham, for nearly 50 years, served on the church's Altar Guild and was a THAW (The Heat and Warmth Fund) volunteer. Esther was active throughout her life. She was a thirty-year volunteer at Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak. She was also a BASCC volunteer and member. She enjoyed bowling and was a member of the Birmingham Seniors Friday Thunderbird Lanes Bowling League. She was an avid golfer, hitting a hole in one with a three wood on the fourth hole at Birmingham's Lincoln Hills golf course on August 28, 1996. She also enjoyed bicycling, swimming and travel. Esther is survived survived by a nephew, David Nicholson of West Monroe, NY, a step-niece, Joanne Blake of Syracuse, NY, and numerous cousins. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, September 6, at 11:00 am at Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, 1800 W. Maple Rd., Birmingham. An inurniment service will be held in New York. In lieu of flowers, memorial tributes to the church or the charity of donor's choice are suggested.
View obituary and share memories at www.DesmondFuneralHome.com.

JEANETTE ELLIS

Age 89, August 30, of Garden City. Loving mother of R.D. and Ronald (Geri). Dear grandmother of Angela (Jim) Straw and Ammie. Sister of C.E. Francis, Jr. of Clarkville, TN and Mary Lou Gilbert of Nashville, TN. A funeral service was held on Tuesday, September 2, 2008 at R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home in Garden City. The family suggests donations to Merriman Road Baptist Church. Please sign Jeanette's online guestbooks at www.rggrharris.com.

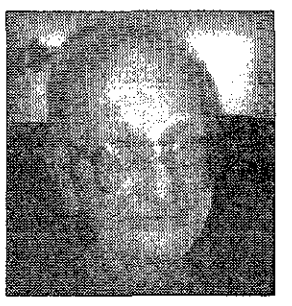


MARILEE A. CRAIG

Of Flint, formerly of Redford Township, age 50, passed away Saturday, August 30, 2008 after a long courageous battle with Characinoid Liver Cancer at Fenton Extended Care Center. Funeral Mass will be celebrated 10 a.m. September 6, 2008 at St. Mary Catholic Church, 2500 North Franklin Avenue in Flint, Father Santhiyagu Arockiyasamy officiating. Cremation will take place following the Mass. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the family. Visitation 12 p.m.-2 p.m. and 4 p.m.-7 p.m. Friday at the Swartz Funeral Home, 1225 West Hill Road. A Rosary will be prayed at 7 p.m. Friday at the funeral home. Marilee will be at the church 9:30 a.m.Saturday until the time of the service. Your condolences may be shared with the family at swartzfuneralhomeinc.com

MICHAEL K. HUSSEINI

August 29, 2008. Age 18. Beloved son of Samy (Hanaa) Husseini and Janine Hill-Zubaidi (Abraham). Loving brother of Alexandra, Ali, Laura, Sarah, and Adam. Dearest grandson of Agnes (the late Kenneth) Hill and Mounira (the late Ali) Husseini. Also survived by many aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends. Funeral Service Wednesday 1 p.m. at the Neely-Turowski Funeral Home, 30200 Five Mile Road (Bet. Middlebelt and Merriman), Livonia. Visitation Monday 5-9 p.m. and Tuesday 2-9 p.m. www.neely-turowski.com



PAUL C. CAPEHART, "Pap Pap"

August 31, 2008 age 81 of Westland. Beloved husband of Betty. Dear father of Johnnie (Thelma). Step-Father of Ron (Carol) Marshall and Robin (Ron) Griffin. Brother of the late Vernon and Ruby Dull. Also survived by many grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and many other family and friends. Memorial service may be set at a later date. Arrangements entrusted to the Uht Funeral Home, Westland, Michigan. Please view memorial and send tributes at www.uhtfh.com.

SARAH "VIRGINIA" WAINEO

Age 80, August 30, 2008. Beloved wife of the late Albert. Dear mother of Glenn (Jane), Bryan (Debra) and Dean (Nancy). Dearest grandmother of Douglas (Eva), Marcus (Julie), Albert (Teresa), Khara (Kristopher) Pratt, Justin, Shauna, Alyssa, Benjamin, Rebecca and Anna. Great grandmother of Dylan, Connor and Kayla. Visitation and services were held at the Harry J. Will Funeral Home, Livonia. In lieu of flowers, family requests donations to Angela Hospice.

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
586-826-7318
For more information call:
Charolette Wilson
586-826-7082
or Liz Keiser
586-977-7538
or toll free
800-579-7355
ask for Char or Liz

OE08579123

21-day vigil puts faith in power of prayer

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
O & E STAFF WRITER

When Rev. Barbara Clevenger heard about the 21-day prayer vigil to uplift the economy of greater Detroit, she started making plans to include her church, Unity of Farmington Hills (formerly Church of Today West). On Sunday, Aug. 24 members joined congregations around the area in carrying out the idea of Rev. Greg Barrette, pastor of Renaissance Unity in Warren.

Clevenger

Clevenger believes that everyone praying together can make a difference. For 21 days participants are writing down their own prayer for Detroit 15 times a day. The vigil ends Sunday, Sept. 14, at an event in Hart Plaza.

"I've lived in the area 14 years. This area so many fabulous assets and there's a big high energy here that is confident, creative," said Clevenger. "We don't have city cooperating with county, city cooperating with suburbs. It seems there's all these divides. Wisdom says we all win together or lose together. There's a critical mass ready for change right now."

Clevenger says pain is a powerful motivator. People are losing their jobs and homes. She lives in Birmingham where houses are for sale up and down the street. She says everybody feels the effects of the economy. At Unity giving is down, but attendance is up because people are seeking spiritual guidance.

I LIFT DETROIT IN PRAYER

What: A ceremony during which each person writes their prayers in books that will be provided for the occasion
When: 2 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 14
Where: Hart Plaza, Detroit.

To help members, she's hosting Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University, a Biblically-based curriculum that teaches how to make the right financial decisions. According to Ramsey's Web site, www.daveramsey.com, more than 10,000 churches nationwide have used the program.

"Most of us change when we're uncomfortable," said Clevenger. "We sometimes feel like that victim but if you can pray affirmatively, pray to change us. When we change the situation changes. I'm not saying people can control everything but we can influence the future. There are many people all over the world who would like to have what we have here. I was in India for three weeks last September and even when things are bad here they are not all bad."

Clevenger does her part to make the world a better place by serving on the Michigan Roundtable for Diversity and Inclusion (formerly National Conference for Christians and Jews) and Interfaith Partners which was formed on Sept. 11, to create understanding among religions. She's also active with the Farmington Area Interfaith Association.

On Sunday, Sept. 21, Clevenger will be among the thousands of people welcoming A.T. Ariyaratne for a celebration of the United Nations International Day of Peace at Eastern Michigan University Convocation Center in Ypsilanti. The internationally-known leader of the Sarvodaya movement has rallied the residents of villages in Sri Lanka to build a better life for themselves.

"He teaches that don't wait for government aid or leaders, work with your neighbor right now," said Clevenger.

"He says we build the road and the road builds us. He has individuals working together to build wells, roads. When you work together you become friends. He's done this in 15,000 villages over 50 years. We need to learn how to work together. We've come to the place that it takes all of us lifting us up, doing things to help people right now."

lchomin@hometownlife.com
(734) 953-2145

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE B4

Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA), 30650 Six Mile, Livonia. All visitors welcome. For more information, call (734) 427-1414 or visit www.holycrosslivonia.org.

Day of service

A Day of Service and Spirituality is available by the Capuchin Soup Kitchen and the Solanus Casey Center. The purpose of the day is to serve, meet and 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 information, send e-mail to ccrane@thecapuchins.org.
To learn more about the Capuchin Soup Kitchen, visit www.cskdetroit.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, Livonia. Call (734) 427-1414 or visit www.holycrosslivonia.org. Visitors welcome.

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.

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 Road 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.

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.

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 Librandi
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

LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church
14175 Farmington Road, Livonia Just north of I-96
734-522-6830
Sunday Worship
8:30 & 11:00 am - Traditional
Staffed Nursery Available
Sunday/Bible Class
9:45 am
Early Childhood Center
Phone 734-513-8413
Making disciples who share the love of Jesus Christ
Pastors: Robert F. Bayer and Anthony M. Creeden

CATHOLIC

ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
Immemorial Latin Mass
Approved by Pope St. Pius V in 1570
St. Anne's Academy - Grades K-8
23310 Joy Road • Redford, Michigan
5 Blocks E. of Telegraph • (313) 534-2121
Mass Schedule:
First Fri. 7:00 p.m.
First Sat. 11:00 a.m.
Sun. Masses 7:30 & 10:00 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. 6 p, Sun 9a

EVANGELICAL COVENANT

FAITH COVENANT CHURCH
14 Mile Road and Drake, Farmington Hills
(248) 661-9191
Sunday Worship and Children's Church
9:15 a.m. Contemporary
11:00 a.m. Traditional
Child Care provided for all services
Youth Groups • Adult Small Groups

"More than Sunday Services"

Worship Services
9:00 a.m. & 11:30 AM
Sunday School & Nursery
9:00, 10:30 & 11:30 AM
Pastor:
Dr. John Grenfell III
Associate Pastor:
Rev. David Wichert

First United Methodist Church of Plymouth
45201 North Territorial Road
(West of Sheldon Road)
(734) 453-5280
www.pfumc.org

NEWBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
"Open Hearts, Minds & Doors"
36500 Ann Arbor Trail
between Wayne & Newburgh Rds.
734-422-0149
Worship Service
and
Sunday School
10:00 a.m.
Rev. Marsha M. Woolley
Visit our website: www.newburgumc.org

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD
25630 GRAND RIVER at BEECH DALY
313-532-2266 REDFORD TWP.
Worship Service
9:15 & 11:00 A.M.
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

HOSANNA-TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
9600 Leverne • So. Redford • 313-937-2424
Pastor - Reverend Paul Undlin
Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.
Wednesday Evening Service 7 p.m.
Education Hour 10:45 a.m.
Christian School
Pre-Kindergarten-8th Grade
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.
Bible Studies English & Spanish
(All Ages) 11:00 a.m.
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.)

