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OFF TO KOREA, B1



WINE EXPERT ENTERTAINS, EDUCATES
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FOOD, B10

THURSDAY
September 9, 2010

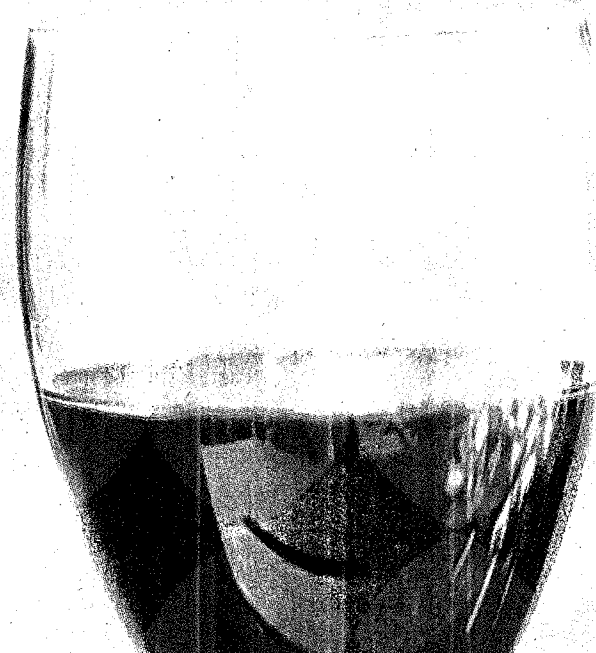
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hometownlife .com



IN BRIEF

Body found

An autopsy is being conducted on the body of a Westland man found in a Lake Erie lagoon Monday night.

The Monroe County Sheriff's Department reported finding the body of Harallamb Tasi, 24, around 11:15 p.m. in eight feet of water.

A 9-1-1 call had been made over three hours earlier about a missing boater in a small lagoon known as the Hot Hole. According to the sheriff's department, Tasi went into the water to get a football he had been throwing with friends. The friends told authorities that he went under the water and never resurfaced.

Food distribution

The City of Westland has established the September day, times and locations for residents to obtain surplus federal food.

Eligible residents living north of Michigan Avenue can pick up their commodities from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 16, at the Dorsey Community Center, 32715 Dorsey, north of Michigan Avenue and south of Palmer.

Residents living south of Michigan Avenue should pick up their commodities from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the second Monday of each month at St. James United Methodist Church at 30055 Annapolis, between Henry Ruff and Middlebelt. For information, call (734) 729-1737.

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

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

Arena open

The Mike Modano Arena opens is now open for the season. The open skating schedule starts 8 p.m. Friday with Glow Skate. Open skating is also available every Saturday.

The Bailey Pool has ended its season, however, youngsters who still want to splash, the H2O Zone splash park in Tattan Park, located just east of the Bailey Recreation Center, will remain open as long as the weather remains warm.

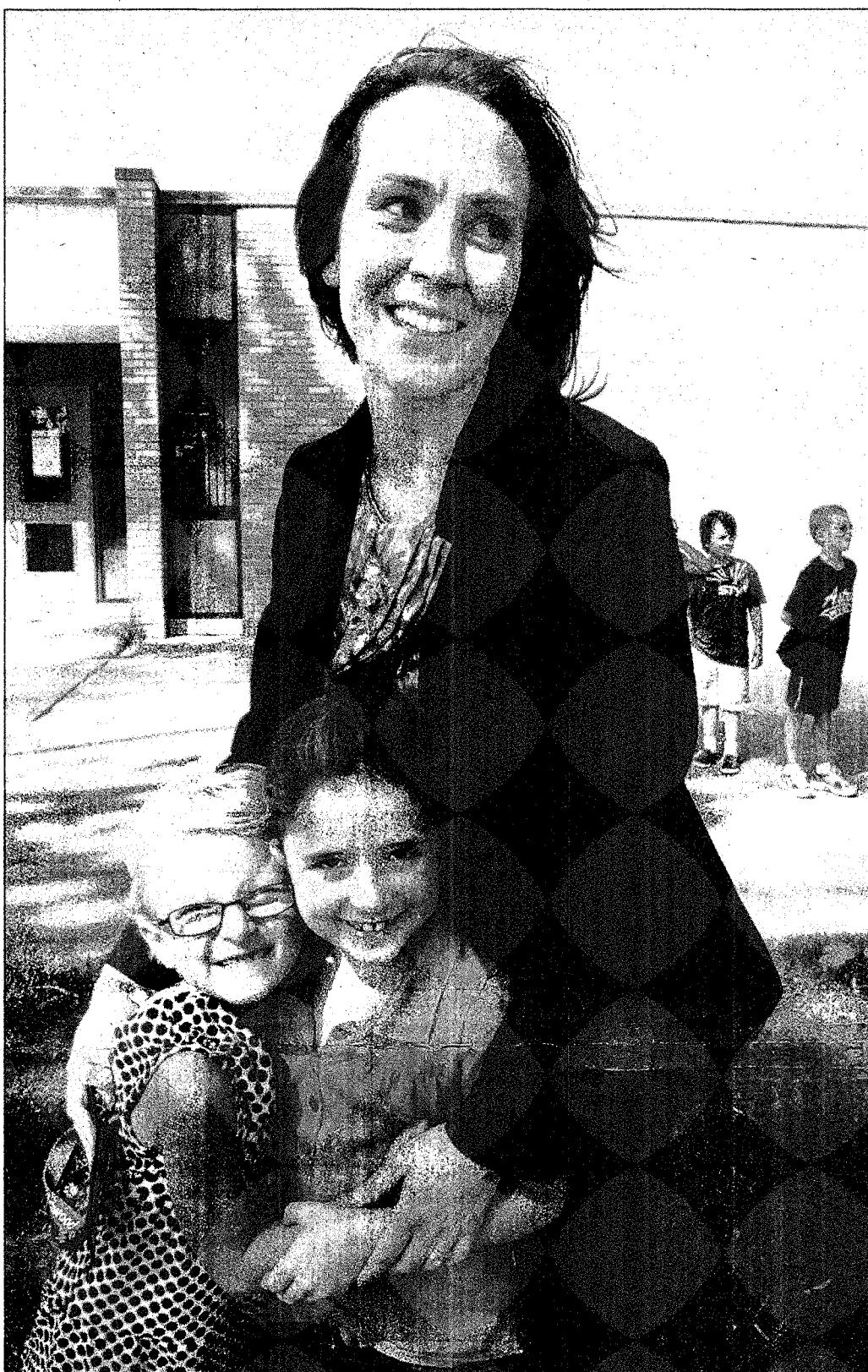
On the links

The Westland Lions Club are hosting a golf outing Saturday, Sept. 25, at the Polo Fields Golf and Country Club, 5200 Polo Fields Drive, Ann Arbor. The cost is \$125 per golfer or \$450 for a foursome with sponsorships available. There is registration at 7 a.m., followed by an 8:30 a.m. shotgun start. Lunch and beverages at the turn, dinner and door prizes are included.

For more information, call Mack Mayfield at (734) 722-5653, Kenneth Sharp at (734) 595-8305 or George Marvaso at (313) 801-5321.

The club also meets at 11:45 a.m. the second and fourth Mondays of the month at Logan's Roadhouse on Ford Road in Canton. For more information, call Debbie Dayton at (734) 721-4216.

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Shannon Blick, the new principal at Wildwood Elementary, gets big hugs from second-graders Ashleigh Abernathy and Monique Denski.

New principal sees herself as 'luckiest girl in the world'

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Shannon Blick got her fair share of hugs on the playground Tuesday, enough to remind her why she believes "she's the luckiest girl in the world."

For Blick, the first day of school marked her first day with students as the new principal of Wildwood Elementary School. With a student population hovering around 600, she found every reason to smile.

"I can't brag enough about how great the day

has been and how great the kids have been," said Blick. "I can't brag enough about my staff. By far, they're the best in the district."

Parent Ron Wood shares Blick's view of Wildwood, but he was glad to see her on the playground with students Tuesday afternoon.

"I'm one of the hardest parents to make happy, and the Wildwood staff is the best to deal with," said Wood, who has a daughter, Valeriekay, and a son, Cory, at the school. "They work with you, they work with the kids."

Please see **SCHOOL, A2**

Hearing delayed in shooting at apartments

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A motive for the shooting of a Westland man outside the Landings Apartment isn't known but a connection with the accused gunman has been established.

Immediately following the shooting on Aug. 24, police said that the 32-year-old man wasn't the victim of a random attack although he and the defendant, Antwaine Jeffrey Williams, 36, didn't know each other.

It turns out that Williams is married to the victim's ex-wife. The victim and his former wife have been divorced three years and had no children, said Westland police Sgt. Dan Serrano, who didn't know what provoked the shooting.

Williams was in front of 18th District Court Judge Mark McConnell last week and waived his right to preliminary examination within 14 days of arraignment. The hearing was delayed until Sept. 16.

Please see **HEARING, A2**

Bids due this week on park remediation

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Restoration work at Central City Park will bring new soccer fields and pavilions, but result in trees being removed.

Neighbors living near the park were upset that some trees in the east side of the park along Carlson had already been cut down.

"It is part of the plan. We need a geotech liner over 12 acres at the east end of the park. We will also take down some trees outside the park," said Mayor William Wild. "I've not been at one meeting when it was said that the trees could be saved. It's going to be a sunny site."

Bids are due this week for the first phase of remediation of the park, which has been closed to the public since

November 2006 when news broke about the lead contamination of the 33-acre park, owned by Wayne County and leased by the city.

Part of the remediation calls for a geotextile membrane to cover the contaminated area along with 12 inches of soil. The Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment, formerly the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, worked with county and city officials to develop the approved remediation plan.

"We did have discussion on saving trees. With the reality of regrading, the fabric liner, the dirt (to be added) and reseeded, our professional consultants advised us the trees wouldn't survive what

Please see **PARK, A2**

Weekend events honor vets, military personnel

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Veterans and those currently serving in the military will be remembered at two local events scheduled Saturday, Sept. 11.

The Memorial Garden Fest, sponsored by the Westland Veterans Association, is a remembrance of 9/11 and a fund-raiser to benefit the planned Westland Veterans Memorial Garden. It is scheduled for 2-10 p.m. at the Bova VFW Post 6640 on Hix south of Warren Road.

"We'll start with a ceremony remembering 9/11 with a color guard, we want to keep it fresh in everyone's memory," said Ken Mehl of the Westland Veterans Association.

Following the ceremony, Mehl said there will be live

music for listening and dancing, with a disc jockey taking over when the bands take a break. There will be grilled food available and a cash bar. The cost is \$5 per person donation. Everything will be held outside under a tent.

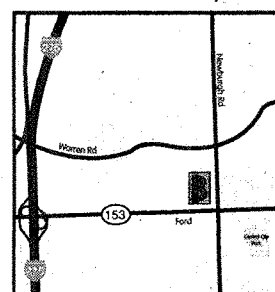
The Westland Veterans Association has raised about 25 percent of the approximately \$150,000 needed to pay for the first phase of the planned memorial garden.

"We're hoping for a 2011 dedication on the center part. There would be 10 panels with an inscription on each, recognizing a U.S. war," said Mehl.

The memorial, to be located around the pond in Central City Park once it is reopened, would have panels with more detail historical information on each of the wars.

Please see **EVENTS, A2**

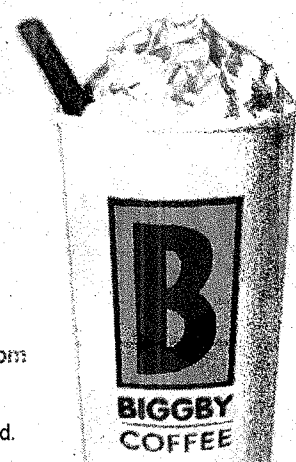
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PARK

FROM PAGE A1

we had to do to the site," said City Attorney James Fausone, who represented the city throughout the process that resulted in the remediation plan.

There also will be a passive ventilation trench, the installation of a slab vapor barrier for the concession stand, and several probes to monitor methane gas. Any restricted area outside of the park will be blocked off by an eight-foot high fence.

The plan includes a soccer complex, outdoor bathrooms, new pavilion and walking path. There also will be a concession stand to service the soccer complex, outdoor pool, H2O Zone and Play Planet.

The project has an estimated cost of \$2.4 million. The county will use parks millage money and \$1 million in brownfield development funds, while the city has pulled together a number of grants and even did fund raising to cover its share of the costs.

With more than 20 potential

bidders attending a preconstruction meeting, Wild was hopeful that high interest in the project would bring the project costs down.

This first phase would address contamination on nearly 12 acres which is a little more than one-third of the 33-acre park.

Part of the second phase will be the planned Veterans Memorial Garden which would eventually incorporate the pond.

Responding to questions, Wild said the large willow trees around the pond will be saved and donated memorial benches are in storage.

"We will work out something with the MDEQ to allow access to the pond," said Wild.

With a bid opening to take place soon, it's not clear when work on the park would get under way. The city will do as much as possible before winter, Wild said, so the project would be in good shape for work to resume in the spring.

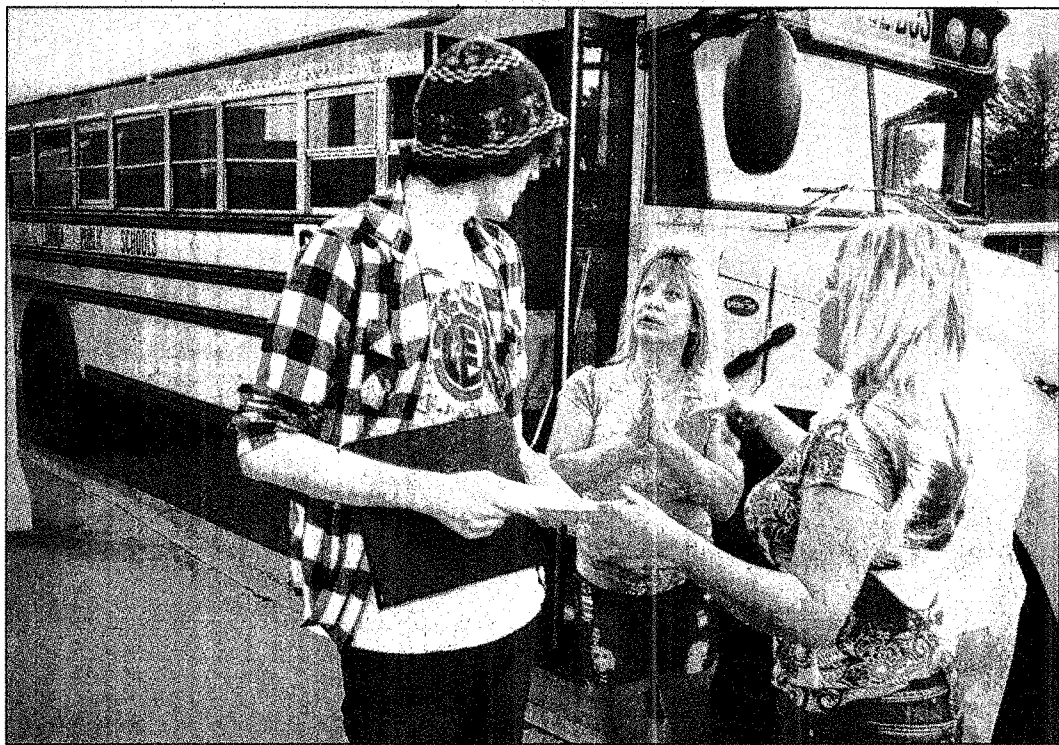
A study session with the council about the remediation project will be scheduled soon, Wild said.

lrogers@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-5428



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Nicole Campbell and Jacob Cramer wait for the bus that will transport them from Livonia Franklin High School to Livonia Churchill High School. Nicole is a student in the Creative and Performing Arts program, and Jacob attends the Career Center.



Bus drivers Barbie McCoy and Ronda Trowse help student Dean Johnson find the bus that will take him to the medical assistant program at the Livonia Career Center.

Transportation issues only bump in road to smooth school start

EVENTS

FROM PAGE A1

"We're hoping for good weather. We didn't really set a goal on how much we would like to raise — we'll take whatever we can raise," said Mehl. "Some people will come because it is 9/11. I have no idea how many people will come. Some places are holding a 9/11 ceremony but I don't know of another event like we're doing."

For more information, contact Connie Kincer at (734) 422-4819.

Westland John Glenn High School alumni are hosting an overlapping Support the Troops event Saturday 7 p.m. to 2 a.m. at Ashley's Beer & Grill on Wayne Road in front of Westland Center.

Donations of items for military troops such as shampoo, body wash, deodorant, snacks, candy, gum, travel-size tooth paste and microwaveable foods, such as macaroni and cheese, will be accepted, along with cash donations to pay for

shipping costs.

The group shipped 26 boxes of donated items at a cost of \$320 after a similar event in July. For more information, call Rousseau at (313) 720-0583 or e-mail at rousseaukl@yahoo.com.

And on Sunday, Sept. 12, the City of Westland will host a 9/11 Memorial Service, conducted by St. Matthew Lutheran Church and School. The 11 a.m. program will be held on the south steps of Westland City Hall, 36601 Ford.

This marks the seventh year for the service, which remembers those who perished due to the attacks on Sept. 11, 2001, as well as honors those who continue to serve and protect the Westland community.

Pastor Kurt E. Lambart of St. Matthew Lutheran Church & School in Westland will preside over the memorial service, which will include performances by the St. Matthew Jubilee and Cherub Choirs as well as the Lutheran High Westland Choir.