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

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

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN

WARD *Evangelical Presbyterian Church*
40000 Six Mile Road
"just west of I-275"
Northville, MI
248-374-7400
Traditional Worship
8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 A.M.
Contemporary Worship
9:30 A.M.
Nursery & Sunday School During the 9:30 & 11:00 Hours
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

Immanuel Lutheran Church
Pastor Milton Schemm
27035 Ann Arbor Trail, Dearborn Heights
(just East of Inkster Road)
(313) 278-5755
Worship Service & Sunday School 10:30 a.m.
http://ourchurch.com/member/i/immanueldbnhts
The Friendly Church on the Trail

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
Adult Bible Study 9:30
Nursery Care Available
All are welcome. Come as you are.
www.risenchrist.info

CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE

PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
45801 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

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)

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

LUTHERAN CHURCH WISCONSIN SYNOD

ST. PAUL'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
17810 FARMINGTON ROAD
LIVONIA (734) 261-1360
WORSHIP SERVICES
SUNDAY: 8:30 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.
THURSDAY: 6:30 P.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

CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DOC)

Beacon Hill Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
"Where Your *Light* Shines!
Worship Service: 1 pm
St. Michael Lutheran Church - Chapel*
7000 N. Sheldon Road, Canton, Michigan 48187-2753
*Enter through the south double doors next to the play area
Rev. Dr. Wayne Ten Roberts & Minister Dr. Carolyn Ann Roberts, Co-Pastors
313-402-6900 & 313-806-PRAY or beaconhillccdoc@aol.com

For Information regarding this Directory, please call Donna Hart at 313-222-2333 or e-mail: dhart@hometownlife.com

OE06816590

Co-ed soccer champs

The Horny Rams adult co-ed soccer team won their division title Aug. 26 following an 11-5 victory over 2.25 at High Velocity Sports in Canton. The Horny Rams finished the season 8-0-0, outscoring opponents 75-34. It was the team's sixth championship season. Back row (left to right) are team members: Pablo Benavidez, Livonia; Dan Cline, Redford; Chris Jackett, Redford; Jim Michael, Livonia; Robert Sacks, Livonia; Dan Sporer, Redford and Emmett Kuhn, Northville. Front row (left to right) are team members: Jen Morgan, Livonia; Stefanie Stephens, Redford; and Karen Jackett, Redford. Not pictured is Kristina Baker of Brighton.

Crusaders finish 3-1 on West Coast swing

COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL

The 10th-ranked Madonna University women's volleyball team returned home from San Diego with an 8-1 overall record after winning three of four matches in last weekend's Seaside Invitational hosted by Point Loma Nazarene (Calif.).

On Saturday, MU split a pair of top-ten clashes defeating No. 9 College of Idaho in five games, 22-25, 25-22, 25-18, 25-21, 15-2, before losing to the host Sea Lions, in four games, 20-25, 25-22, 19-25, 21-25.

MU overcame a 21-kill performance College of Idaho's Sarah Buhler, led by Lubovj Tihomirova and Whitney Fuelling's 14 kills apiece. The Crusader duo, each named to the All-Tournament team, also combined for 15 block-assists.

Mary McGinnis added 10 kills in the win, while setter Inta Grinvalds finished with a season-high 45 assist-to-kills. Brynn Kerr (Livonia Churchill/Schoolcraft College) and Grinvalds contributed 13 and 10 digs, respectively.

The loss dropped College of Idaho to 2-4 overall.

In the final match of the Seaside Invitational, three Point Loma players reached double figures in kills, led by Tabitha Henken's 19, as the Sea Lions improved to 4-0.

Setters Kyle Morel and Amanda Bevens each collected 24 assists, while Courtney Fleck had a team-best 15 digs.

Tihomirova and Megan Fricke paced the MU offense with 17 and 13 kills, respectively. Grinvalds added 43 assists and 11 digs, while Kerr recorded a team-high 14 digs.

On Friday, Tihomirova and Fuelling recorded for 24 and 19 kills, respectively, as the Crusaders improved to 7-0 with wins over Ashford (Ia.), 25-22, 25-15, 25-21, and Mount Marty (S.D.), 25-11, 25-17, 25-15.

Grinvalds also added a total of 55 assist-to-kills in the two matches, while Kerr led the defense with a total of 25 digs.

Ashford, getting 15 kills from Jenny Buelow and 10 from Aubree Rhoades, fell to 0-2 overall.

Mount Marty dropped to 1-3 overall.

Whalers remain busy during Labor Day weekend vs. Spits

For many people, Labor Day is a day of rest and relaxation – and maybe a chance to see the Detroit International Jazz Festival downtown.

The Plymouth Whalers didn't visit the festival, but they moved through the outskirts of it on the way home Monday from Windsor.

The Whalers and Windsor Spitfires traditionally start their preseason schedule with a home-and-home series. The Whalers swept this season's hard-bop with Windsor, winning 6-5 in Plymouth on Aug. 30 before nipping the Spits, 3-2, in Windsor on Labor Day.

In the latter contest in Windsor, Tyler G. Brown's power-play goal at 18:40 of the second period gave the Whalers a 3-1 lead and Plymouth withstood a late Windsor rally.

"We battled," said Plymouth head coach Greg Stefan. "The team played hard."

Patrick Lee and Vern Cooper also scored for Plymouth. Dale Mitchell and Richard Greenop replied for Windsor.

Lee got the Whalers off to an excellent start when he scored 24 seconds into the game, banking a shot from the right corner in the Windsor zone off Spitfire starting goaltender Stephen Gleeson. Myles McCauley (Sterling Heights) drew the lone assist.

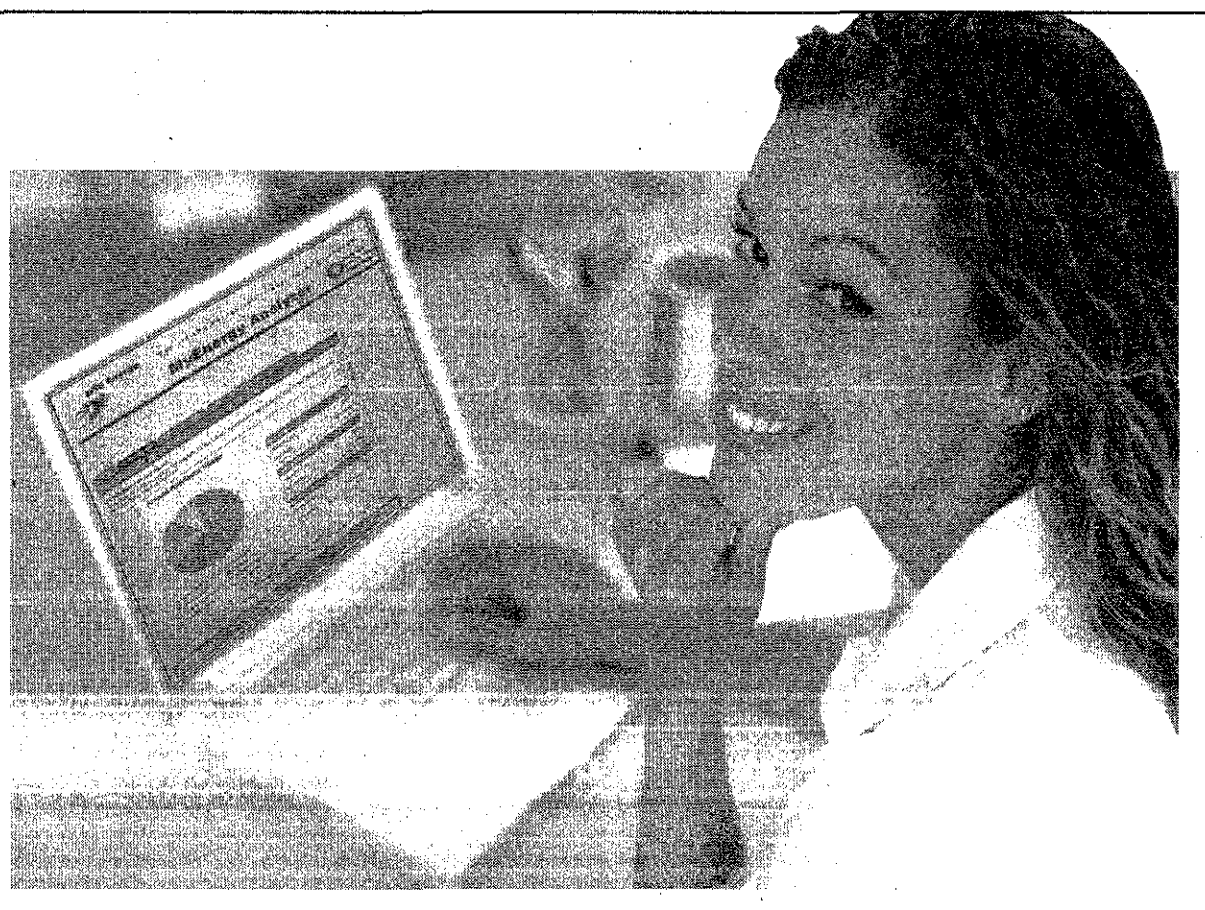
Mitchell tied the game at 1-all for Windsor on the power play at 12:20 of the first period when he snapped a shot from the slot over the shoulder of Plymouth starting goaltender Matt Hackett. Cooper scored the prettiest goal of the game at 18:15 of the first to give the Whalers a 2-1 lead when he skated into the Windsor zone with speed on the right wing, got a half-stride around Spitfire defenseman Ryan Ellis and beat Gleeson with the shot. Brown drew the lone assist on the goal.