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Some buses carrying high school students were really full Tuesday, some students still didn't have buses assigned to them and transportation employees were deluged with calls.

But other than that, the first day of school for Livonia Public Schools went smoothly. "We just really had a great first day," said Donna McDowell, administrator of communications, who was at Kennedy Elementary and Holmes Middle School greeting students.

School officials expected the transportation problems, which they said will be

LIVONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

resolved over the next few weeks. The start of school always results in some busing problems, but this school year officials cut the number of the district's bus stops by 30 percent to save \$516,000.

"We definitely have more calls this year," McDowell said. "It's certainly due to the changes in stops. Every day a bunch more get addressed. People are being very patient."

The district may need to refigure some of the high school buses, McDowell said. But some of the overcrowding

will be resolved when students are issued parking passes and start driving to school.

A number of families were registering their students for school as late as Tuesday. "On Friday, I met with five families brand new to district," McDowell said. "We noticed a few of the schools had lines of people registering their students for school today (Tuesday)."

While the district welcomes the new students, it may take a while to assign them to buses, McDowell said.

The transportation department is working tirelessly to address parents' concerns,

she said. "They will continue (addressing concerns) during the next two to three weeks."

Parents who have general transportation questions or still need to get their child's bus assignment can call the transportation hotline at (734) 744-2500, ext. 42184 or 42185, between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Parents who have safety concerns about the bus stop their child was assigned to may call Steve Dickie, supervisor of transportation, at (734) 744-2517 or e-mail him at lpsbus@livoniaschools.org.

— By Karen Smith

SCHOOL

FROM PAGE A1

"Mrs. Blick is probably the only female my daughter opens up to," he said. "She was sad to hear she might leave. I know she was glad to see you. We need more teachers like Mrs. Blick."

A product of the Wayne-Westland Community Schools — she graduated from John Glenn High School — Blick had served as a literacy leader for four years at Wildwood and was on her way to moving Marshall Upper Elementary School to be an interventionist in mathematics, when she was tapped to become its principal in August. The Canton resident said her first phone call after her appointment was to her

baby sitter. She has two children, ages 5 1/2 months and 19 months old.

And what was her first day of school like?

Blick admits her school day started early, just after 3 a.m., more because of her children — her 19-month-old is teething — than first day jitters. She made sure she was at school early to be there to greet the students and their parents.

"To see their faces just beaming, that's the greatest," she said. "But above everything else, it was being there to talk to the parents and greet the students. It helps put their nerves at ease."

During the day, she did five assemblies — three on mastering lunch and two on the school's Positive Behavior System, "so everyone knows

procedures and everyone can be successful."

Wildwood is the largest of Wayne-Westland's K-4 buildings, growing from 450 students to some 600 with the addition of a portion of the students from Madison and Patchin which were closed at the end of the 2009-10 school year. Fourth-graders have replaced fifth-graders as safeties and are now seen "as leaders in the school," Blick said.

The school has 22 classroom teachers, eight of who are new to the building, and Blick knows that the existing staff will bring the newcomers "up to speed on what we do at Wildwood."

"We'll be able to continue to the great things we do here," she said, adding that "we have a lot of kids to share our love

with."

Being a principal was something Blick decided she wanted to do. She worked at three different buildings and worked with a "great" administration at Wildwood. Being a literacy leader in the school also helped.

"It prepared me for this because I was already in a leadership position in the building," she said.

Getting ready to walk her kindergartners to the bus after the end of busy first day, Blick repeated her feeling about being lucky.

"People just don't know how lucky I feel to be here," she said. "I have a great staff and we lead the best kids here. I feel fortunate to be able to do what I love to do."

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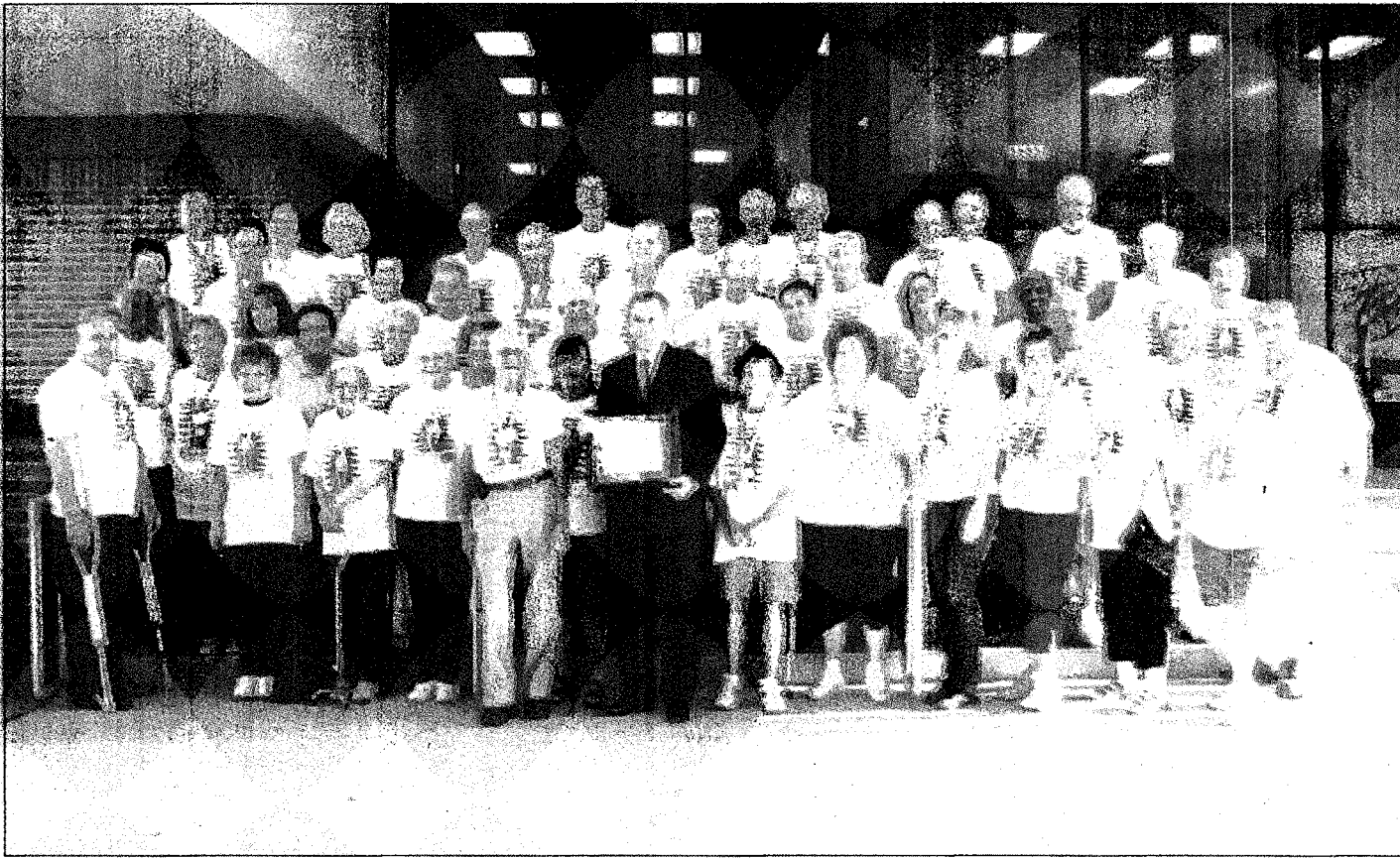
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HEARING
FROM PAGE A1

Williams, who is being held in lieu of a \$1 million cash bond. The victim was in the parking lot of the Landings Apartments, south of Warren Road and east of Central City Parkway, when the shooting occurred. The victim had just parked his car when a man ran up and began shooting, police said. Shot four times, the victim ran and fell to the ground, police said, then the gunman pistol-whipped him.

Witnesses were able to provide a good description of the suspect and the vehicle he was driving. Livonia and Plymouth Township police officers spotted the vehicle on I-96 and later on I-275 where Williams was stopped and arrested. None of the gunshot wounds suffered by the victim were considered life-threatening, police said.

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Members of the Westland senior Friendship Center who competed in the annual Western Wayne County Senior Olympics are honored by Mayor William Wild for their outstanding performance at the event held in mid-August.

Going for the gold

Westland seniors savor chance to compete in the Olympics

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Barbara Marcum admits she likes to be a winner, but when it comes to the Western Wayne County Senior Olympics her pride and joy is the athletes fielded by the Westland senior Friendship Center.

"I'm more proud of the participants," said Marcum, the Westland senior resource director. "I tell people to try it. I introduce them to it the first time and they come back on their own."

According to Marcum, the city has done well in the competition, held the third week in August, and has "clearly become the city to beat." While it's not the largest community, it fields the largest contingent — 130 of the 720 of this year's senior athletes — and is tops in the medal count — some 58 gold, 34 silver and 28 bronze medals in everything from creative writing to bicycling, soccer kick and football throw this year.

One of those successful athletes is Ron Rivers who his fellow seniors describe as "the lucky one." He brought home medals in the seven events he entered. The 53-year-old Westland resident, however, says it's his competitiveness. While he played "everything" when he was a kid, he lists basketball, football and baseball in that order as his favorite sports.

"I'm very competitive, when I play my grandson in basketball, I don't let him win," he said.

This is his third year competing in the Senior Olympics and he has won 20 medals. This year's count includes a bronze in baseball, softball and horseshoes, gold in football and bowling and silver in the Frisbee toss.

LET'S GET PHYSICAL

"When I saw all those elderly people out there, it made me feel good actually seeing them

doing stuff," said Rivers, a personal trainer. "When you're a senior you don't have to stop living. Getting older isn't something to dread."

Rivers blames Mother Nature — the wind blowing — from preventing him from getting a gold in the Frisbee toss, and said the competition in his age group was the toughest in basketball. The first athlete shot 10 in a row, the second athlete dropped eight in a row in the basket.

"I didn't want to go up there and miss," he said. "I never got third place before that. Last year, I had seven gold medals."

Nancy Bulka, 70, credits her abilities as a swimmer to her husband, Gene. She won a gold in the backstroke and a silver in freestyle for her age group, and added a silver in the five-mile bike ride.

The Bulkas were married five years ago and he taught her to swim. Now they do lap swimming several times a week.

"She has a beautiful stroke," said Gene Bulka, who earned gold medals in the five-mile bike ride, and in freestyle, backstroke and breaststroke in swimming.

"He's a good coach," added Nancy Bulka.

The couple heard about the Senior Olympics and went to Dearborn to see what the competition was like. They told themselves they could do that and have been competing for four years.

'STAY ACTIVE'

"You've got to stay active mentally and if you work out, you keep your muscle tone," said Gene Bulka. "You see seniors on oxygen or using walkers who are competing and it's so inspiring. There was a blind man who won a gold in horseshoes. People cheered him on for his competitive spirit. You have to get out there and give it a try."

"It's not just about being

competitive," said Nancy Bulka. "It's being among people and hearing their stories."

Another successful athlete is Mel Tockstein. At age 67, he's not sure what came first — the competitive spirit or the physical fitness. However, over the five years he's been competing, he's won 30 medals, including a personal best of eight this year.

"I've always been a jock," he said. "I played softball and football and swam in high school, and played in the military. I love the competitive spirit. It's one thing that gives the spirit to do better and to do my workouts."

Tockstein won silver in the three swimming events and gold in marksmanship, soccer kick, Frisbee toss, football and the five-mile bike ride.

"The only event you get a good reading of how well you did is swimming, the field events you don't know until the banquet whether you won," he said.

Marcum plans to keep recruiting for the Senior Olympic program at the Friendship Center. Sure, the medals are nice, but it is the athletes that make her smile.

"It's the looks on their faces, they may be older, but they're doing the best they can," she said. "They meet people from 16 communities. It's a social opportunity as well as a competitive opportunity."

Not all of the events are physical. Nancy Bulka has tried her hand at a creative writing twice and has come away feeling that she had grown. It was a "self-learning" experience for her.

"Every competition doesn't have to be for 20-year-olds," added Tockstein. "Every participant doesn't have to be optimally physically fit. There was an older woman — she was 90 years old — who stood at the line and heaved the football and won gold."

While their faces won't be

seen on the Wheaties box anytime soon, the Friendship Center athletes see what they're doing as part of their legacy for the next generation. Rivers, who also teaches dance gymnastics and modeling, plans to share his medals with his grandchildren.

Gene Bulka jokingly said he and his wife plan to sell tickets to family members next year "so the kids have to pay to see us compete." But he also believes he and his wife are also setting a good example.

"Absolutely, I think it's good inspiration for the grandkids," he said.

"I'm going to keep recruiting," said Marcum. "I enjoy the wins as they come."

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

GARDEN CLIPPINGS

Teen film

Good Hope Lutheran Church is hosting a movie event at 7 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 18, that will change teens' lives.

To Save A Life doesn't shy away from tough topics like social divisions, school violence, cutting, suicide, teen pregnancy and divorce. Not in a graphic way, but in an authentic way that makes viewers consider what do they want their life to be about.

The film is rated PG 13 and youths under age 13 must have a parent consent form. For a free ticket to the event, call (734) 427-3660. Good Hope Lutheran Church is at 28680 Cherry Hill in Garden City.

Color blind

The Michigan Roundtable for Diversity and Inclusion sponsors a discussion with essayist, author and educator Tim Wise, author of *Color-blind: The Rise of Post-Racial Politics and the Retreat from Racial Equity*, 7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 6, in the Vista Tech Center presentation room 55Q at Schoolcraft College in Livonia.

If an under-privileged or disadvantaged group exists, then there must be a privileged or advantaged group that also exists. As part of the Michigan Roundtable's public education effort, Wise will discuss how structures and institutions have been put in place and reinforced by people of privilege in order to marginalize the other. The message is quite clear: Acknowledge your privilege and take responsibility to eradicate it.

Admission is free to the public, but pre-registration is necessary. Registration is available online at www.mroundtable.org or by contacting Tanaya Parker by phone at (313) 870-1500.

Volunteers needed

Fish Dial-A-Ride of Western Wayne County is seeking volunteer drivers and phone messengers.

Volunteer drivers, using their own vehicles, designate days, times, and areas they are

willing to drive. The volunteer phone messengers arrange client rides with volunteer drivers one day each week from the comfort of their home. For more information, call (888) 660-2007 and leave a message.

Fish Dial-A-Ride of Western Wayne County is a not-for-profit community service that provides free door-to-door rides to non-emergency medical and other necessary appointments for senior and disabled residents of Garden City, Livonia, and Westland who are unable to drive and have no alternative transportation.

Open Mic Night

Stop by Maxwell's Arts and Treasures for Open Mic Night 8 p.m. to midnight Saturday, Sept. 21.

Bring your friends and family to a fun night of art and entertainment. Maxwell's features local poets, musicians and artists in a family friendly atmosphere. Intermission is at 9 p.m. when food is available for a donation. Maxwell's does not sell or serve alcohol, however, bring your own beverage for open mic. No need to sing up early, just show up and stay until you play.

Maxwell's is at 32416 Industrial, north of Ford, Garden City. For more information, call (734) 427-5300, Ext. 7.

Flea markets

The outdoor flea market season is in full swing at the Straight Farmhouse where people can sell their goods between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. the second and third Saturdays of the month.

Spaces are available inside the farmhouse for \$15 which includes the table. Outside spaces are \$10 and sellers have to bring their own tables. Sellers can register and pay the day of the sale.

The flea market helps support the Straight Farmhouse, home of the Garden City Historical Museum, and the Maplewood Center. The markets run through Sept. 18.

For more information, call (734) 793-1850.

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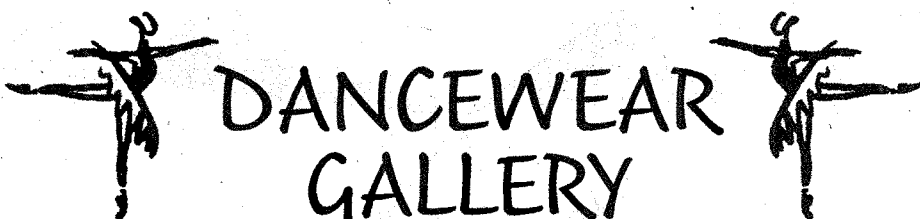
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Lovers' behavior draws ticket for disorderly conduct

Disorderly conduct

A couple in the midst of public lovemaking in Garden City Park at 9 p.m. Sept. 2 brought police to the scene.

Anonymous callers said that the couple who were located about 30 feet

GARDEN CITY

from Log Cabin Road which runs through the park had their buttocks exposed. The 45-year-old Taylor man was sitting on the ground and the 35-year-old Howell woman was seated on his lap.

They told police that they were just kissing and their actions were a "prelude to sex" later. They pulled up their pants when they saw police arrive. They explained that their buttocks were exposed because "that's the style."

The couple acknowledged that their actions drew attention. They said that a group of teens hooted that the man should slap the woman.

A woman passing by chastised them and said that there were children nearby.

The police saw about seven vehicles in the parking lot. Two children and an adult were nearby.

The police ticketed the intoxicated couple for disorderly conduct.

They said that they would walk to a nearby house about a block away where they would spend the night.

Theft

A woman who lives in the 32700 block of Alvin reported that someone stole her purse and its contents when it was left on the passenger seat of her 2007 Ford Fusion about 9 a.m. Sept. 3.

She said that her wedding ring, valued at \$1,500, was also in the purse because she is a beautician and takes the ring off when she was working.

Her prescription pills were also stolen. They included antidepressants, antibiotics and Motrin.