"I picked the puck up in the neutral zone and noticed that Ellis was standing still," Cooper said. "I wheeled around him and took the puck to the net. There wasn't much he could do. I was wheeling pretty fast."

Cooper is off to a good start with three goals in two preseason games. He is eligible for the 2009 National Hockey League Entry Draft.

"It's always nice to be off to a good start, especially with this year being my draft year," Cooper said. "I just want to continue what I'm doing right now."

Windsor outshot Plymouth, 38-30. Hackett stopped 22 shots. Gleeson stopped 16-of-18 for Windsor.



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- Get customized recommendations on how to lower your monthly costs.
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Public Notice
Public Auction of Tax Foreclosed Property

September 15, 16, 17*, and 18*, 2008
International Center Building
400 Monroe, 8th Floor
Detroit, Michigan

* If necessary

BIDDER REGISTRATION BEGINS AT 8:00 A.M.
AUCTION BEGINS AT 9:30 A.M. ON SEPT. 15
EACH DAY THEREAFTER THE AUCTION IS SCHEDULED TO BEGIN AT 9:00 A.M.

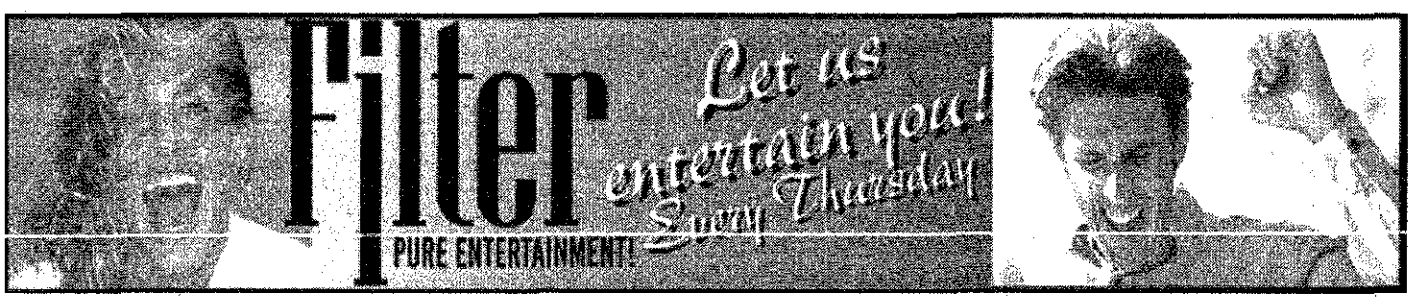
A $1,000 CASHIER'S CHECK in U.S. funds is required per property bid payable to the Wayne County Treasurer. A CASHIER'S CHECK must be shown at registration. The Wayne County Treasurer, as the foreclosing governmental unit, under Public Act 123 of 1999, reserves the right to remove any property from the sale and to reject any and all bids. List of properties being offered and rules and regulations are available online after August 20th at

www.waynecounty.com/treasurer

Auction books will be available at the Treasurer's Office. Check website for exact date.

Call (313) 224-5990
RAYMOND J. WOJTOWICZ
Wayne County Treasurer
Office Hours:
Monday.-Friday / 8 A.M.- 4:30 P.M.

OE08819424



Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

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PURE ENTERTAINMENT

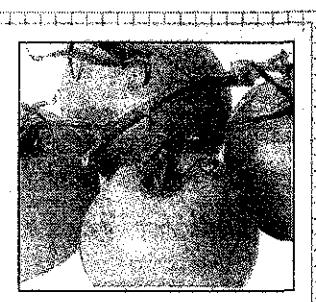
www.hometownlife.com

ON FILM

West Bloomfield native premieres film, aids charity

PAGE D2

ON PASTA



Fresh tomatoes mean fragrant pasta sauce

PAGE D5

pure DG
pure picks - D3

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Thursday, September 4, 2008
The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

PLYMOUTH COMMUNITY FALL FESTIVAL

Run, play bingo, eat pancakes

BY LANA MINI
O&E STAFF WRITER

How many volunteers does it take to make 12,000 pancakes for 3,000 people in one morning?

About 120. That includes preparing the coffee and juice and cleaning the tables.

Jim Grutza, of Canton, is a Realtor in Plymouth, who for the past 18 years has helped griddle up the pancakes for the Saturday public breakfast at the Plymouth Community Fall Festival.

He's part of the Plymouth Kiwanis, and the group's foundation hosts several events to raise money to improve the community. The pancake breakfast is a big event.

"We don't raise money to keep it in the bank, we do it for the community," Grutza said, adding that the group buys Christmas parties for Special Olympians, and sports equipment for high school athletic teams.

The Fall Festival, held this weekend, is all about tradition.

It started in 1956 as a community picnic to raise money for a children's playground on Wing Street in Plymouth. People cared, 500 people attended. The next year, another picnic for more play equipment was held — this time at the Hamilton Street Playground.

By 1960, the picnic moved to Kellogg Park and became known as a fall festival.

And today, it is still the Fall Festival.

Yes, we said fall. Summer is ending, and we may as well embrace it with an old-fashioned family fun event.

Over the weekend you'll find a carnival with rides. Booths volunteered by local people will offer food such as the Salem Class of 2010's roasted almonds; the Lions Club's caramel apple chips; Canton High School Chiefs Tennis' fresh lemonade; Vietnam Veterans Plymouth-Canton Chapter 528's corn-on-the-cob and pierogi from the Polish National Alliance Dancers.

On Saturday from 7 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. is the pancake breakfast near Kellogg Park, $6. At 4 p.m. there's a pasta dinner for $9 at the park.

And there's a car show and constant live entertainment.

Notable local singers Gia Warner and Bobby Lewis are performing from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Sunday at Kellogg Park, for example. On Saturday there's a pet show at 10 a.m.

There's also a craft show each day and the event closes Sunday with a Rotary Club BBQ.

PLYMOUTH'S FALL FESTIVAL

Run, play bingo, eat pancakes and visit a beer tent in Plymouth
What: Plymouth 53rd Annual Community Fall Festival
When: Noon to 11 p.m. Friday, Sept. 5; 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 6; and 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 7
Where: Downtown Plymouth – Main, Penniman, Ann Arbor Trail and Union streets
Details: www.plymouthfallfestival.com, presented by the Plymouth Rotary Club

Bob Daily of Rochester Hills has mastered the art of lathe-turned wood and creates beautifully-sculpted pieces like this vessel made of redwood. He will be featured at Art & Apples this weekend in Rochester Municipal Park.

Troy Artist Donna Beaubien fashions stunning collages out of her own handmade paper designs. See more of her work at Art & Apples Sept. 5-7 in Rochester.

Donna Beaubien of Troy paints and marbles works on handmade paper. She's been a mainstay at Art & Apples fine art show.

43rd annual festival is this weekend

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA
O&E STAFF WRITER

Donna Beaubien knows the ins and outs of Rochester's annual Art & Apples festival almost as well as its organizers. The Troy artist has participated since its start.

More than four decades along and the Paint Creek Center for the Arts' largest fund-raiser continues to grow into an increasingly more family-oriented art event. The festival has become a bona fide tradition, earning national praise for its juried outdoor fine art show.

Beaubien can attest to that. "I have many clients in the area and they expect to see my latest works at Art & Apples," she said. "Patrons love (the festival) because it is a family event with quality artists."

Art & Apples is the second largest art show in Michigan. Held, as always, on 30 rolling acres of Rochester Municipal Park, the festival, again sponsored by National City, has been ranked in the top 30 by *Sunshine Artist* magazine's 200 Best Festivals in the Country.

Please see **APPLES, D4**

ART & APPLES

What: The 43rd annual National City Art & Apples Festival returns
Hours: 4-7:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 5; 9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 6; and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 7
Where: Rochester Municipal Park, north of University Drive west of Main Street in downtown Rochester
Admission: Suggested donation of $5 supports the Paint Creek Center for the Arts.
Parking: A shuttle service will be available Friday-Sunday from the Rochester High School at Livernois and University directly to the park's Community House. Note: University Drive in downtown Rochester is currently under construction.
More information: Call (248) 651-4110 or visit www.ArtandApples.com.

IN BRIEF

LET'S GO DALLYING

DETROIT — Hipsters and urban artists call it the coolest Detroit festival of the year.

It's Dally in the Alley set for Saturday, Sept. 6, from noon to midnight. If it rains, it will be held on Sunday.

This year the festival's theme is "We Ain't Young Anymore," as it celebrates its 31st year.

Artist Mark Arminski of Detroit is curating an exhibit there that will feature artists from the historic and über hip Russell Industrial Center.

At Dally, every worker is a volunteer.

Even the musicians volunteer their artform for the sole purpose of creating something cool, pushing boundaries, and adding to the edgy, atmospheric event.