Pills taken

A woman who lives in the 6600 block of Whitby, and who is recovering from knee surgery, blamed her two friends for stealing her prescription medicine after they came for a visit Sept. 2.

She said that she couldn't find 49 Percocet pills and about 20 Vicodin pills. She also told police that about \$41 also was missing.

When the police contacted her friends, they denied taking anything and said that their friend might just have misplaced the items.

A man in the 32100 block of James told police Sept. 2 that he believes his two roommates took the key to his two vehicles and to his business. He couldn't give a reason for this.

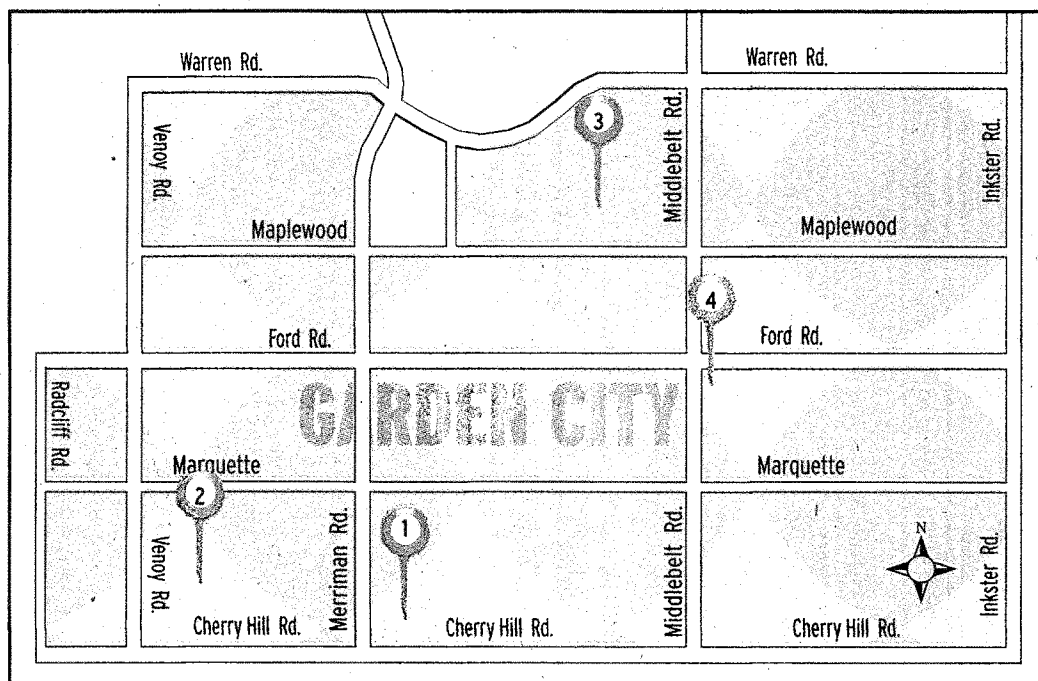
Suspended license

When Garden City police stopped a 48-year-old Garden City man for driving over the speed limit at 3:30 a.m. Sept. 2 in the area of Ford and Middlebelt, a construction zone, they found out that his license was suspended.

They arrested the man.

Theft

A man who parked his vehicle at Sparks Auto Repair, 115 Merriman, Sept. 1 said that someone rifled through his glove box and stole a gold cross and a Bobble head Jesus.



Stolen car

The police arrested a 33-year-old Detroit woman who was in possession of what they described as a stolen 2009 Mazda from Enterprise Rental.

They stopped her in the Ford Road and Middlebelt area after they ran the license plate and it came back stolen.

The woman's children ages 14, 12, 11 and 7, who were in the car, were released to another adult.

Drunken driving

A 28-year-old Westland woman was arrested at 9 p.m. Sept. 3 at Ford and Gilman after she drove drunk from a nearby Seven-11 store. The police said that she had watery eyes and registered a blood alcohol level of .245.

Suspended license

A 29-year-old Garden City

man was arrested about 12:45 p.m. Sept. 3 at Middlebelt and Block for driving with a suspended license. The police stopped him for speeding in his 2002 Chevy Avalanche.

Property damage

A woman in the 31700 block of Bridge reported that someone shattered the windshield on her 2001 Saturn sometime before 5:30 a.m. Sept. 2.

Stolen bike

An alert 12-year-old thought that it was strange when he observed an unknown man riding his friend's bike about 3 p.m. Aug. 31.

When his friend, who is also 12 years old and lives across the street, returned home about 7 p.m. the same day, he told him that he saw a black man in his late teens wearing white T-shirt

and jeans riding the bike east-bound in the 31400 block of Florence.

The owner of the bike wasted no time in calling the Garden City police on his own, giving them a complete description of the 2007 Mongoose BMX bike that was stolen. The bike owner said his bike was parked at the rear of his yard near a trampoline. Another bike that was parked nearby wasn't stolen.

He told police that his father had etched his initials in the frame of the bike. The police officer who took the report couldn't talk to the boy's parents because only a baby sitter was at the home.

Thefts

Garden City police arrested an 18-year-old Garden City man who stole a trunkful of wood from a resident in the 29900

block of Marquette about midnight Aug. 27.

The driver told his two passengers that he was going to his cousin's house to get wood to build a campfire. The passengers said that the driver parked on Brown and Brandt and that he handed the wood to them over a neighbor's fence.

The police stopped the driver of the 1983 Mercury on Brandt where he admitted that he stole the wood and that he didn't know the homeowner who owned the wood.

The owner wants to prosecute for the theft, valued at \$50.

Police were called to the 1800 block of Helen early Aug. 24 after a witness noticed a man inside his neighbor's Camaro.

A Garden City man, 27, who was walking away from the area was arrested after officers found a vehicle GPS unit programmed with a Helen Street homeowner's address and a large amount of change in his pockets.

The man told police that he found both the GPS and the change "in the street."

The police were able to return the GPS and the change to another car owner on the street. The items had been removed from an unlocked 2009 Ford Edge.

When the police arrested the Garden City man, they also found that he had a black car charger and silver metal cigarette case which weren't his.

Someone stole a soccer net and damaged a large net and goal sometime before 10 a.m. Aug. 23 at Rotary Park, on Marquette east of Venoy. The damage was estimated at more than \$1,000.



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Sunday, September 12

10:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

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- Teddy Bear Clinic (bring your stuffed toys)
- Inflatable Bouncers
- Score-O Hockey Game (Get Plymouth Whalers' autographs!)
- Clowns, balloon animals and face art
- Livonia Fire truck, Police, Huron Valley & Concord Ambulance and Midwest Medflight Helicopter on site
- Civil Air Patrol Unit: Livonia Thunderbolt Squadron
- Kids' Crafts

Entertainment

- Music by the Sunset Boulevard Band
- Road Runner demonstration trailer
- Meet Dora the Explorer!
- Detroit Tigers Mascot PAWS
- Magic Shows at 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.
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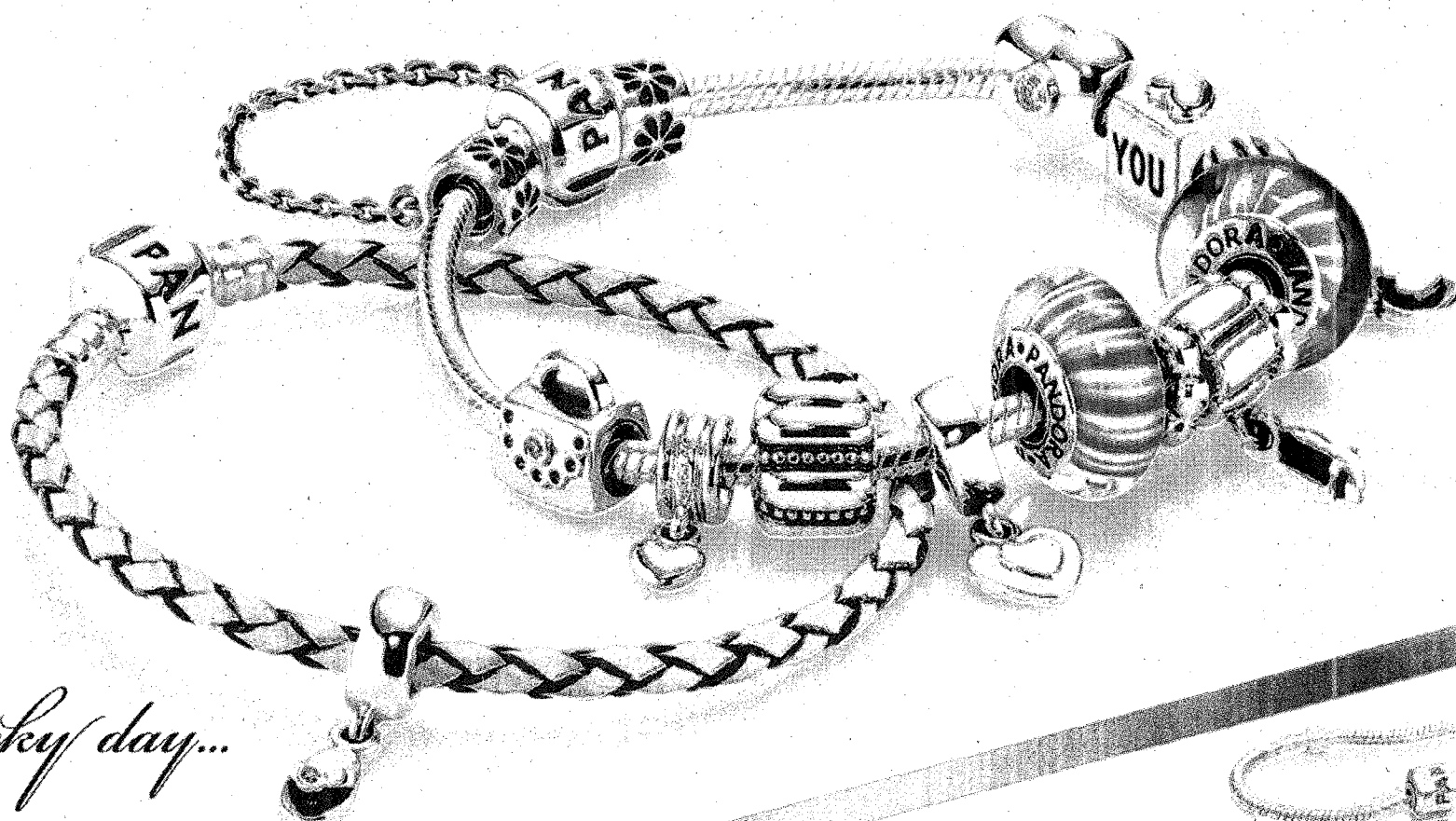


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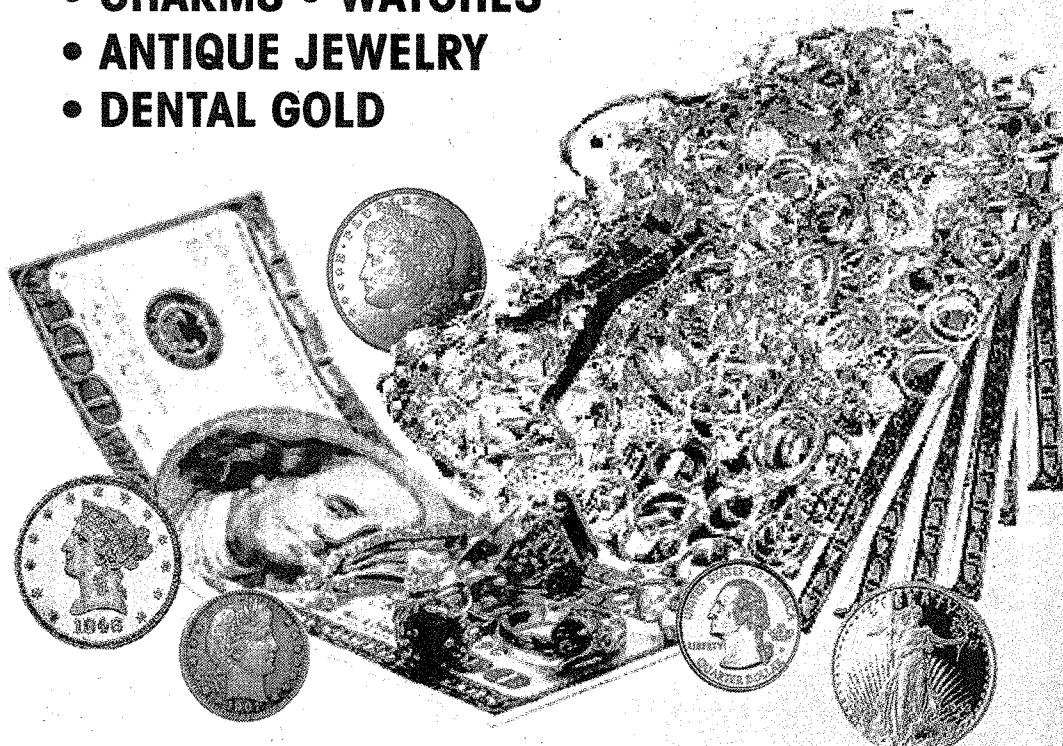
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County to sell tax foreclosures online

The Wayne County Treasurer will auction 13,000 properties - which include move-in homes, fixer-uppers and vacant land - online starting Sept. 17.

It's the county's first time using the Internet to sell tax-foreclosed properties, according to officials.

The online preview and auction (bidding takes place Sept. 17 - 23, at www.bid4assets.com/wayne), is the largest ever for Wayne County, which has hired Bid4Assets.com an online real estate auction site.

To preview properties, go to www.bid4assets.com/wayne.

County officials hope that by getting the properties back on the tax rolls, they will be taken care of (lawns mowed, homes and vacant land maintained, etc.) and neighborhoods will thrive.

Preview traffic is reported to be heavy.

"I've never seen Web site traffic like this before," said Matt Baker, CEO of Bid4Assets.com. "This is the highest traffic for any auction in the company's 11-year history."

A county press release stated the decision to use the online auction service is a "result of the sheer number of properties, demands placed on the treasurer's office staff, the need to provide other essential services and the opportunity to maximize revenue from the sales that will be dispersed to the county's taxing municipalities."

"With the substantial increase in auction activity, it was necessary to explore an alternative approach to perform the statutorily mandated auction in a cost effective manner," said Wayne County Treasurer Raymond Wojtowicz.

"Bid4Assets.com was

selected because of the company's extensive experience in county government online tax foreclosure auctions and a proven record of increasing sales and revenues," added Wojtowicz.

"This is easily the highest level of interest I've seen in any of our online auctions," Baker said. "The convenience and ease of online bidding not only makes the whole process easier for everyone involved, it also opens the auction up to investors from coast to coast - and even internationally."

All bidders must register with Bid4Assets.com and submit a \$1,000 deposit and \$25 processing fee, a total of \$1,025.00, in the form of a Cashier's Check or bank wire in U.S. funds, to Bid4Assets, Inc. prior to Sept. 10.

See Bid4Assets.com Web site at www.bid4assets.com/wayne.

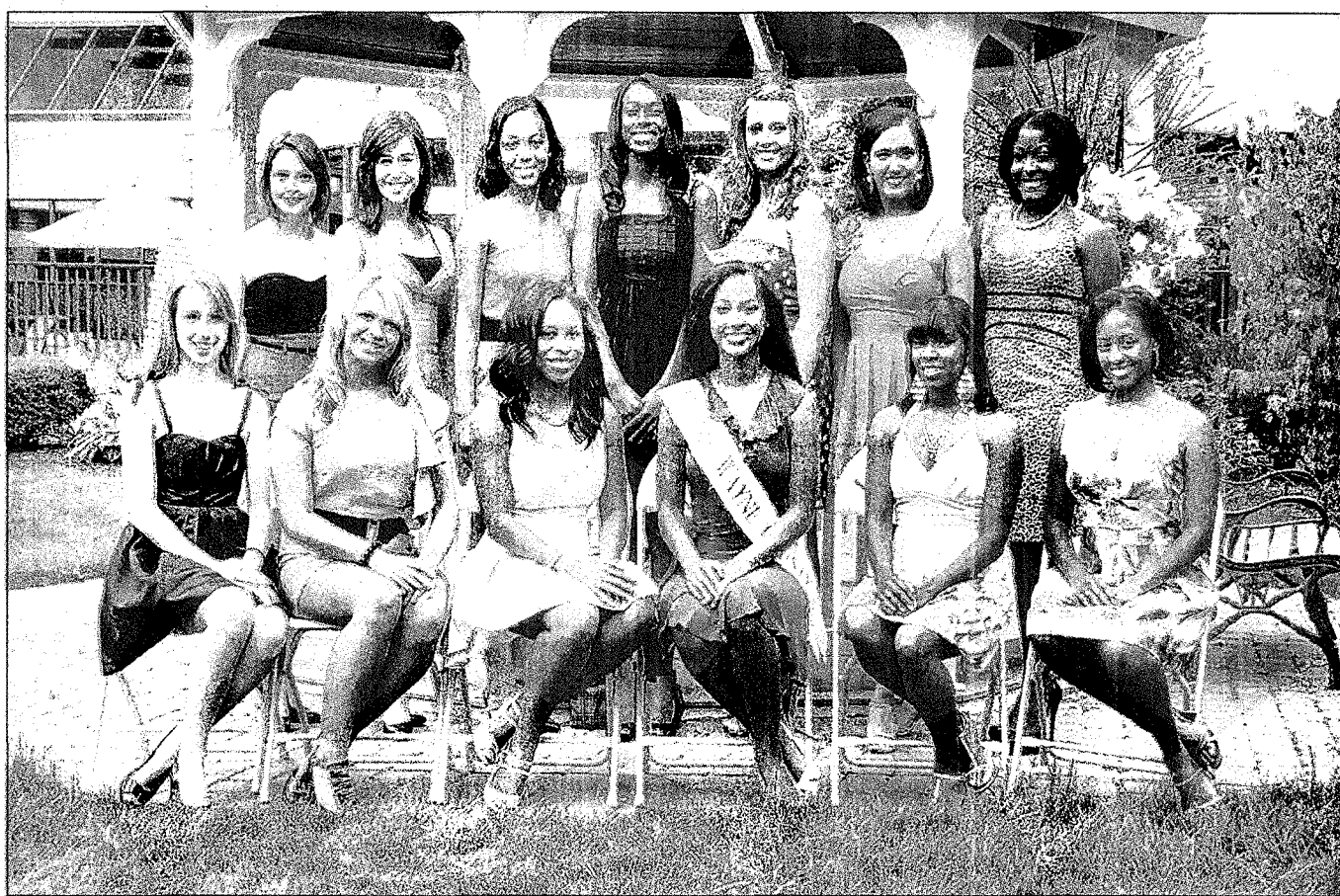
for deposit instructions. Potential auction bidders without a computer should contact Bid4Assets at 1-877-4-ASSETS for more information on how to register and bid.