Bands worth seeing include Pathe Jassi World Music Experience. Jassi is from Senegal and plays some of the best bass guitar in the city.

Women on Wax includes great electronic music by Dj Minx, Jennifer Xerri and Diviniti.

The Dally is located between Forest and Hancock and bordered by Second and Third, near the Wayne State University area. It also boasts organic food, no corporate sponsorship, great music, political vendors (expand your mind), nonprofit vendors (get involved to change the world), performance art and a lot more.

Visit www.dallyinthealley.net

By L. Mini

ROCK BENEFIT HELPS VETS

DETROIT — The music community will come together for a rock 'n' roll benefit show to help aid wounded Iraq and Afghanistan war veterans on Thursday, Sept. 11, at The Magic Stick.

The all-ages concert will begin at 7 p.m. and feature the Questions, the Frustrations, the High Strung, the Koffin Kats, Mick Bassett & The Marthas, Friends of Dennis Wilson, The Directions, The Electric Lions, Duende, Pinkeye, Sik Sik Nation and Stare into the Sun. The Magic Stick is located at 4120-4140 Woodward Ave. Call (313) 833-9700 or visit www.majesticdetroit.com.

By W. Von Buskirk

EXPO TAKES OVER ROCK

NOVI — Musicians and music lovers of all ages and skill levels will want to mark their calendars for the first annual Metro Music Expo, Sept. 12-14 at Rock Financial showplace, 46100 Grand River Ave. in Novi. The MME will be a weekend jampacked with music, education, networking and fun. Highlights include a Backstage Rock Art Gallery, two live music stages, music industry panel discussions, sound and lighting clinics, a music store and more. Show hours are 4-9 p.m. Friday, noon to 9 p.m. Saturday, and noon to 6 p.m. Sunday. Admission is $10 per day; $25 for three-day passes. For more information, call (248) 348-5600 or visit www.metromusicexpo.com.

By W. Von Buskirk

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Coming: Saturday, December 6, 2008; The Beatle Maniacs - Ultimate Tribute from London, England

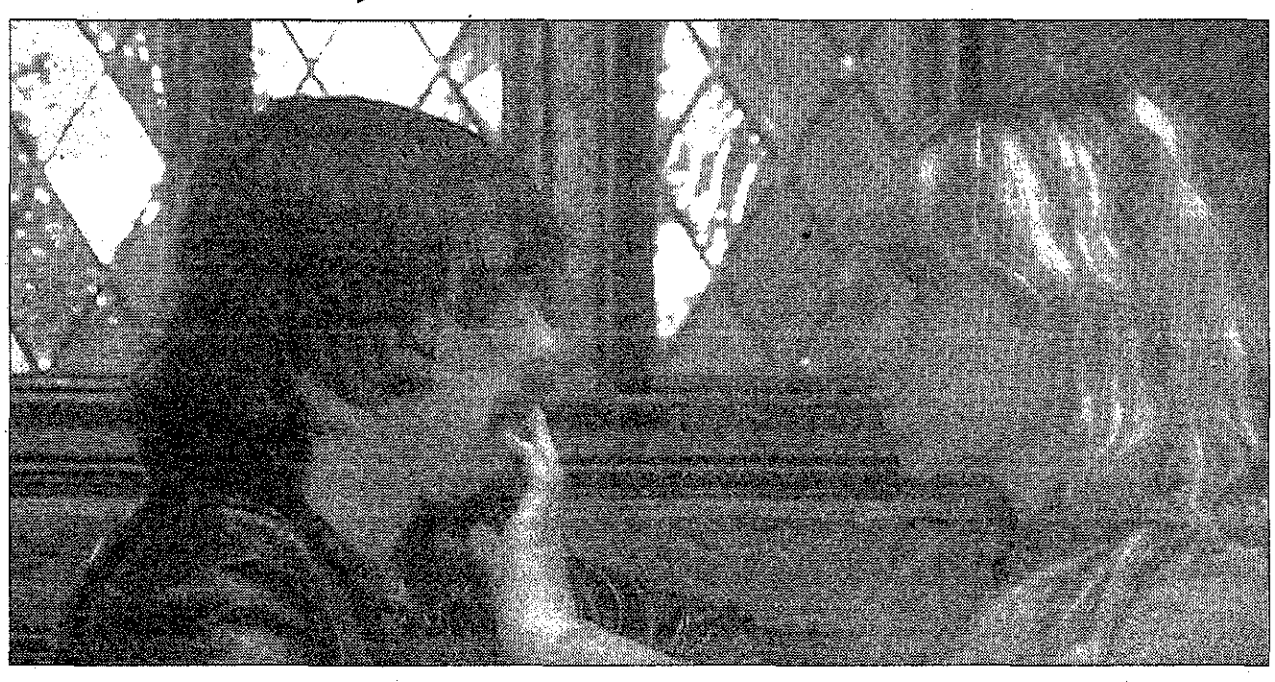
W. Bloomfield native premieres film, assists local charity

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA
O&E STAFF WRITER

Sam Logan Khaleghi spent two years of his life crafting the crime drama *Love is a Thieves Game*. The West Bloomfield resident will premiere his independent film next week in Farmington Hills. "I wrote it, directed it, produced it and, I did not intend to star in it, but it happened," he said during a recent interview in Birmingham.

In the film, Khaleghi portrays Lincoln, a drifter who's set out to solve the murder of a father he never knew. His quest leads him into dangerous territory when he meets and falls in love with Allie (Kristen Pickthall), a beautiful thief, and when his undercover work with a police lieutenant (Jason Waugh) leads to some unexpected clues. The film also stars Rockey Black (*8 Mile, Till Death*).

Khaleghi said the style of the movie was influenced by the European New Wave of the '60s and '70s. "It's very much a personal story," he said, adding that the character-driven drama doesn't follow a typical three-act structure. "Stylistically," he said, "it's like poetry."



Sam Logan Khaleghi and Kristen Pickthall star in "Love is a Thieves Game," premiering at 7 p.m. Friday Sept. 12, at the Smith Theatre on Oakland Community College's Orchard Ridge Campus, 27055 Orchard Lake Road, in Farmington Hills.

Writer-Director-Actor Sam Logan Khaleghi of West Bloomfield shot a portion of his film "Love is a Thieves Game" on location in Germany.

CAUSE AND EFFECT

The red carpet premiere event, set for Sept. 12, will double as a fund-raiser for the nonprofit *Furniture Bank of Oakland* County. Khaleghi became acquainted with the Pontiac-based organization when Director Colette Kelly was in need of public service announcements to spread the word about their mission — to provide furniture and home goods free of charge to those in need, from the homeless to those who have lost their belongings in a house fire.

"We're happy to be a part of this," said Kelly. "We've never done anything like it before. It should be fun for everyone. It's not every day that Hollywood comes to Michigan."

Khaleghi said he was so touched by the stories he encountered while working on the PSAs for the Furniture Bank, he wanted to do more to help raise awareness about it. The organization aids more than 2,400 families in Oakland County each year. At the event patrons can sign up to learn more or to donate gently-used furniture, and have it picked up at no charge. Of the event, Kelly said, "it's been a good fit all around."

FINDING HIS PLACE

As far back as he could recall, Khaleghi wanted to try everything. But, he claims, he's "found his place behind the camera." He discovered filmmaking as a way to embrace a subject and make it your own. A graduate of the University of Michigan-Dearborn and West Bloomfield High School, he is a longtime friend of actor-comedian Brandon T. Jackson. The fellow West Bloomfield High alumnus currently stars in Ben Stiller's comedy *Tropic Thunder*. Back in high school, Khaleghi noted, they were known for their "crazy antics."

Kevin Walsh, a video productions teacher, can attest to that. He recalls having Khaleghi and Jackson in his first class at the school. "From my first day Sam's curiosity, determination and sense of humor made him a force to be reckoned with," said Walsh. "He and Brandon worked well together over the next two years and produced some hilarious videos for themselves as well as projects for the school's annual student talent show."

Jackson still collaborates with Khaleghi. They worked together, along with Rochester Hills-bred actress Jana Kramer (*Prom Night*, the series *Friday Night Lights*) on Khaleghi's film *Approaching Midnight*, which is due out next year. Since making that movie, both Kramer and Jackson have appeared in number one box-office movies.

Khaleghi jokes that he's falling behind compared to his contemporaries. But Walsh said: "He's got the rare combination of sensitivity, determination and thick skin you have to have in the entertainment business. I've been very impressed over the last six years just to follow his hard work at making an inroad to Hollywood."

Khaleghi travels back and forth between West Bloomfield and Los Angeles — but he began filming in Michigan and embracing his hometown surroundings long before last April's state tax incentives began to draw large studio productions into the state.

In the middle of filming *Love is a Thieves Game*, Khaleghi had to put his production on hold.

He was accepted into a program at the prestigious Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London, with such notable graduates as Ewan McGregor (*Star Wars*) and the new "James Bond" Daniel Craig. He spent the summer of 2007 studying Shakespeare and contemporary theater — ultimately his time overseas influenced the film.

In addition to its *Hamlet*-like undertones, scenes in *Love is a Thieves Game* were shot in Cologne, Germany. But Khaleghi never lost sight of his intention, to spotlight Detroit. "The city is very rich in culture and it's colorful," he said. "It never really came up — not to do it here."