Special procedures are in place to accommodate these bidders and will require completion of an Offline Bid Form. No auction activities will take place at the office of the Wayne County Treasurer.

For additional information on the auction and to view the properties, visit: www.bid4assets.com/wayne.

The Term and Conditions of Sale and a list of the properties offered are available online at the Wayne County Treasurer's website: www.treasurer.waynecounty.com.

Bid4Assets, Inc. (www.bid4assets.com) was founded in 1999. It is a privately held company located in Silver Spring, Md.



Who will it be?

Thirteen young women will be center stage when the 20th annual Miss Wayne County Scholarship Program takes place at 4:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 11, at Church Hill High School in Livonia. Participating in the 20th annual Miss Wayne County Scholarship Program are Christina Besh of Canton (back row, from left), Rachel Manna of Farmington Hills, Jasmine Jones of Detroit, Gabrielle Boyer of Belleville, Brittany Andrews of Livonia, Elyse Losen of Belleville, Da'Stanza Murphy of Taylor, Erin Hall of Dearborn (front row, from left), Christina Stachel of Clawson, Nicole Johnson of Detroit, Miss Wayne County 2009 Anjelica Francisco of Cassopolis, Teresha Hendricks of Westland, Lauren Allen of Inkster. The winner of the Miss Wayne County Competition will be awarded \$500 in scholarship funds for her college or graduate school education. She will also be eligible to compete for the Miss Michigan title in Muskegon in June.

Life insurance is a poor excuse for investing money



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

While waiting for a plane last weekend, I talked to a young man in his late 20s about the stock market and investing in general. He said he owned a variety of stocks, but had no clue about the companies. He said the only reason he bought the stocks was that he got a tip from a friend who said they would double within six months.

He has owned the stocks more than a year. When I asked how the stocks had performed, let's just say that as opposed to doubling in value,

they went in the opposite direction. I explained that he didn't make an investment, he took a gamble. I explained that the only way to be a successful investor is to have a game plan, focus on a goal and never rely on tips.

As long as I have been involved in the financial world, people have bought investments based on some sort of hot tip. I have yet to see any of these hot tips pay off. In fact, when I get a hot tip, my general reaction is to ignore it. Consequently, my recommendation to anyone who receives a hot tip is ignore it.

The young man also mentioned that another friend is encouraging him to establish an investment program. The program is basically a life insurance policy. He asked my opinion. He said his friend sells life insurance and is pushing him in this direction. I suggested that he needs new friends.

For years, I've seen salespeople push life insurance as an investment vehicle. They provide all sorts of projections

showing how much you can withdraw tax-free if you hold the policy for so many years. They make it seem as if this option is a no-brainer.

I believe that insurance is not an investment but, rather, a means of covering risk. Insurance and insurance-type vehicles are not the best way to establish an investment program. As far as I am concerned, it's one of the worst ways, if for no other reason than, when you buy an insurance policy, you are paying a significant cost for the life insurance. In addition, the investment alternatives within most insurance policies have higher costs and fees. Despite the favorable projections, which never come true, insurance policies are not good investment vehicles.

That doesn't mean you shouldn't purchase insurance. If you have family members who are financially dependent upon you, you need life insurance to protect your loved ones upon your death. Your focus should be on what type of policy offers the best protection. For the majority of situations, I recommend term insurance. It is the most cost-effective type of life insurance, the easiest to understand and you can shop policies around and receive competitive bids.

My recommendation to the young man at the airport was there are many different types of investment vehicles that provide much greater flexibility and, most important, put more money in his pocket than life insurance. They include vehicles such as his company's 401(k) plan and investing any additional money into a Roth IRA.

I recognize that the stock market has been erratic at best and that some of the guaranteed returns countered by some insurance companies seem attractive, however, the devil is in the details. When you dig deep into the option to use insurance policies as investments, you soon realize that they are more about insurance than they are about investing.

As I got ready to board my plane, I told the young man to remember the story about the tortoise and the hare. When it comes to investing, the only way to achieve success is to have a game plan and to be patient.

Good luck!

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. Observer & Eccentric readers can submit questions at money matters@hometownlife.com. For more information, visit Rick's Web site at www.bloomassetmanagement.com.

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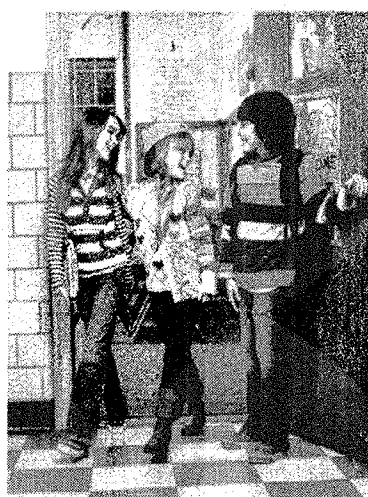
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SIMON

Inspire Theatre launches school for children

Inspire Theatre is launching of its newest venture, Inspire School of Theatre Arts this fall in Westland.

The classes are geared for children ages 7-17, and expose students to the stage and to behind the scenes technical aspects as well. Topics of study include stage directions, find-

ing your voice, understanding how to act and working with others.

Inspire Theatre began in 2005 and has produced such plays as the *Wizard of Oz*, *Father of the Bride*, *It's a Wonderful Life*, and multiple original productions, most written by Inspire Theatre

founder Len Fisher.

Fisher, who majored in theatre at Youngstown State University and holds a degree from North Central University, has been involved in theatre most of his adult life. He has acted in, produced, written and directed more than 50 productions and has directed children

and adults both professionally and on the community level.

Most of Inspire Theatre productions have included children but this is the first venture solely for children. Registration for classes is 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 11. Classes will begin on Saturday, Sept. 18 and run for

10 weeks, concluding with a Christmas production, *Charlie Brown's Christmas*.

Fisher has also announced that Inspire Theatre will offer classes for homeschoolers on Tuesdays, beginning Sept. 21. Registration for homeschoolers will be 1-3 p.m. Tuesday Sept. 14.

Registration will be held at Warren Road Light and Life Church, 33445 Warren Road, east of Wayne Road, Westland. Class size is limited to 25 children.

For more information, contact Fisher at inspire@inspiretheatre.com or call (734) 751-7057.

AROUND WESTLAND

Open House

McKinley Co-Op Preschool will hold an open houses - 2-4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 11. The school is located at 6500 N. Wayne Road at Hunter, Westland.

The preschool is currently enrolling for the 2010-2011 school year. It offers programs for toddlers ages 2-5 years, and kindergarten readiness, provided by a teacher with more than 25 years experience, and reasonable tuition. There are morning and afternoon classes available.

For more information, call (734) 729-7222, go online to www.mckinleypreschool.org, or send an e-mail to mckinleypreschool@yahoo.com.

Support the troops

John Glenn alumni are holding an event to support the troops 7 p.m. to 2 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 11, at Ashley's Beer and Grill, 7525 Wayne Road on the east side of Westland Shopping Center.

Donations of shampoos, body wash, deodorants, snacks, candy, gum, Crystal Light, microwaveable foods such as macaroni and cheese and travel size toothpastes to be sent to the troops will be accepted. Monetary contributions to pay for shipping of the donations will also be collected.

For more information, call Karen at (313) 720-0583 or e-mail at rousseaukl@yahoo.com.

Patriot's Day

On Sunday, Sept. 12, the city of Westland will host a 9/11 Memorial Service, conducted by St. Matthew Lutheran Church and School. The program is scheduled for 11 a.m. on the south steps of Westland City Hall, 36601 Ford.

This marks the seventh year for the service, which remembers those who perished due to the attacks on Sept. 11, 2001, as well as honors those who continue to serve and protect the Westland community.

"This is the community's opportunity to pay respect to our country's first responders and to honor the bravery they demonstrate," Westland Mayor William Wild said. "We want to show respect to the families and victims to know they will not be forgotten."

The Rev. Kurt E. Lambart, pastor of St. Matthew Lutheran Church and School in Westland, will preside over the memorial service, which will include performances by the St. Matthew Jubilee and Cherub Choirs as well as the Lutheran High School Westland Choir.

Theatrical classes

Inspire Theatre is launching its newest venture, the Inspire School of Theater Arts, this fall. Classes are for children ages 7-16 and run for 10 weeks beginning Saturday, Sept. 18. They conclude with a Christmas production, *Charlie Brown's Christmas*. Topics of study include stage directions, finding your voice, understand-

ing how to act and working with others. Class size is limited to 25 students.

The cost is \$20 per week, and there is a \$50 discount for full payment. Registration will be 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Sept. 11. For more information, contact Len Fisher at inspire@inspiretheatre.com or at (734) 751-7075.

Foreclosure help

Homeowners can schedule a private 30-minute one-on-one meeting with a foreclosure counselor from the Wayne County Fight Mortgage Foreclosure Program 5-8 p.m. Mondays, Sept. 13 and 27, Oct. 11, 18 and 25 at the Westland Library, Central City Parkway north of Ford. Call (734) 326-6123 or stop by the library to schedule your appointment. Space is limited.

The Mortgage Foreclosure Prevention Program is a no fee, Wayne County program providing you an expansive network of certified counselors who will help you avoid or manage a mortgage foreclosure.

For more information, visit www.FightMortgageForeclosure.com or www.WayneCounty.com or call (877) 693-6199 or (313) 833-2948.

Rummage sale

The First United Methodist Church will hold its fall rummage sale with plus size room Thursday-Saturday, Sept. 16-18, at the church, 3 Town Square in Wayne.

Hours will be 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sept. 16-17 and 9 a.m. to noon Sept. 17. Items, excluding the plus size room, will be \$2 a bag on Saturday. There also will be a bake sale, hot dogs and refreshments.

For more information, call (734) 721-4801.

Lions Club

The Westland Lions Club meets at 11:45 a.m. the second and fourth Mondays of the month at Logan's Roadhouse on Ford Road in Canton. For more information, call Debbie Dayton at (734) 721-4216.

Used Book Sale

The Friends of the William P. Faust Library will hold a used book sale Friday-Saturday, Sept. 17-19, at the library at 6123 Central City Parkway, north of Ford.

Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday and Saturday and noon-4 p.m. Sunday. Regular prices on Friday will be \$1 for hardcover books, DVDs and CDs, 50 cents for large paperbacks, 25 cents for small paperbacks, videos, cassettes and records and 10 cents for magazines. Green reusable Friends bags also will be available for \$2.

On Saturday, there will be a \$6 per bag sale. Go Green and bring your own brown paper grocery bag or comparable sized reusable bag. On Sunday, it will \$4 per bag.

A preview sale will be held for Friends members 3-7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 16. Join the group and get an early bird look at the bargains to be had.

Interested people can become a Friend at the preview sale.

Money raised help fund programs for all ages at the library.

Register for classes

Wanna dance? Studio K is now enrolling children for its pre-ballet, ballet, tap, and jazz/hip hop classes. For adults, try bellydancing, Bollywood or round dance classes.

Registration is now open for these classes and many others, including fitness, at the Bailey Recreation Center. Call (734) 722-7620 for registration information or for a complete list of classes, visit the website at www.cityofwestland.com/parksrecreation/y-class.html.

Modern Americana

The Westland Historic Village Park is hosting Modern Americana, a celebration of American Folks Arts in the Modern Era, 1-4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 18. The activities will include spinning and weaving, candle dipping, porcupine quilling, rug hooking, historic children's games and corn husk dolls.

Westland Historical Commissioner Jeff Koslowski will present a special lecture on cottage industries.

The Westland Historic Village Park is at 857 N. Wayne Road, south of Marquette. For more information, call (734) 326-1110.

Farmers market

The Westland Farmers Market is open for business

9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesdays through October. The market is held in the parking lot of the Westland Shopping Center, 35000 N. Wayne Road at Wayne Road. The market features seasonal produce, flowers and other items.

Garden helpers needed

Westland's DTE Energy Community Garden needs volunteers 4-7 p.m. Wednesdays for weeding and harvesting the food that is being grown and donated to Gleaners Food Bank of Southeast Michigan for distribution to children, seniors, disabled people, working families and other individuals in need of emergency food.

Volunteers should plan to bring their own gardening tools, sunscreen, drinking water and closed-toed shoes. The DTE Energy Garden is located at 38155 Cherry Hill but volunteers are asked to use the Avondale entrance.

For more information, contact Shannon Ackron, Administrative Secretary, at (734) 467-3200.

Classic car show

A classic car show will be hosted by CrossPointe Community Church, 36125 Glenwood, Wayne, noon to 5 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 11. There is no entry fee but prizes and plaques will be presented.

There will be live music, food, rock climbing, bounce houses, horse rides, kids games and crafts, all free.

Call (734) 721-7410 for more information.

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For more information, contact Alesia Brown at (313) 456-3007 or browna5@michigan.gov



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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.

WESTLAND OBSERVER

Sue Mason,
Community Editor
Susan Rosiek,
Executive Editor
Grace Perry,
Director of Advertising

OUR VIEWS

Get connected

Plenty of volunteer opportunities await

Volunteerism. It can be the difference between keeping the Westland community bustling with events that attract people from surrounding communities — or not.

It could have meant the difference this past weekend in communities like Royal Oak, which hosted the Arts Beats and Eats festival; or downtown Detroit, home to the long-standing international jazz festival; or to Hamtramck, where Polish culture was celebrated all weekend on Jos. Campau and surrounding streets.

All of these Labor Day weekend festivities could not have happened without volunteers. And, a lot of revenue wouldn't have poured into these cities without those events.

As the Westland Chamber of Commerce, City of Westland, civic organizations and others continue to offer events throughout the calendar year, we continue to encourage people to get involved, volunteer at least a little time or talent to the events — whether it's working in the new DTE Energy Community Garden help and harvest food that's donated Gleaners Food Bank of Southeast Michigan or a dependable community staple like the annual Westland Summer Festival, or the myriad of other special events that make this community what it is, it's worth the investment.

Students in the Wayne-Westland Community Schools are also involved community service hours, whether it's community food drives at the holidays or serving dinner at the Dyer Center's monthly spaghetti dinners. Parents, aunts, uncles and grandparents who also volunteer — just because they'd like to be involved and help to pull off these events — set an excellent example for students.

Being a part of a community means more than simply waving hello from your porch, or strolling through town on a nice evening. It's more than buying your gasoline at the corner station and choosing local businesses for your other purchases. It's more than paying attention to local government and it's more than attending special events. It's about being involved, being connected and being contributors.

Volunteerism, in the current tough economic times, has risen. According to the United States Department of Labor, the number of volunteers and the volunteer rate nationwide rose over the year ended in September 2009, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported. About 63.4 million people, or 26.8 percent of the population, volunteered through or for an organization at least once between September 2008 and September 2009. In 2008, the volunteer rate was 26.4 percent.

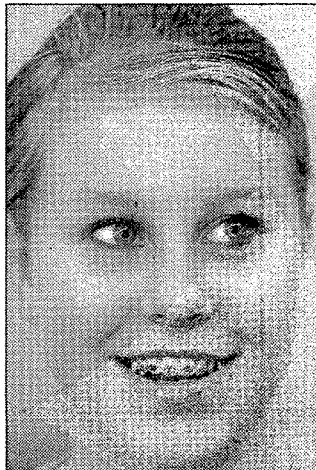
There are several outstanding volunteers in the Westland community, and we don't want to imply that they're not doing great things.

We're encouraging more people to step up and help out.

COMMUNITY VOICE

Are you ready to go back to school this week?

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



"No, because it's boring there, but I'll get to see my friends."

Chelsea Pascas
Westland



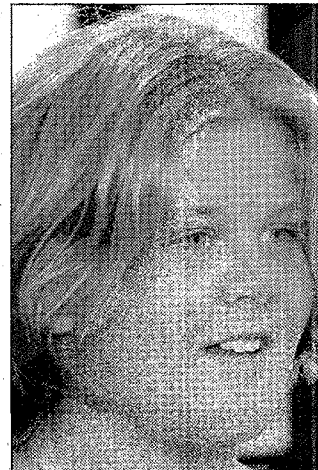
"No, because I don't like waking up early."

Samantha Tucker
Westland



"No, I don't like school."