Khaleghi returned to the states just in time to sign on as a producer on the seasonal finale of the MTV show *Made*, which was filmed in metro Detroit and Windsor. And he auditioned and earned a scene opposite Sigourney Weaver in the upcoming Lifetime movie *Prayers for Bobby*, which was shot around Royal Oak earlier this summer. From here on out, he plans to continue on with filmmaking and experiment in various genres, he said.

scasola@hometownlife.com | (248) 901-2567

LOVE IS A THIEVES GAME

What: Red carpet premiere kicks off with live music by The New Romantics
When: 6:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 12.
Where: The 400-seat Smith Theatre, OCC Orchard Ridge Campus, 27055 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills.
Tickets: Suggested donation $10, all proceeds benefit The Furniture Bank of Oakland County. Reserve a seat by e-mailing atgmovie@yahoo.com or purchase tickets at the door.
Afterward: A VIP afterparty will be held at Pure Nightclub in Detroit.
See the trailer: Visit www.myspace.com/athievesgamefilm
Reach out: The Furniture Bank is currently assisting 800 local families in need. They are in serious need of baby cribs and twin beds for children. Learn more about the organization at www.furniture-bank.org.

Movie Guide

Where available by deadline, features are listed.

Call your local theatre for showings for this week. Please check listings below for phone numbers and websites.

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pure picks

Filtering your entertainment best bets for the weekend beginning Sept. 5:

5 Today marks the last chance to catch the colorful, thoughtful paintings of Birmingham's own **Victor Pytko** (including *The Band*, a 2008 acrylic on canvas, pictured) in his latest exhibit, *People Places and Things*, at Birmingham Unitarian Church, 38651 Woodward Ave. at Lone Pine Road. Don't miss the artist reception 6-9 tonight, and visit www.victorpytko.com for more.

"The Band" was created by Birmingham artist Victor Pytko.

6 Catch a classic, like *Operation Petticoat*, playing tonight at Northville's **Marquis Theatre**. The theater is celebrating 30 years and for just $5 patrons receive movie admission and popcorn. The Marquis Theatre is located at 135 E. Main St. in Northville. Call (248) 349-8110

Barrage gets "High Strung."

7 It's a Celtic fiddle festival tonight when **Barrage** takes the stage to perform songs from its latest release, *High Strung*, at 7 p.m. at Meadow Brook Music Festival, on the grounds of Oakland University at Walton and Adams roads in Rochester Hills. Consisting of six violinist-vocalists, one drummer, one bassist and a guitarist, the group hails from Canada and has performed worldwide. For a taste of what's to come, visit www.barrage.org. Tickets $10-$29.50 at www.palacenet.com.

Billy Cobham

9-10 Renowned percussionist **Billy Cobham** brings his hybrid take on Jazz, Rock and Electronica to the Jazz Cafe at Music Hall, 350 Madison, Detroit. With four shows — at 8 and 10:30 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday — seating is limited. Cobham has recorded with Miles Davis and played alongside George Benson. His latest release is titled *Fruit from the Loom*. Tickets for these performances are $35 at Music Hall box office. Call (313) 887-8500.

Compiled by Stephanie Angelyn Casola, O&E Staff Writer

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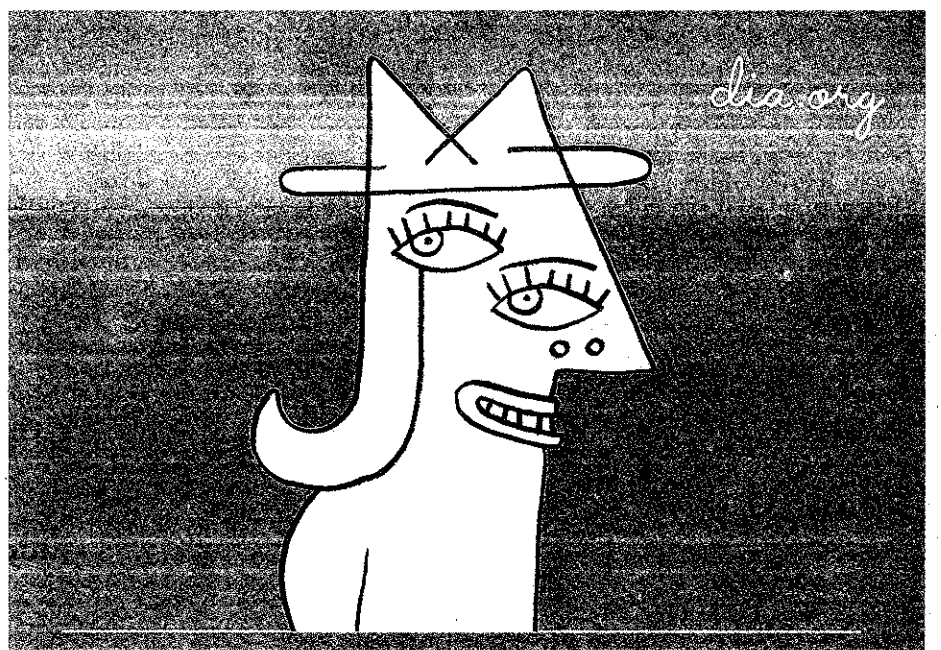

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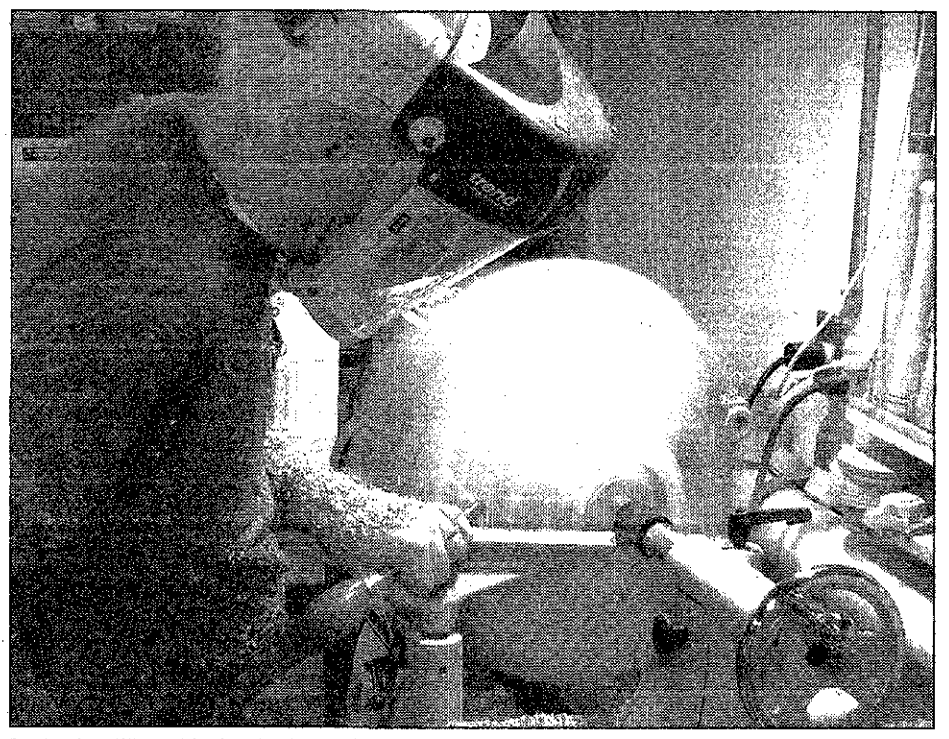
Rochester Hills' own Bob Daily brings his wood-turning abilities to Art & Apples

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA
O&E STAFF WRITER



Rochester Hills resident and Art & Apples artist Bob Daily is a self-taught wood-turner.

While Bob Daily currently whittles away time working in his Rochester Hills home studio, the experienced woodturning artist traces his skills back to the Pennsylvania farm where he grew up. Daily learned the art form from his father, as they used a hand-built lathe to transform timber into walnut plates for their church. Honing his craft over the years, Daily now fashions everything from decorative platters to stunning vases out of wood.

He'll be among the 270 artists featured in this weekend's Art & Apples festival in his hometown. Perhaps the most intriguing aspect of his designs involves the way Daily incorporates the raw material's irregularities into his handmade one-of-a-kind functional and decorative works.

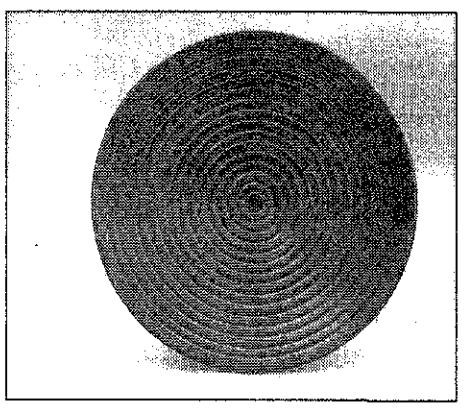
"As an artist, I find that it is rare to work with a material that is completely recyclable and sustainable," he said. "The irregular imperfections and inclusions found in wood are fascinating and they lend to the spontaneity of my tuning process."

Daily took a moment to share a bit more of his background and artistic experience with FILTER, prior to the festival. Here's what he had to say:

FILTER: How long have you been involved with this festival? What drew you to want to participate in it?

BD: Since moving to Rochester Hills in 1984, my family and I have attended Art & Apples every September enjoying the artwork, apple pies and the many festivities that it offers. In fact, for many years we sponsored a food booth for our daughter's Rochester Select Soccer Club team at the festival.