Diamond Taylor
Westland



"Yes, because I want to see all my friends and I'm ready to start a new school."

Megan McCorry
Westland, formerly of Garden City

LETTERS

Do something about pit bulls

I have had it with pit bulls. This summer it seems that every day somewhere around Detroit there is an ugly attack.

And I am sick and tired of "it's not the dog — it's the owner." It doesn't matter. The fact is the most docile pit is "unpredictable."

Something has to be done. There are numerous answers to this problems but our elected officials have to go work, or the problem will just stay the same, and one day a little child is going to be mauled to death!

Steve Jeffers
Westland

Health care in America

There are people who say "it won't kill me." They put up with bunions, cataracts, hearing loss, etc. These people are Americans who have no health insurance. They put up with the pain and discomfort. They would get it fixed, but money is short. They save money to keep the car running. They pay their bills, and they know what they have won't kill them.

There are other people — like the woman who found a lump in her breast, or the man who quit smoking five years ago and now has a cough he can't get rid of, or the people whose feet swell up when they stand too long and they know their heart isn't working just right. They have no health insurance, and what if they get that first test and it's bad? Better not to know, so they just worry and pray.

Then there are fund-raisers. "Humpty Dumpty fell off the wall, so come eat pizza and they'll give 10 percent of your bill to help put Humpty Dumpty back together again. Come eat pizza and help!"

But the worst is the jar on the counter at party stores, restaurants, etc. with a picture of a child, young mother or father, and a young note that says, "Please help ..." You know the rest of the note.

Health care in America. It won't kill me! Please,

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

We welcome your Letter to the Editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We ask your letters be 400 words or less. We may edit for clarity, space and content. Submit letters via the following formats.

E-mail: smason@hometownlife.com.

Read or comment online:
www.hometownlife.com

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

God — not cancer. Fund-raiser, 10 percent will help. Help fill this jar. Only in America.

Mary Klann
Northville

Fear-mongering

The Detroit News editorial, ("Choose Your Poison," Aug. 20, 2010) contributes to the reckless fear-mongering surrounding the Wayne County retirees' so-called 13th check. It irresponsibly suggests that the county has a choice of paying that annual check or furloughing up to 500 employees. Nothing could be further from the truth.

The issue of the 13th check is a product of the Ficano administration's effort to reduce personnel by offering early retirement buyout packages at deep discounts through collective bargaining agreements. While well-intentioned, these buyouts more than doubled the amount of money Wayne County is required to contribute in order to make up for the underfunding of the retirement system — from about \$15 million to more than \$40 million annually.

The County Commission overwhelmingly and correctly rejected the executive's proposal to end the "inflation equity check" for more than 5,000 retirees. Over 60 percent of them receive less than

\$15,000 per year in pension income. This was the responsible thing to do for several reasons: The retirees did not create the shortfall; the check is based on investment earnings of over 9 percent; it was a "one-time" fix; it may not be legal, and ending it was not the administration's only option.

The commission is currently considering balanced budget proposals that continue the 13th check without one employee layoff. It does, however, put on hold some of the administration's non-mandated pet projects that produce no revenue to the county and no tangible benefit to the taxpayer. They include not funding the Land Bank and other over-optimistic development projects.

My commission colleagues are addressing the FY 2010-11 budget crisis in a manner that responsibly restores and preserves services and programs residents and retirees need and deserve. We will entertain any reasonable ideas from the executive that does not include irresponsible pronouncements of massive layoffs that only heighten fear and distrust.

Edward A. Boike Jr.
chairman
Wayne County Commission

Domestic terrorism

If in fact the burning of the future Islamic Center in Murfreesboro, Tenn., is found to be arson, this is an act of domestic terrorism.

If proven to be deliberately set, this is a hate crime. The perpetrators are not patriots but rather the same as the KKK who burned black churches. If found and convicted, they should be tried as the perpetrators of a hate crime.

This hate and fear of Muslims constantly stirred up by the far right is dangerously un-American and unconstitutional.

This behavior cannot be tolerated in our country which has constitutionally guaranteed freedom of religion.

Gerald and Dolores Maxey
Farmington Hills

ONLINE VOICES & VIEWS



The following are excerpts from readers participating in our online forum for discussing issues, In Your Voices. Find more comments or join the discussion on the Web at hometownlife.com.

The issue: Lawsuit filed over June flooding

To everyone who was kind as to point out that suing the city hurts the whole community and is unfair to the others whose basements did not flood; I would suggest that you and everyone else who feels this way pull your collective heads from your posteriors and understand that some people didn't just use their basements as a storage area but actually used it a living space.

I am one of the flooded few and if this happened to any of you would feel the same way. The City of Westland admitted on the day after it was their fault but quickly recanted when their lawyers told them to say nothing but offer to help with the clean up.

Harold354

The issue: Pit bulls in Westland

At a time when more and more cities are imposing stricter rules about pit bulls, Westland has actually relaxed the law about a year ago, no longer requiring that pit bulls also be registered with the State. While I agree that ANY dog can be considered "vicious", pit bulls are unique because of their jaws which "lock" when biting its victim — this is why they are bred to fight and that can't be changed. I thought that public officials had a duty to protect the public; however, Westland officials have actually put their citizens in danger; but at least they have made pit bull owners pleased. More and more people will be moving into Westland because of the new relaxed ordinance.

ImaBeMe

GUEST COLUMN

Lack of jobs real problem in trades

With the arrival of Labor Day, the media has been abuzz over a new report that claims a lack of skilled tradesmen is the biggest challenge now facing employers around the world.



Mike Jackson

The 2010 Talent Shortage Survey, released last week by Manpower Inc., claims the problem is so serious, it could stall an economic turnaround.

As executive secretary-treasurer for the Michigan Regional Council of Carpenters,

I take issue with this claim.

With the levels of unemployment in our state and across the nation at record highs, it is jobs, not skilled tradesmen, that are hard to find.

If jobs come online, we stand ready to fill them with highly trained individuals eager to get to work.

We've heard labor shortage cries before, and the latest alarm comes with a clear agenda. In conjunc-

tion with the results of its survey, Manpower Inc. is pushing "strategic migration" as a short-term solution to the "labor shortage." Manpower recommends that countries, including the U.S., develop policies to bring skilled workers where they are needed, "rather than create barriers to immigration."

So there it is. The "labor shortage" rhetoric is part of a larger strategy designed to sway public opinion so companies can import labor that's cheap and easy to exploit. With so many Americans out of work, the only reason to consider bringing in an outside workforce before using our own is to keep wages down.

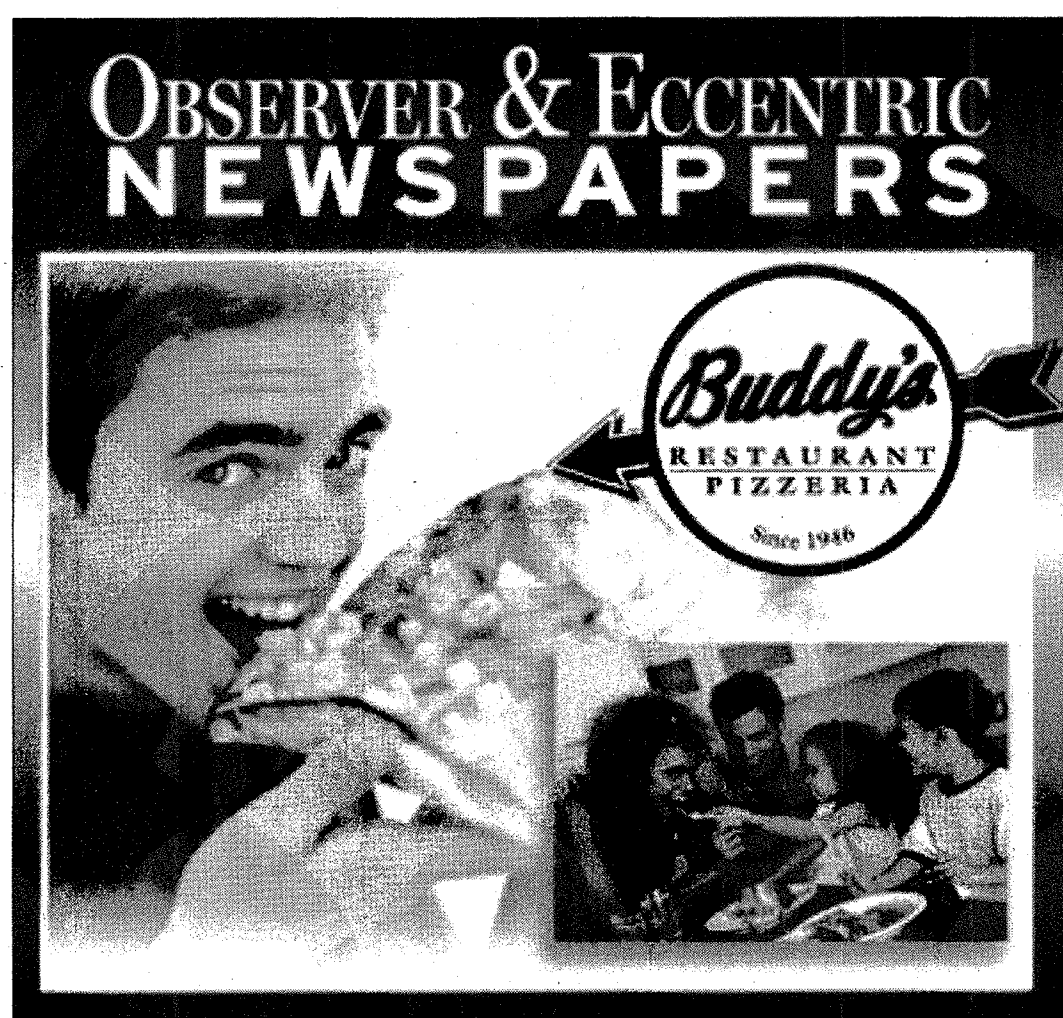
In the long term, if labor shortages actually arise, we are fully equipped to train our own workforce. The union building trades in Michigan spend a combined \$25 million on our apprenticeship and training programs each year.

The answer is not "strategic migration." The solution is to put people back to work, making a fair living

that gives them benefits, the ability to raise their family and achieve the American Dream.

This Labor Day, we need to take a realistic look at sensational claims that simply set the stage for more bad decisions. Bad trade deals, outsourcing and corporate greed got us into this mess. We need to keep our focus on the real issue facing our middle class. It is not a lack of skilled labor, but a lack of opportunity.

Mike Jackson is the executive secretary/treasurer of the Michigan Regional Council of Carpenters and Millwrights. The Michigan Regional Council of Carpenters and Millwrights represents more than 18,000 journeypersons and apprentice carpenters across the State of Michigan. The MRCC offers ongoing training and administers health care and pension benefits to its membership. The MRCC's leaders and members are known throughout Michigan for their community involvement, playing an active role in the rebuilding of Michigan, and donating their time, skills and financial support to community and charity organizations.



Share your good news, win dinner at Buddy's

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers and Buddy's Pizza present "Good News, Good Chews!"

Share your good news with our readers and you could win lunch or dinner for four at any Buddy's Pizza (dine-in or carry-out) location.

Want to read about the hometown hero, the terrific student, the helpful neighbor, the group, church or synagogue that's working hard to make our region a good place to live, work and play?

The Observer & Eccentric and Buddy's Pizza are partnering to make sure good news is recognized and rewarded.

Tell us about that special event, person or group effort that made you smile and feel good. Tell us about the good things going on in your community and we'll share them with readers.

To top it off, you could win

a scrumptious meal for four at Buddy's.

Marcy Brontman and Michelle Lawton of Buddy's along with O&E editors will select one overall winner each month (through 2011) to enjoy a special meal at Buddy's.

"Sometimes just reading a good news story can simply inspire and make you remember that it's the little things in life that are still important," said Brontman, of Buddy's public relations and special promotions.

E-mail your good news story (include a photograph) to: goodnews@hometownlife.com.

Tell us your story in 150 words or less (attach photos in a jpg format as large as possible and be sure to identify everyone in the photo).

Deadline is the last day of each month.

Buddy's Pizza was established in 1936 on the corner of Conant

and Six Mile as a neighborhood tavern. It was not until 1946 that Buddy's introduced its famous square pizza — the first of its kind — to Detroit. It was as the Buddy's official website states: "love at first bite."

More than 61 years later, Buddy's continues to thrive under the stewardship of Robert Jacobs, the son of the late Billy Jacobs and Shirlee Jacobs (now living in Florida).

Buddy's continues to serve Detroit's original square pizza, made from scratch soups, and its celebrated Antipasto salad. Other menu items include pastas, burgers, sandwiches, gluten-free pizzas and more.

Buddy's dine-in locations are: Auburn Hills, Dearborn, Detroit (the original Buddy's), Farmington Hills, Detroit/Grosse Pointe, Livonia and Warren. Carry-out locations are Bloomfield Township and Royal Oak.

Classes cater to needs of local entrepreneurs

The Schoolcraft College Small Business and Technology Development Center is offering a number of classes and workshops catering to the needs of entrepreneurs. Many one-day seminars are held at Schoolcraft College for a minimal fee.

Reservations are required for all seminars. Questions may be directed to the SBTDC at info@schoolcraft.edu or by calling (734) 462-4438.

Seminar list includes Writing a Business Plan, Marketing Your Business, Business Legal Issues, Finance and Women's Business Enterprise Certification Seminar and Meet the Buyers: A Procurement Matchmaking Event.

• **Writing a Business Plan** is designed for individuals who want to increase their chances for successful self-employment, the course, covers business planning in detail. Specifics of marketing and finance, legal and regulatory issues, operations, and information based planning and management are key components of the workshop.

The classes are being offered 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 15, or Nov. 10, and 6-9 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 13 or Dec. 8. The cost \$40 per person.

• **Marketing Your Business** presents practical applications of marketing concepts designed to help small businesses grow. It covers basic marketing tools including market analysis and research, target marketing, assessing competitors, and key marketing implementation tools.

The classes are being

offered 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 21, or Dec. 9, and 6-9 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 16, or Nov. 18. The cost is \$40.

• **Business Legal Issues** is an introduction to the different types of legal entities that are appropriate for structuring and starting a new business. Tax and liability issues are covered, along with basic elements of a contract, collections, licenses, registrations, employment and property issues, leasing and insurance. The course is designed to guide prospective business owners in setting up the organizational structure that will help protect them from unnecessary legal challenges.

The class is being offered 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 14, or Nov. 9, and 6-9 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 9 and Dec. 7. The cost is \$40 per person.

• **Finance** is an introductory seminar that covers the basics of financial management, including how to start an accounting system and how to apply the information from key financial statements to help you manage your business. Accounting language including debits and credits, preparation of the balance sheet and profit and loss statement are explained. Cash flow analysis and break-even are also covered with specific small business examples.

The class is being offered 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 21, or Nov. 16, and 6-9 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 9 or Dec. 14. The cost is \$40 per person.

• **Women's Business Enterprise Certification Seminar** - The Michigan

Women's Business Council invites women business owners to learn what it means to be certified as a Women's Business Enterprise. If you have a product or service that you would like to market to American corporations, here is a chance to explore certification. Learn what is involved in the certification process, how to complete the application package, how to become part of a national database of certified women business enterprises and other resources available for small business.

The Michigan Women's Business Council is the Michigan certifying partner of the Women's Business Enterprise National Council (WBENC), a national, certifying body recognized by major American corporations. The Michigan Women's Business Council is a program of the Center for Empowerment and Economic Development (CEED), an SBA Women's Business Center.

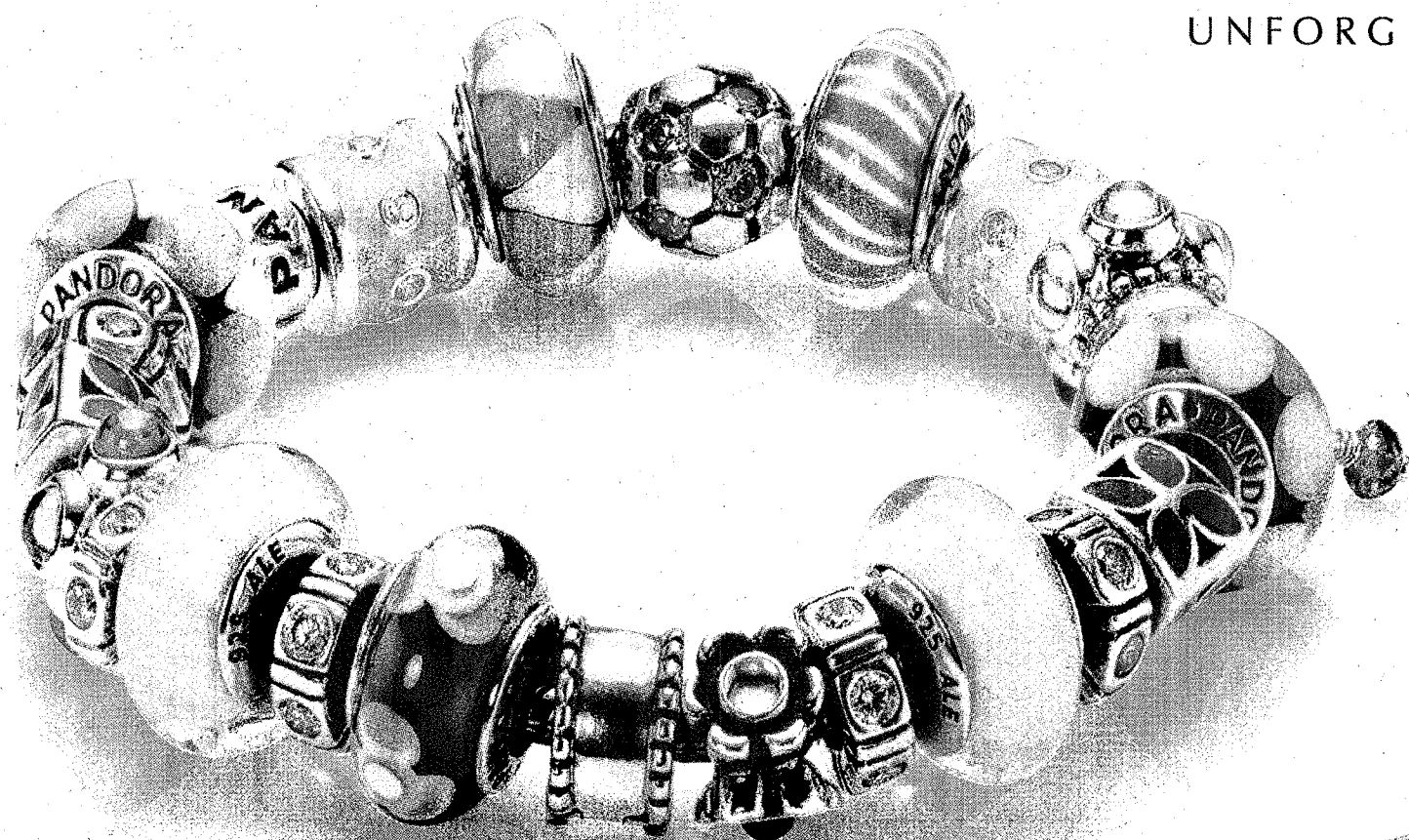
The seminar will be offered 9-11 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 2. The cost is \$25 per person. For more information or to register, please call CEED at (734) 677-1400.

Schoolcraft College is a public two-year college, offering classes at the Livonia campus on Haggerty north of Six Mile, Livonia, and at the Radcliff Center on Radcliff south of Ford in Garden City and online at www.schoolcraft.edu.

For more information, call the Business Development Center at (734) 462-4438 or visit the Schoolcraft College website at www.schoolcraft.edu.

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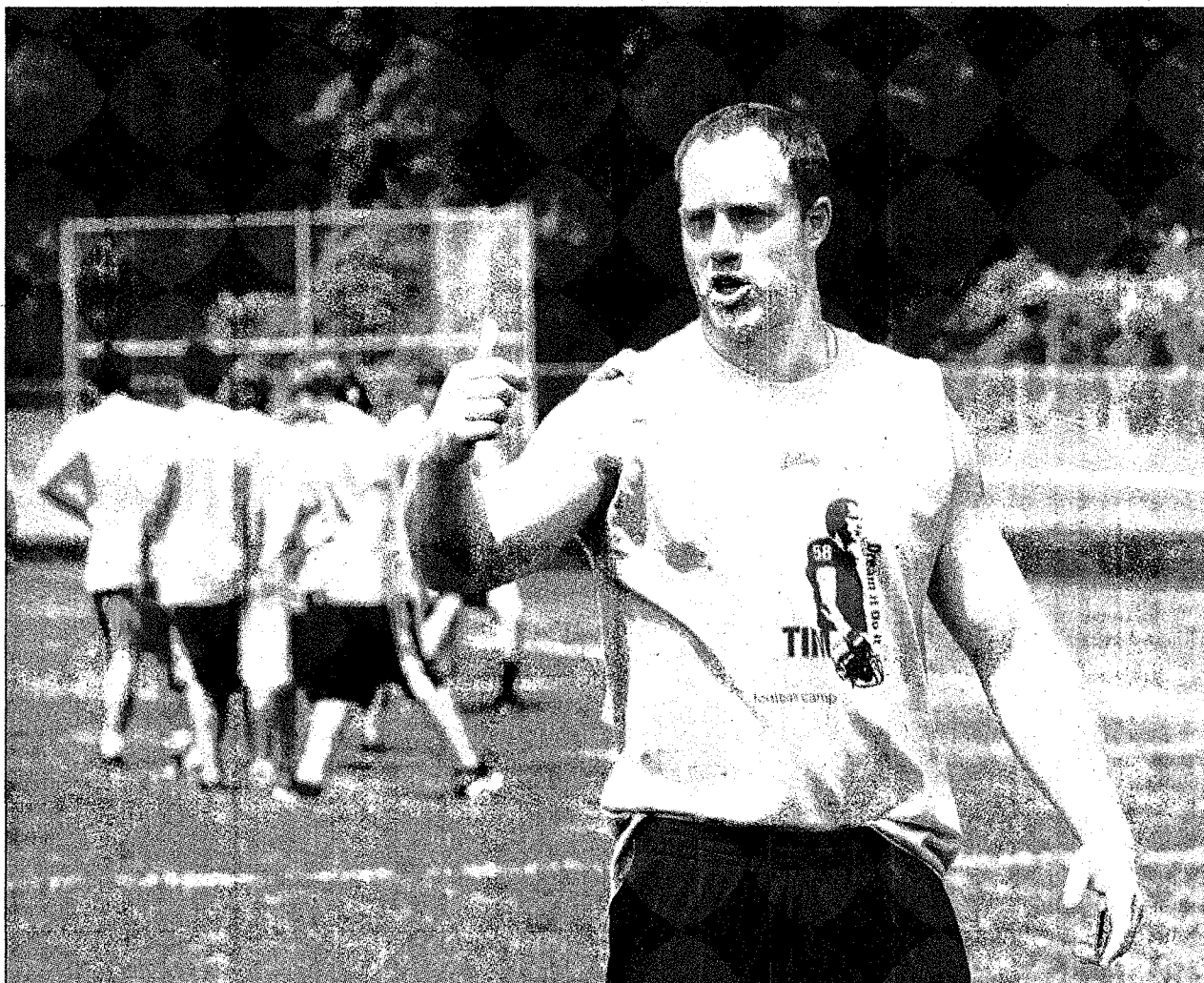
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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Former Livonia Clarenceville High and Penn State standout Tim Shaw, shown here during his summer football camp, was picked up Sunday by the NFL's Tennessee Titans.

Music City-bound

Shaw signs with Tennessee Titans after being cut by Bears

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Tim Shaw is on the move again in the National Football League. The former Livonia Clarenceville High standout, who played at Penn State, is officially now a member of the Tennessee Titans. On Sunday, the Titans claimed the former Chicago Bears linebacker, who last year set a club record with 30 special teams tackles, including six in last year's season finale at Detroit's Ford Field against the Lions. According to *The Tennessean*, Shaw will provide a boost for the Titans on special teams, and also provide depth

at linebacker. In a text message to the *Observer*, Shaw said: "Seems like a great opportunity. I'm excited." The Bears reportedly shopped Shaw in a trade prior to him being released over the weekend. Shaw, a fifth-round pick in 2007 with Carolina, previously played for the Panthers and Jacksonville Jaguars. "He's a pretty versatile guy, and can do a number of things, especially on special teams," said Shaw's agent, Scott Smith of XAM Sports to *The Tennessean*. "He is a good one: The Titans are getting a good player." According to a report Saturday in the *Chicago Tribune*, the 26-year-old

Shaw was the odd man out in the Bears' six-linebacker rotation. The *Tribune* report also speculated that the Lions, decimated by injuries at linebacker and having the worst special teams unit in the league last year, may have had considerable interest in the 6-foot-1, 236-pound Shaw. Shaw got considerable time at linebacker in last Thursday's final exhibition game at Cleveland where he recorded six solo tackles and one assist. Tennessee opens its 2010 season 1 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 12, at home against the Oakland Raiders, which will be broadcast by CBS.

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

Lady Ocelots notch key road triumph

BY JIM TOTH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Just three games into the season, the depth of talent found up-and-down the Schoolcraft women's soccer roster is already paying dividends.

The No. 8-ranked Lady Ocelots ran their early-season record to 3-1 Monday with an impressive 2-0 triumph at Iowa Western, ranked No. 9 in the latest NJCAA Division I poll.

That victory came on the heels of another solid performance three days earlier in which the Lady Ocelots jumped all over Jackson Community College, 5-0. "They were both nice wins for us because we have a few injuries now and it says a lot about some of the players who came off the bench," Schoolcraft coach Deepak Shivraman said. "I'm really proud of the way we played both games. For us to get a win against a quality team like Iowa Western, which is ranked in the top 10 in the NJCAA, and then to get the victory over Jackson, which is a rival, will certainly help us down the road."

In the win over Iowa Western, sophomore Jen Giegler accounted for all the scoring by knocking in a pair of first-half goals.

Sophomore goalkeeper Sam Suter, with solid help defensively from freshmen Sierra Cano, Kim Vaillancourt and Jessica Lyon made the lead stand up.

"I thought all three girls — Sierra, Jessica and Kim — did a great job of keeping Iowa Western's players at bay," Shivraman said. "And Sam played very well again in goal."

The triumph over Jackson CC featured five different Lady Ocelots boot home a goal.

Giegler staked the Lady Ocelots to an early lead in the game and teammates Rene Boudreau (Livonia Stevenson), Shannon Merritt (Livonia Stevenson),

Please see **SOCCER, B3**

SIDELINES

Krupsky saluted

Central Michigan University senior outside hitter Lauren Krupsky (Livonia Churchill) is one of 30 student-athletes across the country to be selected as candidates for the first-ever Lowe's Senior CLASS Award in volleyball.

To be eligible, a student-athlete must be classified as an NCAA Division I senior and have notable achievements in four areas of excellence — community, classroom, character and competition.

The 5-foot-10 Krupsky, who needs just 128 kills to become the 13th player in program history to reach the 1,000 mark, was a 2009 first-team All-Mid-American Conference selection.

She was also named tournament MVP after racking up a total of 41 kills (4.1 per set) as the Chippewas (3-3) swept all three matches last weekend to win the Youngstown State (Ohio) Invitational. CMU downed Niagara (N.Y.) University, Howard University (Washington, D.C.) and host Youngstown en route to the title.

Krupsky is one of just two players to serve as a four-year captain under head coach Erik Olson, and serves as an executive board member on the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.

The biology major carries a 3.67 grade point average into her senior season. She is one of only two players from the MAC listed as a candidate for the award.

MU women 2nd

Host Indiana Tech edged the Madonna University Tuesday in the first Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference Women's Golf Jamboree, 334-335, at Whispering Creek G.C. in New Haven, Ind.

Michelle Hall was fourth for MU with an 80 followed by Sara Sinnitch, seventh, 82; Chelsea Bathurst (Livonia Stevenson), eighth, 85; and Kaitlyn Brasher, ninth, 86.

Mariel Meyers (Livonia Franklin) tied for 13th with an 88. Melissa Finch of Northwestern Ohio was medalist with a 4-over 76.

Blazers earn tie

In a Catholic League girls lacrosse match Tuesday, host Livonia Ladywood and Bloomfield Hills Academy of the Sacred Heart fought to a 1-1 draw.

After a scoreless first half, Kylie Birney scored for the Blazers, while senior Kylie Mezwa countered for Sacred Heart.

Ladywood junior goalie Mackenzie Holme made just one save, while the Gazelles' Natasha Aubrey made two stops.

Ladywood is now 1-1 overall and in the Catholic League, while Sacred Heart is 3-0-1 and 2-0-1.

MU men's golf 4th

The Madonna University men's golf team placed fourth overall in the 12-team Lou Collins Memorial Tournament held last Friday and Saturday at Bedford Valley Country Club in Battle Creek.

Host Olivet College won the team title with a two-day total of 306-299-605.

Rounding out the top five was Trine University (Ind.), 302-307-609; Wheaton College (Ill.), 306-303-609; Madonna, 311-303-614; and Calvin College, 312-303-615.

David Sreiberg of Adrian College took medalist honors with a 74-73-147.

MU's top finisher was Jimmy Uelmen, who tied for third with a 74-75-149. He was followed by NAIA National runner-up Brett Quitiquit, tied for 14th (78-74-152); Vince Carango, tied for 24th (79-77-156); Livonia Franklin's Austin Stillman, tied for 31st (80-77-157); Tyler Skiba, tied for 57th (83-80-163).

Stevenson golf coach bags 3rd O&E Men's Open title

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Jim Omietanski entered Sunday's final round of the Observer & Eccentric Men's Golf Open seven shots off the lead.

Doing the math, the Livonia Stevenson boys golf coach had a figure dancing in his head to get back into contention after settling for a 77 in Saturday's opening round at Livonia's Fox Creek Golf Course.

"The only way I thought I'd have a chance is to shoot between 70 and 68 and they'd shot somewhat higher and post some high numbers," Omietanski said. "I felt if I shot even-par, I could get first or second."

Omietanski, a material handling supervisor at Ford Motor Co., rallied on Sunday at Livonia's Whispering Willows G.C. with a 70 and captured his third O&E crown in a sudden death playoff over Chris Kiehler of South Lyon.

Kiehler, a 1996 Livonia Churchill

High grad and former O&E champ (1998), led the field with a 71 on Saturday, but settled for a 76 on Sunday after three-putting the final hole where he took a bogey on the par-4, No. 18.

"The only holes I three-putted were No. 17 and 18," said Kiehler, also a Ford Motor Co. engineer. "On No. 18 I thought I had a good putt."

In the playoff, Omietanski landed his drive safely just off the left side of the fairway on the par-4, 451-yard No. 10 hole.

Meanwhile, the 32-year-old Kiehler launched his drive well to the left of the fairway and into a cluster of trees where he was forced to lay up from about 80 yards out.

"It was not a good swing, a little quick, that's what happened," Kiehler said.

Omietanski's approach shot landed pin-high on the green from approximately 25 feet out where he two-putted

Please see **GOLF, B3**



PAUL WORLEY | PHOTO

Winners of the Observer & Eccentric Men's Golf Open included (from left) Tim Proben, First Flight; Jim Omietanski, Championship Flight; and James Mynarczyk, Senior Division.



Kellie Fairbanks (left) and Westland's Steven Thompson are representing Midwest Tae Kwon Do of Plymouth at the ongoing Korean Open. Both qualified by winning bronze medals at the U.S. nationals held in July.

Tae Kwon Do duo off to Korea

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Steven Thompson and Kellie Fairbanks of Plymouth's Midwest Tae Kwon Do have proudly gone global.

Both 17-year-olds are in South Korea, competing this week at the Korean Open Tae Kwon Do tournament, having been selected to the United States contingent based on their bronze-medal performances at nationals in July.

"It's a great thing for them," said their instructor, Midwest Master Russell Gale. "It's the last opportunity for Steven and Kellie both to compete at the junior level, from this point on they're competing in the adult division (ages 18-32)."

After flying from Detroit to Los Angeles on

Aug. 29, the two martial arts aficionados met up with the rest of the U.S. team (20 juniors, five adults) for the trip's second leg, a 15-hour red-eye flight to Seoul, South Korea.

Following what is certainly a spellbinding mix of competition and culture, the teens will return this weekend — undoubtedly with plenty of memories to share about training at the legendary Kukkiwon.

Go ahead then and call it the trip of a lifetime for Thompson — a senior at Westland John Glenn — and Fairbanks, who commutes from the Jackson, Mich., area twice a week to train at Midwest Tae Kwon (Ann Arbor Trail).

"I'm having a blast with Tae Kwon Do, so anything that I have to do involving another country is great for me," said Thompson,

Please see **TAE KWON DO, B3**

McGuire's hat trick spurs Pats; Churchill gets past John Glenn

Junior Jordan McGuire's hat trick propelled Livonia Franklin to a convincing 9-1 boys soccer mercy-rule win Tuesday over host Wayne Memorial.

Jacob Talarek added two goals, including the game-clincher with 38 minutes remaining as the Patriots improved to 4-1 overall and 1-0 in the KLAA's South Division.

Franklin, which led 8-1 at halftime, also got a goal and assist from Zach Miller.

Collin Elliott, Craig Beebe and Brad Tatro added goals, while Gabe Edwards contributed four assists.

"We played well, moved the ball well and finished our shots," Franklin coach Vic Rodopoulos said. "And it was good that guys who don't normally play got in."

Lucas Moore scored in the first half for the Zebras (0-5, 0-1) on an assist from Thomas Collins.

CHURCHILL 4, JOHN GLENN 1: The trio of Jeff Thomas, Stephen Foster and Allen Woodruff figured in all four goals Tuesday as host Livonia Churchill (3-4-1, 1-0) opened KLAA South Division play with a win over Westland John Glenn (3-2-1, 0-1).

Churchill led 3-1 at halftime as Thomas scored off a cross from Foster, followed by Woodruff's header off a throw-in from Foster;

BOYS SOCCER

and a another goal by Woodruff from Thomas.

Foster added a second-half goal from Woodruff.

Bryan Bartig played the first half in goal for the Chargers before giving way to Christian Van Dam.

Glenn's only tally came in the first half when the Churchill keeper and defender collided to make it 1-1. Glenn credited the goal to Alex Isaevski.

"We played pretty well, it was a good first division win," Churchill coach Reid Friedrichs said.

Goalkeeper Jason Rockwell made two key saves for Glenn.

"They had to earn the win, they got two goals late in the first half," Glenn coach Jimmy Mortada said. "Two minutes of ball watching cost us the game. The score did not reflect the way we played. We had two free kicks that hit the post. I'm happy with the way we played."