Upon taking early retirement from DuPont after a 38-year career, I decided to continue my woodturning full time, which offered an opportunity to participate in art shows and to display my work in galleries. During the past two years, I have been fortunate enough to have been accepted as an artist for the Art & Apples Festival, as well as several of the country's other more prestigious juried art shows. As a local resident, I consider



This black coil platter is made of cherry wood by Rochester Hills artist Bob Daily, who brings his work to Michigan's second-largest art fair this weekend.

my acceptance in this annual event an honor, as there are so many outstanding artists from all over the country participating as well.

FILTER: Tell me about your wood pieces. How many will you have at the fair?

BD: I offer both functional and decorative pieces made from reclaimed domestic hardwoods and other unique or exotic woods from around the world. I frequently try to incorporate natural inclusions as design elements. Each piece is unique and considered one-of-a-kind.

With a varied price point, I offer the following lathe-turned wood art: Bowls, bottle toppers, platters, cutting boards, vases, cheese trays, hollow vessels (and) gift items.

FILTER: Being a Rochester Hills resident, does this event have any specific meaning to you?

BD: As a Rochester Hills resident and an active volunteer throughout the greater Rochester community for the past 24 years, I have found that participating as an artist in the annual Art & Apples Festival also allows me to support the Paint Creek Center for the Arts as well. The festival weekend also offers an opportunity to reconnect each year with the residents and old friends who drop by to visit my booth.

scasola@hometownlife.com | (248) 901-2567

APPLES

FROM PAGE D1

"With National City's returning support, we are able to focus on our overall goals of increasing both festival attendance and awareness of PCCA and the wonderful programs we offer throughout the year," said Suzanne Wiggins, executive director of Paint Creek Center for the Arts. "It is an honor to have the festival again recognized nationally, and we believe this year will be even better than the last!"

Art & Apples drew more than 110,000 patrons last year.

Karen Cuthbertson, special events and membership director for the PCCA, said expansion is the name of the game this September. And most of the additions will appeal to children and families.

Both the Kids Art Zone and Activity Zone will be expanded this year as the PCCA and Detroit Institute of Arts will offer artist demonstrations and make-and-take art projects on the grounds. The life-sized art maze has grown — and will be constructed out of fabric rather than hay this year. Children will be encouraged to match puzzle pieces with famous works of art placed throughout the maze. Also new this year, Cuthbertson said, is the addition of the Rochester Youth Soccer League. They'll be organizing activities, and hosting soccer drills and teaching skills.

The Detroit Pistons will bring along their Truck Hoop Tour filled with memorabilia and to give kids a chance to play basketball. And The Henry Ford will, for the second year, open the doors to its Ford Rouge Factory Tour so visitors can experience the assembly line life. Skate board fanatics can pay admission to try a custom-made skate ramp courtesy of South Street Skate Park, where half the proceeds benefit the PCCA.

And FANUK Robotics will join the fray with an apple-picking robot.

"Our activities have gotten bigger and better," said Cuthbertson. "We're gearing everything toward families and art enthusiasts."

Art remains at the center of the festival, and this year more than 270 artists will showcase their works in an array of media, including textiles, watercolor, woodworking, glassblowing, pottery, jewelry and more.

Beaubien's work is centered around her own handmade paper. She fashions sheets of paper and textured paper straight from pulp and then paints it, marbles it or transforms it into a collage. "Some pieces are left as paintings," she said. The finished product is elegant, abstract and a festival mainstay.

Art & Apples will also offer three stages of entertainment — lasting from 4 p.m. Friday to 4 p.m. Sunday. The Chrysler Foundation Main Stage will host national acts, including The Red Handed, The Klezmaniacs, and Rock Bottom, local favorites like Hubbell Street Jazz and Rochester's own Paul Green School of Rock, as well as dancers from Deborah's Stage Door, area gymnasts, and performances by all three Rochester area high school bands.

And don't forget the apples. For the second year, Art & Apples will include an apple pie baking contest, set for 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 6. The winner will receive a one-of-a-kind pie dish and publicity, while bake off contestants and patrons alike will be able to purchase slices of contest pies for $2 each, and proceeds will benefit Paint Creek Center for the Arts.

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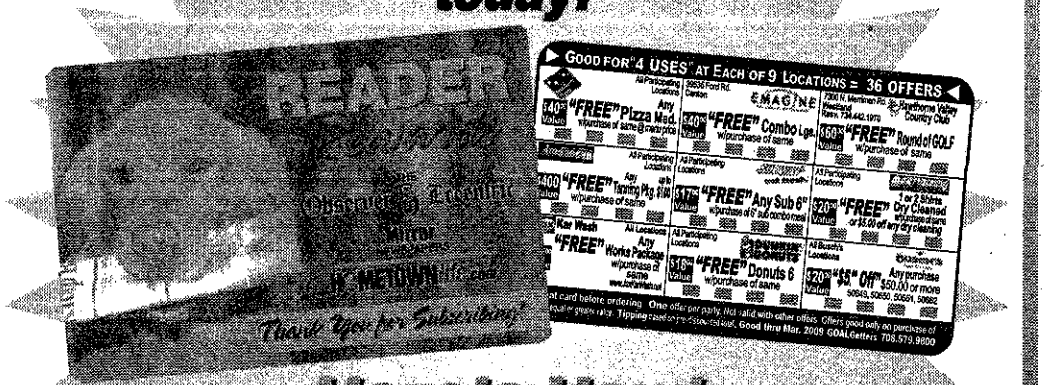

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Reader Rewards

End of summer means: pasta sauce – with fresh tomatoes

BY LANA MINI
O&E STAFF WRITER

The tomatoes are ripe!

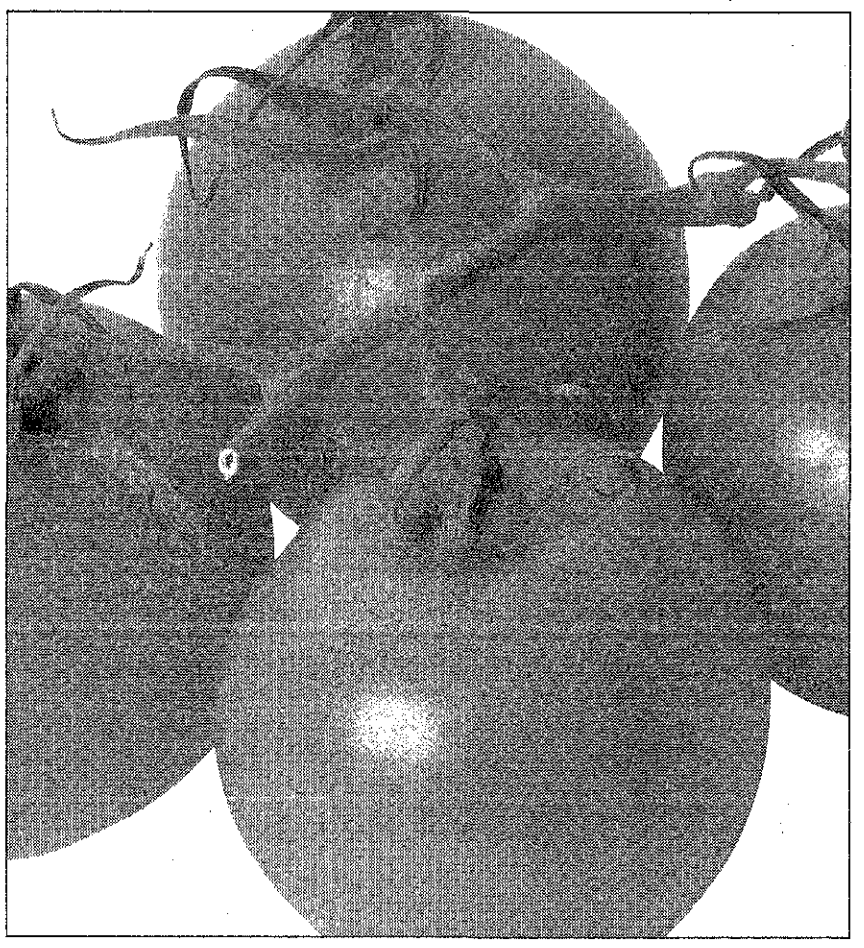
Fresh, fragrant tomatoes are great when sliced and mixed in a simple salad with basil and cucumbers all grown in your garden. Top with vinegar and oil.

If you're like me, you grow so many tomatoes that you give them away. But, you can keep them to yourself by making big portions of fresh tomato sauce for spaghetti. Freeze it for winter months. Below is the tomato sauce recipe my family has used for generations. It comes from Carini, Sicily. We don't use sugar, ever.

If you didn't grow tomatoes, but now have a hankering for a bowl of spaghetti, here are some favorite restaurants with good sauce.

We couldn't include every great Italian restaurant because metro-Detroit is graced with many.

Some restaurants serve tomato-basil sauce, which is smooth. Others offer marinara, a chunkier sauce. Arrabiata is chunky with red pepper flakes and often hot banana peppers.



DUE VENTI

It just opened this month and focuses strictly on Northern Italian cuisine. The owners say they stew the sauce for hours, which is exciting. See the next issue of *Filter* for more details. Open for dinner only. In Clawson at 220 S. Main St. in the former Bel Cibo marketplace.

VILLA AMANTEA RESTAURANT

A very good tomato basil-sauce. And Lambrusco is available, which to some people is very pedestrian, but to a first-generation Sicilian like me, this is a good thing.

32777 Warren Road, Garden City, (734) 421-1510, www.amanteaa.com.

AMICI'S PIZZA

It's the first truly green restaurant in Michigan! Everything is recyclable. Try their fine sauce served over lasagne; it's hard to find a good restaurant lasagne. Amici's gives the choice of vegetarian or meat lasagne, both with fresh Roma tomatoes. (And of course that pizza is amazing.) 3249 W. 12 Mile Road, Berkley, (248) 544-4100, www.amicispizza.com.