STEVENSON 8, S.I. EAST 0: Zack Atwood and Nolan Mullett each notched a pair of goals Tuesday as Livonia Stevenson (4-0-1, 2-0) downed host South Lyon East (1-5, 0-2) for the second time this season in a KLAA Central Division encounter.

Camden Iwasko, Patrick Smith and Christian Gajor each added a goal for the victorious Spartans, who led 3-0 at halftime and ended the match with 17 minutes to go.

Zack Zukowski also scored a goal, while other assists went to Scott Brewer, Charlie Swingle, Alex Vrzkovski, Chris Liepa and

Alex Prokop.

Goalkeeper John Boudreau posted the shutout.

LUTH. WESTLAND 4, S'FIELD CHRISTIAN 3: On Tuesday, senior Nick Natsik's game-winning goal with only three minutes remaining gave Lutheran High Westland (2-1-1, 2-0) the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference Blue Division win at Southfield Christian (2-2, 0-2).

Kent Krzyske set up the game-winner in the see-saw encounter.

"We're starting to understand our runs and we're looking pretty good on the offensive end," Lutheran Westland coach Rich Block said. "We played some nice aerial balls. Defensively we were good in the air, but Southfield Christian was organized and caused us problems."

"We held on and I'm proud of the way my team played in general."

It was 1-all at halftime as Krzyske scored for the Warriors in the 32nd minute from Trevor Sultana, while freshman Kevin Nimmo added a penalty kick for the Eagles five minutes later.

In the second half, Jake Andrejewski gave the Warriors at 2-1 advantage just one minute into the second half. Natsik drew the assist.

In the 54th minute, freshman Ryan Hanson made it 2-all, but the Warriors regained the lead two minutes later on Krzyske's goal from Sultana.

Sophomore Eric Hamilton then scored for Southfield Christian in the 71st minute to knot the count at 3-3.



WYAA squad qualifies for state tourney

The Westland Youth Athletic Association Mustang recently went undefeated to capture the PONY North Zone section title in Commerce Township and qualify for the state tournament in Lansing. Members of the WYAA Mustangs include (bottom row, from left): Brody Eastin, Custeleus Word, Donnie Flamini, Kyle Edwards; (middle row, from left) Joe Deeter, Mitchell White, Colin Ramsey, Chris Pavlic, Danny Bullard, Trevor Smith; (top row, from left) coaches Brian Smith, Bragg Eastin, Dan Bullard, Joe Ramsey and Jason Eastin.

Crusaders topple Holy Cross, 1-0

A week after suffering its first loss of the season, the Madonna University men's soccer team put another returned

MEN'S SOCCER

to its winning ways with a 1-0 triumph Saturday over the Holy Cross College at the Indiana Invaders Complex.

Sophomore goalkeeper Parker Laabs (Canton) posted his second shutout in four matches this season, making five saves to improve to the Crusaders' overall record to 3-

1-0 overall.

MU posted the only goal of the night in the 15th minute when Mustapha Olorunnimbe (Lagos, Nigeria) went in and beat the Holy Cross keeper Damian Marciniak for his first goal of the season.

The Crusaders peppered the Saints' net with seven shots on goal.

The loss drops to the Saints to 0-2 overall.

SCHOOLCRAFT 5, LAKELAND (OHIO) 2: On Saturday, Schoolcraft College (3-1, 2-0) rallied from a pair of

deficits to beat visiting Lakeland (1-2, 2-2) in an NJCAA Region XII matchup.

Schoolcraft's Marco Lobo scored right before the half to make it 1-all.

After going down 2-1 early in the second half, the Ocelots' Doug Beason (Northville) tied it at 2-all.

Beason and Lobo would score again to make it 4-2 and sophomore Gavin Kelly put it away late with another goal.

Freshman Brent McIntosh collected two assists in the win.

Ian McDonald-Wilkins and Adrian Motta (Livonia Churchill) split time in goal.

BOYS TENNIS RESULTS

LIVONIA FRANKLIN 8 WESTLAND JOHN GLENN 1
Sept. 7 at John Glenn
No. 1 singles: Steven Payne (LF) defeated Tommy Ruark, 6-0, 6-1; No. 2: Christian Woods (LF) def. Carlo Tejada, 6-0, 6-0; No. 3: Brandon Kozyn (LF) def. Mitch Dean, 6-4, 6-0; No. 4: Tim Crouson

(LF) def. Conner Monroe, 7-6 (8-6), 6-4.
No. 1 doubles: John Vetula-Tyler Kaldobsky (LF) def. Wayne Woodard-Nick Stone, 6-0, 6-3; No. 2: Nik Hubbard-Brett Hudy (WJG) def. Brian Haupt-Connor Benson, 7-5, 6-2; No. 3: Quentin Palais-Joe Bastas (LF) def. Shane Wiechert-Chris Sabat, 6-2, 7-5; No. 4: Chase

Semonick-Jacob Liberati (LF) def. Mike Woodard-Ian Villaloman, 6-2, 6-4; No. 5: Jake Turchan-Chris Sitarski (LF) def. Charlie Messias-Ainsworth Orr, 2-6, 6-0, 6-0.

Dual match records: Franklin, 3-0 overall, 2-0 KLAA South Division; John Glenn, 0-4 overall, 0-2 KLAA South.

Crusaders mired in losing skid

It was a lost weekend for the Madonna University women's volleyball team.

The 21st-ranked Crusaders were swept in all four matches during Embury-Riddle (Fla.) Labor Day Tournament to fall 3-5 on the year and extend the program's longest losing streak to five matches (dating back to 1991).

On Saturday, Desiree Luevano had 17 kills and Whitney Bryant added 14 as Wayland Baptist (Tex) defeated MU in five games, 19-25, 25-16, 25-18, 13-25, 15-13.

Wayland Baptist (4-3) had a total of 101 kills as Tatiana Gonzalez and Kate Trejos finishes with 24 each.

Four MU players reached double figures in kills with Karie Altman and Megan Fricke getting 18 apiece. Liz Dempsey (Livonia Franklin) and Nastija Baranovska added 16 and 12, respectively.

Setter Eva Prieditis had a match-high 67 assist-to-kills,

COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL

while Amanda Koszela added 37 digs. Dempsey also finished with 31 digs.

Earlier in the day, unbeaten Lewis & Clark State (Id.) rallied from an 0-2 deficit made it eight in a row with a 22-25, 25-27, 27-25, 25-22, 15-12 win over MU.

Five Warrior players reached double figures in kills led by Dedi Alaimaleata's 14. Setters Kim Fong and Naomi Hernandez had 33 and 22 assists, respectively, for No. 15-ranked Lewis & Clark.

Altman led MU with a match-best 24 kills, while Dempsey and Fricke added 12 each. Prieditis had 28 digs, while Fricke added 18.

In Friday's opening day of the tournament presented by the National Guard in Daytona Beach, MU fell to

host Embury-Riddle, 3-0, and Oklahoma Baptist, 3-1.

MU returns to action Friday and Saturday it hosts the Julie Martin Memorial Classic.

Lady Ocelots stand 6-3

The Schoolcraft College women's volleyball team went 3-2 in last weekend's Owens Technical Community College (Ohio) Tournament.

On Friday, Schoolcraft split a pair of matches defeating host Owens, 25-18, 25-18, 25-13, before falling to Sinclair (Ohio) CC, 25-22, 25-12-, 21-25, 16-25, 6-15.

In Saturday's opener, host Kishwaukee (Ill.) defeated the Lady Ocelots, 25-23, 25-15, 25-14.

Schoolcraft rebounded with wins over Vincennes (Ind.), 25-23, 25-26, 25-18, 25-22, and Genesee (N.Y.) CC, 25-12, 25-22, 25-18.

The Lady Ocelots are 6-3 overall.

Patriot spikers edged by Harrison

Livonia Franklin's bid for its first girls volleyball win of the season was denied Tuesday by host Farmington Hills Harrison.

The host Hawks won three close sets en route to a 27-25, 25-23, 26-24 triumph over the 0-4-1 Patriots.

Amanda Borieo and Chelsea Williams were Franklin's top two attackers with 11 and eight kills, respectively.

PREP VOLLEYBALL

Kelsey Boyd, Maggie Leins, Kelly O'Brien and Nicole Williamson added four each, while setter Rachael Kapchus collected 32 assist-to-kills.

Williamson, the libero, had a team-best 25 digs. Williams added eight, while Kapchus and Sara Bo each contributed seven.

"I was pleased with the intensity and effort, especially in the third game," Franklin coach Linda Jimenez said. "We were down 11-4 and did not give up."

"Amanda Borieo played smart hitting around and off the blockers. We need to get the ball to Chelsea more in the front row and back row because she's an awesome hitter."

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Girls softball tryouts

■ Tryouts for the 2011 Livonia Wild competitive girls fastpitch softball program will be for the following age groups, all at Ford Field (Diamond No. 2): 10- and 12-and-under - 1-2:30 p.m.; and 14- and 16-and-under - 3-4:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 18.

For more information, e-mail Wild coordinator Glenn Moore at gdmoores20247@gmail.com.

■ Tryouts the 2011 Livonia Storm will be for the following age groups, at Bicentennial Park (diamonds nos. 9-10): 10- and 12-and-under - registration at 9 a.m. Saturday-Sunday, Sept. 11-12; 14-, 16- and 18-and-under - registration at 1 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Sept. 11-12; All ages (7-18) - 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 14.

For more information, call Barney Knorp at (313) 590-5979; or visit www.livoniastorm.com

■ Tryouts for the Northville Broncos, a 12-and-under girls travel softball team, will be from 5-7 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 12 and 6-7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 14 at Millennium Park.

For more information, e-mail Robert Zwarka at bob.zwarka@wcaa.us.

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- 11:45-12:30 pm Cheerleading Girls 9-12
- 12:30-2 pm Basketball
- 1-2 pm Aikido

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National Gymnastics Day

- Open Gym
- Meet the coaches
- Gymnastics Assessments

FITNESS

- Free workout with a personal trainer
- Meet the trainers

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- Open swim
- Kiddy Pool opens at noon
- Swim Assessments

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- Tennis Clinics every half hour starting at 11:00, all ages
- Meet the Pros
- Tennis Assessments

FREE GROUP FITNESS CLASSES

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10:30-11:00	Core, Total Body Sculpt
11:00-11:30	Yoga, Kettlebell
11:30-12:00	Bosu, Pilates
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1-1:30	Karate
1:30-2	Sandbag workout

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O&E Senior champion thrives with less putts

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Northville's James Mylnarczyk seems to always be tinkering with his putting stroke.

A 14-handicap, Mylnarczyk found the right formula shooting 74-74-148 to win the Observer & Eccentric Men's Open Senior title held Saturday and Sunday at Livonia's Fox Creek and Whispering Willows golf courses.

"All year-round I've struggled to find a putting grip and stance that works consistently and comfortably without any misses," Mylnarczyk, an accountant with Crain's Communications in Detroit. "I finally found one. It worked the last three days. That's how long I've had that putting stroke. So far, so good."

With his putter going, Mylnarczyk was able to distance himself from Paul Rys, who was runner-up with a 77-73-150.

"It gave me confidence around the pin," Mylnarczyk said. "That saves a lot of strokes when you're putting is on. Mine was pretty decent."

"The driver was good, but the irons kind of weak. But I kind of saved myself on some chips and putts. I got the par when I needed to."

Mylnarczyk is treasurer of the Michigan Senior Publinx Association and is a regular on

O&E MEN'S GOLF RESULTS

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC MEN'S GOLF OPEN
Sept. 4 at Fox Creek G.C.
Sept. 5 at Whispering Willows G.C.
FINAL RESULTS

Championship flight (low gross): 1. Jim Omietanski, 77-70-147 (won playoff; \$400 gift certificate); 2. Chris Kiehler, 71-76-147 (\$200 gift card); 3. Matt Lee, 80-68-148 (\$160 gift card); 4. Andrew Rousos, 72-77-149 (\$120 gift card); 5. Kirk Osler, 79-71-150; 6. Tommy Lucko, 76-75-151; 7. (tie) Thomas Morris, 79-73-152; Dave Reese, 80-72-152; Ben Proben, 74-78-152; 10. (tie) Kenny Klee, 77-76-153; Bruce West, 79-74-153; 12. Raz Boghikian, 76-79-155; 13. (tie) Adam Powers, 79-77-156; Adam Giordano, 79-77-156; Don Breen, 79-77-156; Jimmy Johnson, 80-76-156; 17. Dan Higham, 80-79-159; 18. (tie) Riley Butcher, 84-76-160; Matt Robinson, 81-79-160; 20. Jim McComb, 86-77-163; 21. (tie) Daniel Tacker, 84-81-165; Kevin Thomas, 81-84-165; 23. (tie) Jason Pelc, 87-81-168; Evan Varnas, 80-86-168; 25. Ron Ambrose, 84-85-169; 26. Kevin Robinson, 83-87-170; 27. Leon Kashawlic, 85-87-172; 28. Michael Palmer, 84-90-174; 29. Doug Harmala, 92-88-180; 30. Nicholas Griswold, 94-87-181; 31. David DeLano, 76-withdraw; 32. Walter Bills, 89-withdraw; 33. Steve Butcher, withdraw.
Low net: 1. (tie) Osler and Johnson, 140 each (\$165 gift cards each); 3. (tie) Proben and Breen, 142 (\$95 gift cards each); 5.

Higham, 143 (\$75).

First flight (low gross): 1. Tim Proben, 78-80-158 (\$165 gift card); 2. Kyle Thom, 76-86-162 (won 3-way playoff; \$125 gift card); 3. (tie) Dan Omietanski, 79-83-162; Nick Proben, 81-81-162; 5. Peter Mianowski, 84-80-164; 6. (tie) Bryan Boyd, 83-82-165; Henry Russell, 88-79-165; 8. (tie) Stephen Connolly, 87-80-167; Zoz Compagnari, 86-81-167; 10. Kevin Moreno, 86-83-169; 11. Matt O'Neill, 85-91-176; 12. Alex Estes, withdraw. **Low net:** 1. Compagnari, 141 (\$110 gift card).

Senior Division (low gross): 1. James Mylnarczyk, 74-74-148 (\$200 gift card); 2. Paul Rys, 77-73-150 (\$160 gift card); 3. Bill Himm, 79-76-155; 4. Larry Stephens, 80-77-157; 5. (tie) J.B. Brown, 77-85-162; Mark Johnson, 80-82-162; 7. (tie) Sam Williams, 85-79-164; Tom Wheeler, 80-84-164; 9. Matt Rybinski, 85-80-165; 10. (tie) Doug Fox, 85-81-166; Greg Wirth, 85-81-166; 12. (tie) Greg Meyer, 83-85-168; Larry Parker, 81-87-168; 14. Lew Jefferies, 89-80-169; 15. Gordy Harrison, 88-83-171; 16. (tie) Shane Goodhall, 90-87-177; Vince Hogrebe, 89-88-177; 18. John Smith, 89-93-182; 19. (tie) Mike Keller, 90-93-183; Jack Walsh, 94-99-193; 21. Roger Pattee, 99-97-196; 22. Rick Wheeler, 79-withdraw; 23. Kevin Brown, 91-withdraw. **Low net:** 1. Fox and Park, 138 each (\$130 gift card each); 3. Stephens, 139 (\$100 gift card); 4. T. Wheeler (\$90 gift card).

the 10-tournament circuit along with state events.

This summer he recorded one tourney win and tied for first in another.

"I had three (birdies) today," he said. "It's not unusual, but it's a good number. When I'm having a good day, three birdies is the norm."

Proben rules 1st Flight

Tim Proben of Livonia carded rounds of 78-80-158 to seize

the first flight championship crown.

Proben was four shots better than Kyle Thom (76-86-162), who captured second place after winning a three-way sudden death playoff.

The O&E Men's Open attracted a total of 68 golfers, up 23 entries from a year ago. There were 33 in the Championship Flight; 23 in the Senior Division; and 12 in the First Flight.

GOLF

FROM PAGE B1

for par.

Meanwhile, Kiehler's 15-footer to save par slid just to the left as he settled for bogey, giving Omietanski his first O&E crown since 2006.

"Today I only hit one bad tee shot," said Omietanski, who won his first O&E title in 2005. "I kept the ball in play and only missed five greens. I putted real well. I made the putts I had to make and I hit my irons as good as I've hit them all year."

Kiehler simply could not continue his momentum following a 71 on Saturday.

"I did not hit the ball good today," Kiehler said. "I hit it good yesterday. I thought the course today was fair. Yesterday

it was tougher, but things went well."

Kiehler, a regular on the Michigan Publinx circuit at Canton's Fellows Creek, had taken two weeks off prior to the O&E.

"I played a lot this summer," he said. "I had a 14-day break, but I was hungry to play golf. I played another round Saturday at Walnut Creek (Country Club)."

Meanwhile, Omietanski noted his 77 on Saturday at Fox Creek was a bit out of character.

"Saturday my score was higher than normal," he said. "I was 5-over on the par-3s. I took three penalty strokes — two unplayables along the fence — and on No. 14 — where I was in the weeds and tried to chop it out."

Just prior to the O&E, Omietanski participated in the 2010 Golf.com World Amateur

Handicap Championship in Myrtle Beach, S.C., a tournament that attracted 3,071 golfers in 68 different flights.

In four days of stroke play, Omietanski shot rounds of 73-73-77-78 in the Senior Men division (ages 50-59) for handicaps 0.6-to-4.6 where he finished seventh in his flight.

"I played nine rounds, some really nice courses," Omietanski said. "The finals of the championship round were at the TPC of Myrtle Beach."