ANDIAMO ITALIAN WEST

They have one of the best fresh minestrone soups around and at all locations you can get a spaghetti with a choice of meat, tomato, tomato basil, marinara, Arrabiata or Palamina sauce. Locations: Livonia, Rochester, Royal Oak, Novi and Bloomfield Hills. For details visit www.andiamoitalia.com/.

BACCO RESTAURANT

I love that people dress well to come here on a weekend night. The salads have interesting items like olive tapanade with arugula and fresh golden beets. Try the gnocci with zucchini. The tomato sauce is wonderfully simple: tomato and basil — the way it should be.

29410 Northwestern Hwy., Southfield, (248)358-0344, www.baccoristorante.com.

BISTECCA ITALIAN GRILLE

The piano bar is romantic but I like it here at lunchtime for the gnocci primavera with marinara and fresh veggies. 39405 Plymouth Road, Plymouth, (734) 254-0400, www.labistecca.net.

BUCA DI BEPPO

A lot of people are against chains and franchises, but good food is good food. I love Buca di Beppo. My dad, from Sicily, loves Buca — which means "Joe's Basement." The portions are huge. The quality is great. They make a good pasta with tomato sauce. And ... if you look around you'll see my pappy's photo hanging on the Buca walls — as seen here with his sister taken decades ago. Locations at 270 North Old Woodward, Birmingham (248) 540-9483 and 38888 Six Mile Road, Livonia, (734) 462-6442, www.bucadibeppo.com/.

COMPARI'S

It has a fun patio bar, so dine outside while summer's still here. The ambiance is relaxed. The Bruschetta is great with fresh diced tomatoes, lots of garlic and olive oil. Try the old-fashioned spaghetti with marinara served with family-style salad — meaning one big bowl for the whole table. 50 S. Main, Plymouth, (734) 416-0100, www.comparisdining.com.

MARIO'S DETROIT

Not to be confused with Eastside Mario's, the Detroit location has been around since 1948. It's a fine supper club where people make dining an entire night out. There's often live entertainment. Their fettuccini is homemade along with the slow-cooked tomato-basil sauce.* Locations: 4222 Second Ave., Detroit, (313) 832-1616 and 1477 John R Road, Troy, (248) 588-6000, www.mariosdetroit.com.

LARCO'S ITALIAN GRILL

There are two locations, Troy and West Bloomfield, and I visit the latter. It's fun here at Happy Hour, Mondays through Fridays from 4 to 8 p.m., where a bowl of pasta is just $7. Choices include pomodoro sauce with fresh plum tomatoes, garlic and fresh basil; marinara with fresh plum tomatoes, herbs and spices, plus many more. Locations: 6480 Orchard Lake Road, West Bloomfield, (248) 626-6969 and 645 E. Big Beaver Road, Troy, (248) 680-0066, www.larcositalian.com.

PICANO'S

I love how old-fashioned Picano's feels. I love when the musicians take a break and chit-chat with patrons about the food. I like the "pasta your way" because here they accommodate. Nine different sauces to choose from including the basilica with fresh tomato and basil sauce or the marinara with capers. 3775 Rochester Road, Troy, (248) 689-8050, www.picanos.com.

CAFE CORTINA

The family-owned business has its own garden. Here you can have a meal with fresh rapini, arugula, basil, eggplant, swiss chard, peppers and yes, tomatoes. If you must buy sauce in a jar, buy it from Cafe Cortina (you can order from the Web site). The restaurant itself is lovely with brick walls and white linen tablecloths. 30715 W. 10 Mile Road, Farmington Hills, (248) 474-3033, www.cafecortina.com.

AND MY CO-WORKERS RECOMMEND:

Rose's Restaurant: A family restaurant that is loved by locals. 201 N Canton Center Road, Canton, (734) 981-9904

Palermo's Restaurant: You can get broccoli and garlic on your pizza along with the standard toppings. But do try the potato gnocchi with marinara. 44938 Ford Road, Roman Forum (734) 981-2030; 41601 Ford Road, Canton, www.palermopizzacanton.com

DeLuca's Restaurant: Managing Editor Joe Bauman says the pizza is "to die for." Others recommend the homemade ravioli and gnocci with portobello sauce. 27427 Warren Road, Westland, (734)422-8900, http://www.delucas.us/.

Mamma Mia: Locals come here over and over again for years. 19385 Beech Daly Road, Redford, (313) 537-0740

My Sicilian Tomato Sauce

This recipe can be doubled if you want to serve four and give an option for a second helping. Or quadruple the recipe and freeze it.

5 tablespoons olive oil

1 large onion, chopped

4-6 cloves garlic, crushed (I use six)

2 pounds fresh tomatoes, crushed (you can chop them and squeeze with your hands, or press down on them with a spoon in a deep bowl to prevent spatters)

1 (6 ounce) can tomato paste (I prefer Contadina)

2 cans of water using the can from the tomato paste

8 leaves fresh basil leaves

1 teaspoon salt

1 teaspoon fresh ground black pepper

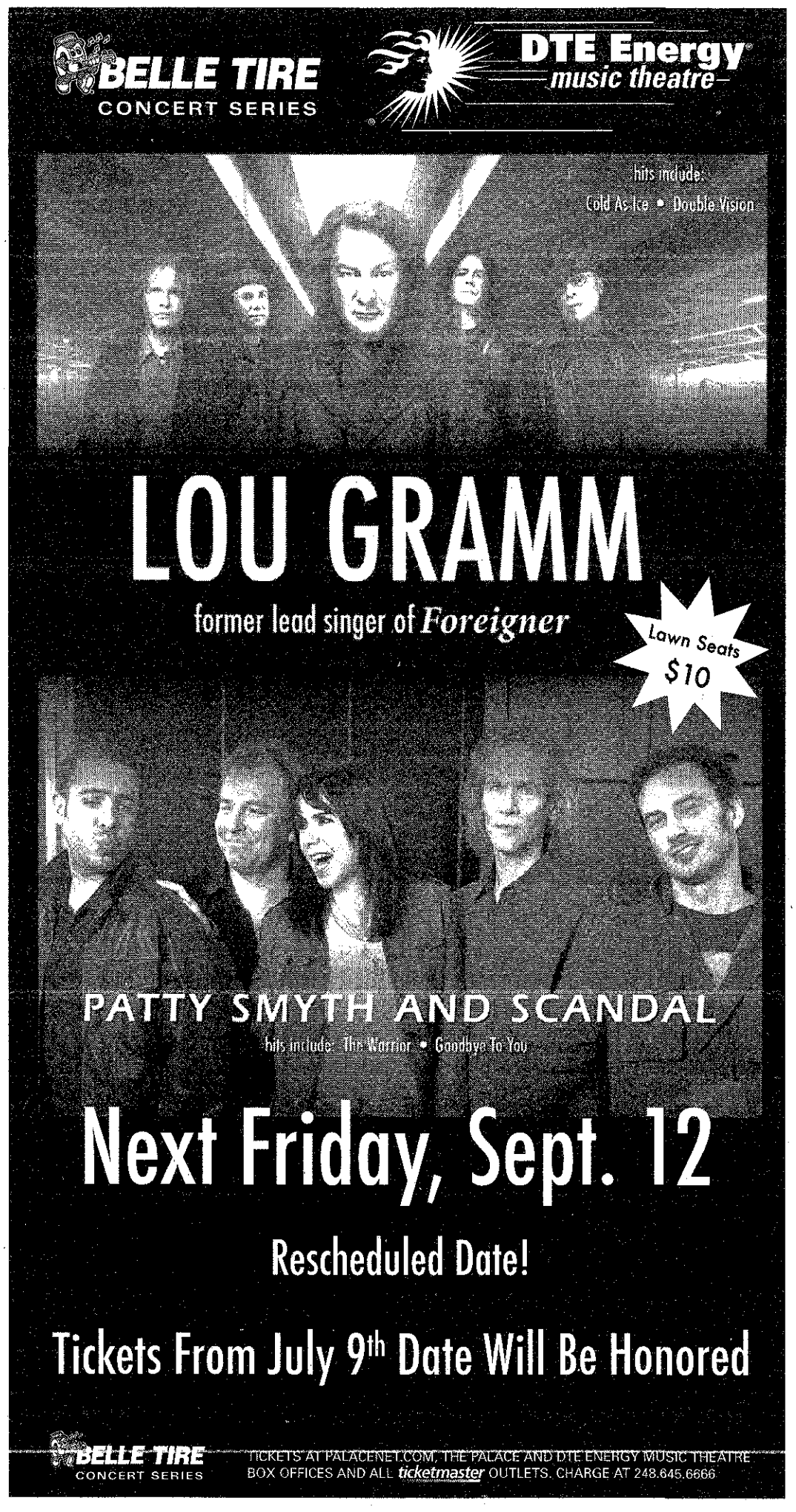
Note:

For every pound of fresh tomatoes required, substitute one 14.5-ounce can of drained diced tomatoes. About six medium Roma (plum) tomatoes equals one pound; an average beefsteak tomato weighs 8 ounces.

Directions:

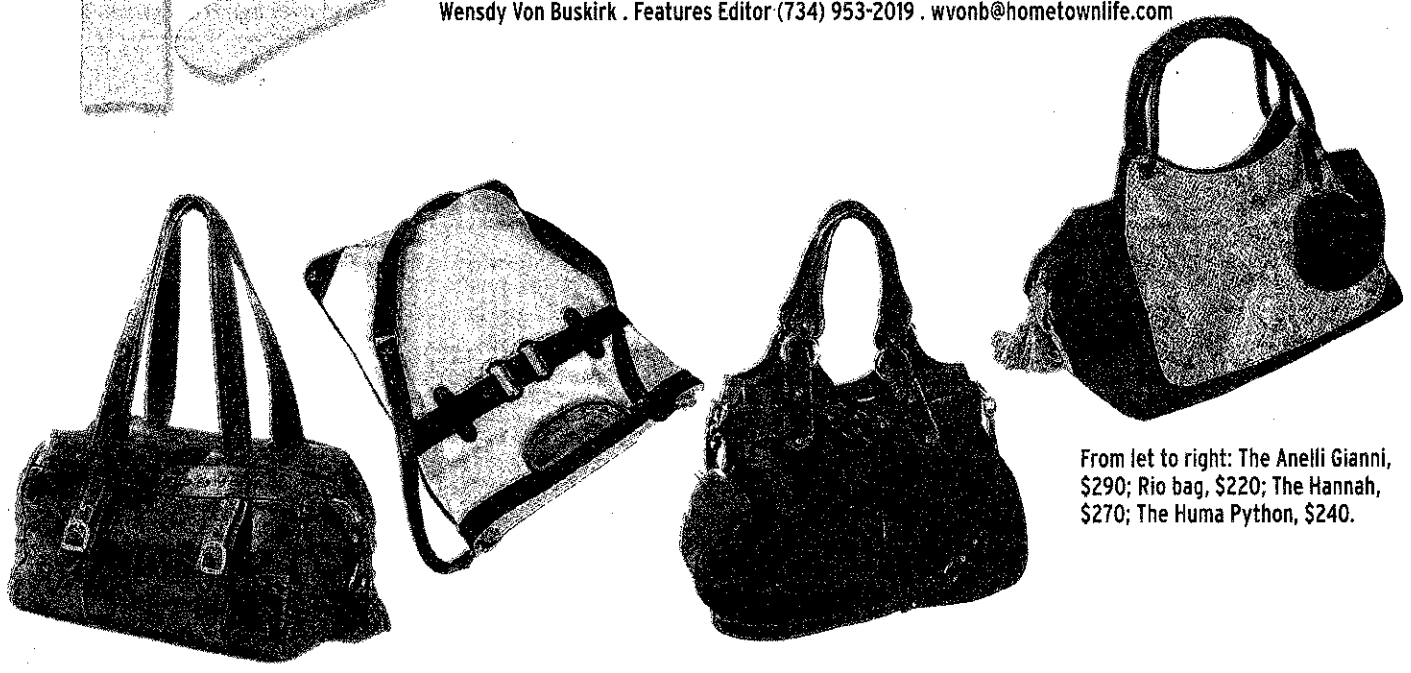
In a large saucepan over medium-high heat, saute onions for five minutes. Then add garlic and saute until onions are clear (about 10 to 15 minutes, careful not to burn garlic). Add the crushed tomatoes, water, tomato paste, garlic, salt and pepper. Let the sauce come to a boil, lower heat to LOW where there is just an occasional bubble. Add the basil. Stir occasionally until desired thickness. If you are using fresh tomatoes, you don't need to cook for more than an hour or else you will lose the fresh tomato taste. If you choose to use canned sauce, I cook it for two to three hours.

Serve over spaghetti (long) pasta noodles.



pink

Wensdy Von Buskirk . Features Editor (734) 953-2019 . wvonb@hometownlife.com



From let to right: The Anelli Gianni, $290; Rio bag, $220; The Hannah, $270; The Huma Python, $240.

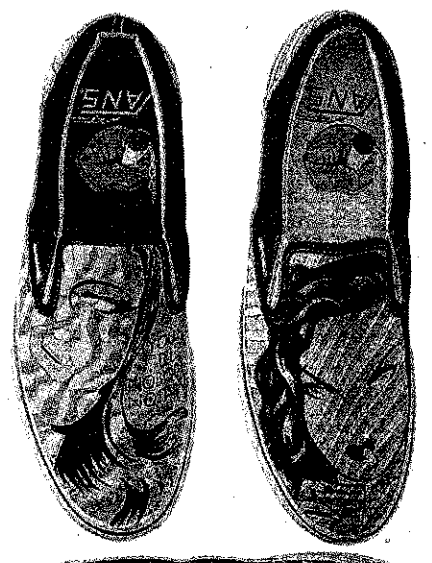
pink picks

Wear It!
Layers as summer turns to fall

DON'T Wear It!
White shoes after Labor Day

Tote It!
Marc by Marc Jacobs bags at Von Maur

Kick It!
Vans x Niagara by Detroit's own artiste extraordinaire



Smell It!
The Beat, a hip new fragrance by Burberry

Nail It!
Louvre Me Louvre Me Not

TiVo It!
90210

Face It!
Finishing Touch for facial hair removal at CVS

Hear It!
The Gossip *Live in Liverpool*

See It!
Vicky Cristina Barcelona

Read It!
Dreams from My Father by Barack Obama

DVD It!
What Happens in Vegas

Do It!
Horseback Ride at Maybury State Park

Southfield native launches national handbag line

BY WENSDY VON BUSKIRK
O & E STAFF WRITER

A model displays Gabriella Giovanni's Tessuto Patent purse, $585 at www.thelookloft.com.

Jennifer Loren isn't concerned with making money, as long as she can make what she loves.

The Southfield High School graduate, who now lives in Los Angeles, is the fashionista behind Gabriella Giovanni, an upscale line of handbags and belts.

Loren recently unveiled her 2008 Fall collection, which includes nine styles of clutches, hobos and satchels in luxury leathers and skins, along with four '80s-inspired belts.

"The inspiration for this collection is round edges, circular shapes, it's kind of like Xanadu meets Art Deco," said Loren, 38.

Loren grew up in Ann Arbor, but when her parents got divorced she moved with her mom to California when she was six years old.

Shuttling between her mother and father, she returned to Michigan and graduated from Southfield High School, then got a degree from the Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising in L.A., followed by a bachelor's in journalism and public relations from Wayne State University in Detroit in 1993.

Her successful career in public relations and advertising has included clients like the NBA, Limited Too, Guess, Nickelodeon and MTV.

PHOTO BY STEVEN JAMES SCOTT
Jennifer Loren

Loren even worked for a while in publishing, helping fashion professors write books on their curriculum which she sold to fashion schools.

Loren is now using her PR skills to promote her own company.

"It was one of those things where it was a burning desire that never went away, to design," Loren said. "PR and fashion are very much related. A lot of what makes a label a label is the PR function behind it."

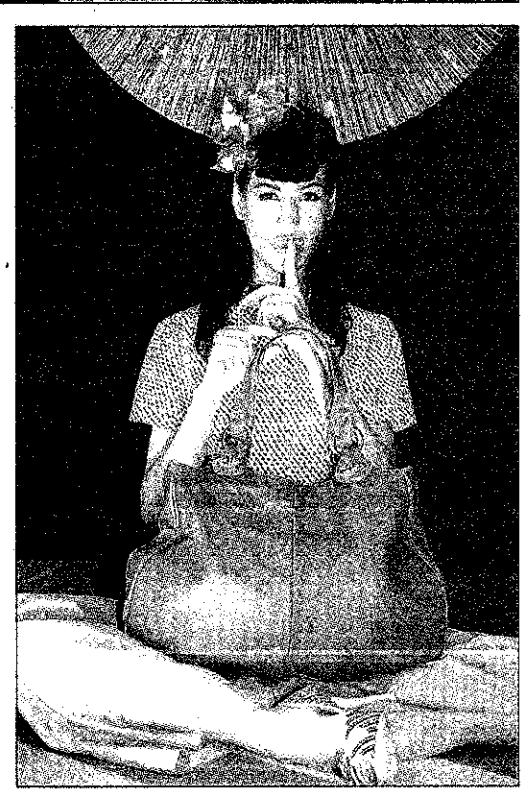
Pieces from Loren's 2008 collection have appeared in InStyle magazine, as well as the LuckyBag Guide.

She sells her wares through sample sales, high-end boutiques and Web sites.

So far, Loren has manufactured everything in L.A., but recently set her sights on a factory in Costa Rica. In 2009 she hopes to introduce shoes.

Although sales in the luxury market have slowed recently, Loren wouldn't change a thing.

"It's something that if I never recover all the money or don't make it really big it doesn't matter," Loren said. "I have creative autonomy and I'm having the time of my life, so it's okay."



On top, a model clutches Gabriella Giovanni's Rio bag, $220. Above, a model holds a gray leather Gabriella Giovanni tote, $390.

Check out Jennifer Loren's Gabriella Giovanni collection at www.gabriellagiovanni.com or www.thelookloft.com.

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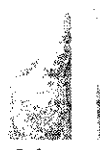

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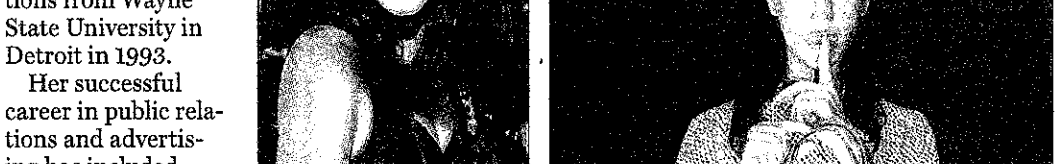
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