After finishing with an 80 on Saturday, the low round of the tournament went to Matt Lee, who fired a 31 on the front nine Sunday and wound up with 68 despite taking a double-bogey 7 on the par-5, No. 16. Lee finished third with a 148 total, while Andrew Rousos placed fourth with a 72-77-149.

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SOCCER

FROM PAGE B1

Adrianna Guerrero and Lindsay McMullen (Livonia Churchill) chipped in with one apiece to provide the comfortable margin of victory.

"We came out and played very strong," Shivraman said. "Jackson is a rival and you never know about those kinds of games. We played with a little more focus and offensively things are clicking and the girls are doing a nice job of working together."

Suter registered the shut-out in goal in the first half and freshman Stacey Briebe matched that effort in the second half.

"Both these wins were important to us and I just think we're in a better position than what we were," Shivraman said. "It's just a combination of everything clicking for us right now."

ROBERTS WESLEYAN 2, MADONNA 1: In Rochester, N.Y., a pair of first-half goals held up Saturday as host Roberts Wesleyan (4-2) downed Madonna University (0-3-1) in a women's match.

The Crusaders outshot Roberts Wesleyan, 19-12, and held an 11-7

edge in shots on goal, but could not get the equalizer following a penalty kick by senior Ellen O'Rear (Madison Heights Bishop Foley) got the Crusaders on the board in the 37th minute.

Roberts Wesleyan scored in the game's third minute on an Erika Luedke goal off a pass from Kelsey Medeiros.

The Raiders made it 2-0 in the 33rd minute when Mandi Hochheimer scored to make it 2-0.

O'Rear's first goal of the season made it 2-1 and the Crusaders forced Amanda Prestigiaco to make four saves in the second half, but could not tally the equalizer.

Chelsea Gregg (Livonia Clarenceville) made five saves for MU.

TAE KWON DO

FROM PAGE B1

during a training session at Midwest just days before leaving. "... I'm looking forward to meeting new people, going to another country."

"Korea is the founder of Tae Kwon Do, and we're going to be at the Kukkiwon, which is like the headquarters."

But when the whistle blows to start competition, that's all he'll be focused on.

"I love it, I've been doing it ever since I was a little kid," Thompson said. "I like the excitement of it, I can't even explain it."

He said the magnitude of going to the Korean Open was finally starting to sink in, "but there's so much to accomplish. You still have the Olympics and Worlds and Pan-Ams."

Fairbanks is making a rapid rise in the sport, reaching international competition after just two years of competing.

"I'm really excited," Fairbanks said. "It's going to be an extremely long trip, but

I'm really excited and really pumped because I get to represent the United States."

The trip will be a challenge for her from a dietary standpoint, however.

"I'm gluten intolerant, so that will be interesting," said Kellie, with a grin. "I'll be eating lean meats, vegetables and rice, so that should be OK."

She started to make major strides as soon as she discovered Gale and Midwest Tae Kwon Do.

"This is the best school, by far, in the area," Fairbanks said. "I was with a school in Jackson and I was working with a guy in Grand Blanc for a while."

"Once I found out about this place, and started coming here, the instruction and level of athletes here is much higher."

It didn't take long for her to sharpen her technique to the point where she earned a bronze medal at nationals in Orlando, Fla.

Asked about why she thought she scored so well at nationals, Fairbanks explained that it's due to honing "the technique that Master Gale

has been working with me on, just following his directions and the amount of practice we've put in."

Meanwhile, Gale had plenty of praise for Thompson and Fairbanks, who took home two of 10 medals Midwest Tae Kwon Do athletes won at nationals — a high-profile competition in its own right, with nearly 4,000 participants.

"My whole team has done fantastic with Kellie and Steven taking the lead," Gale said. "It's been a great run for all of them. I'm very proud of them."

In fact, Gale said this year's hardware haul was bigger than that of the previous years combined.

"Steven has worked a long time to get to where he's at and Kellie's worked with us for six months," Gale said. "It's a great accomplishment for her to get to this level so quickly. This is actually her first jump into something of this magnitude."

What a jump it's become, stretching halfway around the world.

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City softball champs

D.N.R. Tree Service of Livonia recently went undefeated (17-0) to win both the City of Livonia Department of Parks and Recreation league and overall softball championships. Team members include (top row, from left): Roger Ash, Jason Piestrak, Jeff Fuller, Dave Wasil, Sr., Brett Wasil, Steve Fuller, Ryan Wasil, Sr.; (bottom row, from left) Dave Wasil, Jr., Bill Fuller, Jeff Hayes, Andy Hess and Dave West. (Not pictured are Jeff Reed, Ray Wasil, Jr. and John Szczodrowski.)

PREP GRID PICKS

Week 3

Friday, Sept. 10

Garden City (0-2) at Redford Union (0-2), 7 p.m.
 Dearborn Heights Crestwood (0-2) at Redford Thurston (1-1), 7 p.m.
 Wayne (0-2) at Plymouth (1-1), 7 p.m.
 Canton (2-0) at Livonia Franklin (2-0), 7 p.m.
 Westland John Glenn (1-1) at Livonia Churchill (1-1), 7 p.m.
 Novi (0-2) at Livonia Stevenson (1-1), 7 p.m.
 Oxford (1-1) at Farmington (2-0), 7 p.m.
 Salem (0-2) at South Lyon (0-2), 7 p.m.
 Livonia Clarenceville (2-0) at Macomb Lutheran North (2-0), 7 p.m.
 Farmington Harrison (2-0) at Rochester Stoney Creek (0-2), 7 p.m.
 North Farmington (1-1) at Hazel Park (2-0), 7 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 11

Sterling Heights Parkway Christian (2-0) at Lutheran Westland (0-2), 1 p.m.
 Plymouth Christian (0-2) at Oregon (Ohio) Cardinal Stritch (0-2), 2:30 p.m.

Last week

Overall

Brad Emons

Union
 Thurston
 Plymouth
 Canton
 John Glenn
 Stevenson
 Farmington
 South Lyon
 Lutheran North
 Harrison
 Hazel Park

Parkway
 Cardinal Stritch
13-4 (.765)
27-5 (.844)

Dan O'Meara

Union
 Thurston
 Plymouth
 Canton
 John Glenn
 Stevenson
 Farmington
 Salem
 Lutheran North
 Harrison
 Hazel Park

Parkway
 Cardinal Stritch
15-2 (.882)
28-4 (.875)

Tim Smith

Union
 Thurston
 Plymouth
 Canton
 John Glenn
 Stevenson
 Farmington
 Salem
 Clarenceville
 Harrison
 North Farmington

Parkway
 Cardinal Stritch
7-10 (.412)
17-15 (.531)

Jim Toth

Garden City
 Thurston
 Plymouth
 Canton
 Churchill
 Stevenson
 Farmington
 Salem
 Lutheran North
 Harrison
 Hazel Park

Parkway
 Cardinal Stritch
12-5 (.706)
23-9 (.719)

THE WEEK AHEAD

PREP FOOTBALL

Friday, Sept. 10

John Glenn at Churchill, 7 p.m.
 Canton at Franklin, 7 p.m.
 Novi at Stevenson, 7 p.m.
 Wayne at Plymouth, 7 p.m.
 Clarenceville at Luth. North, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 11

Parkway Christian at Luth. Westland, 1 p.m.

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

Thursday, Sept. 9

Southfield at Clarenceville, 6:30 p.m.

Oak. Christian at Luth. Westland, 6:30 p.m.

Friday, Sept. 10

Liggett at Huron Valley, 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 11

Grand Blanc Invitational, 8:30 a.m.

UM-Dearborn Invitational, 9 a.m.

Lakeland Invitational, 9 a.m.

A.A. Skyline Invitational, TBA.

BOYS SOCCER

Thursday, Sept. 9

Canton at Wayne, 4 p.m.

John Glenn at Franklin, 7 p.m.

Novi at Stevenson, 7 p.m.

Friday, Sept. 10

Franklin at Garden City, 4 p.m.

Clarenceville at O.L. St. Mary, 4:30 p.m.

Luth. Westland at Oak. Christian, 4:30 p.m.

Huron Valley at Ypsi Calvary, 4:30 p.m.

BOYS & GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY

Thursday, Sept. 9

Garden City at Wayne (Flats), 4:30 p.m.

Annapolis vs. Luth. Westland

at Nankin Mills, 4:30 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 11

KLAA Inv. at Willow Metropark, 9:45 a.m.

GIRLS SWIMMING & DIVING

Thursday, Sept. 9

Churchill at Northville, 6:30 p.m.

GIRLS GOLF

Thursday, Sept. 9

Livonia Public Schools Tourney

at Fox Creek G.C., 3 p.m.

John Glenn vs. Belleville

at Fellows Creek, 3 p.m.

Ladywood vs. Lutheran North

at Cracklewood G.C., 3 p.m.

Friday, Sept. 10

Churchill vs. Canton

at Whispering Willows, 3 p.m.

Franklin vs. Port Huron

at Idyl Wyld G.C., 3 p.m.

Stevenson vs. Salem

at Fox Hills G.C., 3 p.m.

Wayne vs. John Glenn

at Fellows Creek, 3 p.m.

BOYS TENNIS

Thursday, Sept. 9

Wayne at Churchill, 4 p.m.

Franklin at Plymouth, 4 p.m.

S.L. East at Stevenson, 4 p.m.

John Glenn at Canton, 4 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 11

Monroe Invitational, TBA.

GIRLS FIELD HOCKEY

Thursday, Sept. 9

Ladywood at Warren Regina, 4:30 p.m.

WOMEN'S COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL

Thursday, Sept. 9

Schoolcraft at Flint Mott CC, 7 p.m.

Friday, Sept. 10

(Julie Martin Mem. Classic at Madonna)

Madonna vs. Davenport, 3 p.m.

Madonna vs. Rochester College, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 11

(Julie Martin Mem. Classic at Madonna)

Madonna vs. Univ. of Windsor, 9:30 a.m.

Madonna vs. UM-Dearborn, 1:30 p.m.

MEN'S COLLEGE SOCCER

Saturday, Sept. 11

Madonna at Rochester College, 2 p.m.

WOMEN'S COLLEGE SOCCER

Saturday, Sept. 11

Schoolcraft at Albion College, noon.

Sunday, Sept. 12

Schoolcraft at Adrian College, 4 p.m.

WOMEN'S & MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

Saturday, Sept. 11

Titan Inv. at Cass Benton Park, 9:45 a.m.

TBA - time to be announced.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Westland Fun Start Tennis

Fun Start Tennis will offer two fall sessions at Bailey Recreation Center, located at 36651 Ford Road, Westland.

The Intro to Tennis Pre-school classes (ages 4-5) will be from 5:15-5:45 p.m. Wednesdays (cost \$40), Sept. 15-Oct. 20; while the Intro to Tennis classes (ages 6-10) will be from 5:50-6:45 p.m. Wednesdays, Sept. 15-Oct. 20 (cost \$75).

For more information, call Chris Haddad at (734) 591-0487 or Karen Buddenborg at (734) 464-0279.

You can also visit www.fun-starttennis.com.

St. Mary Mercy 5K

Registration continues for the fourth annual St. Mary

Mercy Hospital Embrace Life 5-kilometer run-walk for Cancer on Sunday, Sept. 12.

The race begins at 9 a.m. on the hospital grounds, located at Five Mile and Levan roads. The cost is \$27.

Awards will go to the first-, second- and third-place overall male and female finisher in each 5K age division.

There will also be a community open house from 10 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. offering music, games, food and health screenings.

You can register at Active.com or by visiting stmary-mercy.org.

Baseball evaluations

The 9-and-under Livonia Travel baseball team will be staging an evaluation session to complete its roster from

1-3 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 12 at Bicentennial Park (field No. 7). Arrive 30 minutes early to register.

For more information, e-mail coach Aaron Rumberger at ccrumberger@yahoo.com.

The Westland Youth Athletic Association will hold its 13-and-under tournament team evaluations at 6:30 p.m. Monday, Sept. 13 at Westland's Jaycee Park.

For more information, call Greg Hovermale at (734) 721-0098; or e-mail hovemale@sbcglobal.net.

CYO soccer signup

St. Edith Parish in Livonia is accepting soccer registrations for boys and girls who are entering grades 4-8 this fall.

The season starts after Labor Day and the teams play against

other local Catholic teams. Parishioners of the following are eligible to participate; St. Edith, St. Colette's, St. Aidan's, St. Kenneth and St. Maurice.

To register, call Ron Wollenweber at (248) 888-7629; or visit stedithcyo.com.

Wayne-Westland Soccer

The Wayne-Westland Soccer League still has openings for the following age-group fall teams on a first-come, first-serve basis:

Under-6 (co-ed), under-11 (boys), under-12 (girls), under-12 (boys), under-13 (girls), under-13 (boys), under-14 (boys), under-15 (boys) and high school open (girls).

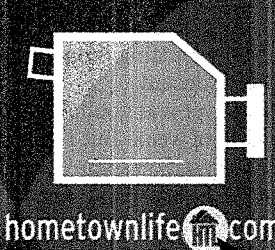
For more information, call (734) 467-5260; or visit www.wslsoccer.com.

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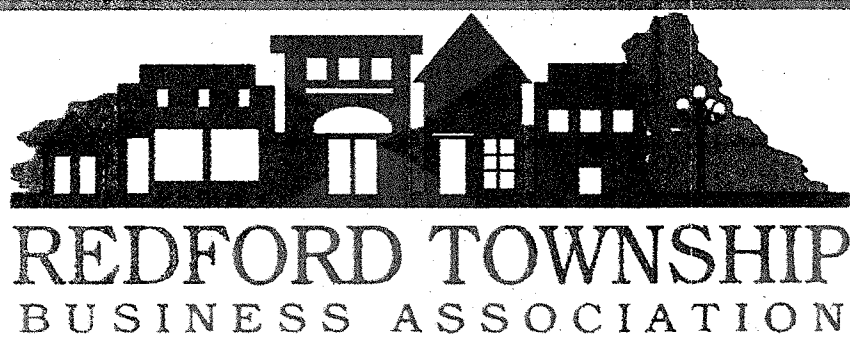


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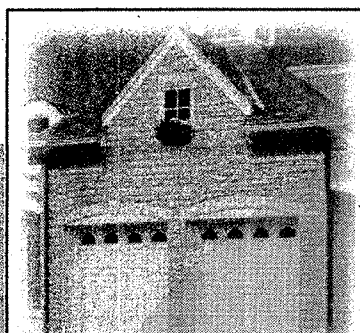


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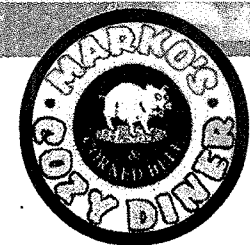
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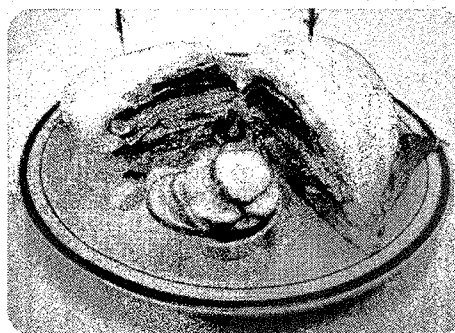
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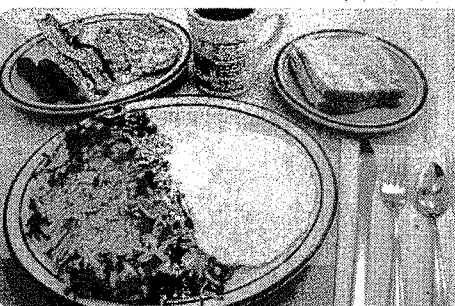
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Partnership provides free HOPE clinic

A partnership with Oakwood Healthcare to bring free medical care to the community just earned some additional staying power.

The HOPE clinic in Wayne - where volunteer physicians and nurses from Oakwood Healthcare Inc. provide care to people who wouldn't otherwise be able to afford it - is now a permanent fixture in the community.

Staff, volunteers and city officials recently cut the ribbon on the new space on Chestnut Street and Wayne Road. The new clinic is twice as large as their previous one, which was located in the lower level of the Lighthouse Ministry Church on Wayne Road. The new clinic was funded through two grants - one to purchase the building and one to renovate it - and will allow volunteer health care professionals to see additional patients.

"We've been wanting to do this for some time now," said Mary Dekker, clinic coordinator of the Wayne HOPE clinic.

The HOPE clinic provides medical and dental care, along with social services to patients who do not have health insurance or couldn't otherwise afford to seek medical care. The clinic was founded 25 years ago in Ypsilanti. With assistance from Oakwood Healthcare, the HOPE clinic



Joanne McKay (left) and Diane Hartley, director of Patient Care Services at Oakwood Annapolis Hospital, are two of the Oakwood Healthcare Inc. employees who volunteer at the HOPE clinic in Wayne.

first opened a satellite office in the City of Wayne about three years ago. It grew out of a trend that Dekker said organizers of the clinic saw at the Ypsilanti facility.

"We saw a lot of our client base coming from Wayne County," said Dekker. "There weren't a lot of options for them in western Wayne County."

The new clinic has four examination rooms - compared to two at the Lighthouse Ministry building. In addition to the medical and dental services, the Wayne Clinic

offers nutritional and diabetic counseling. Those who want to take advantages of the services there should walk-in on a Saturday morning for an initial screening. Appointments can be set up after that.

The Wayne clinic only has two part-time staff members. Everyone else is a volunteer. The clinic works with volunteer physicians and nursing staff from the Oakwood Healthcare System and is also supported in part through in-kind donations from the Oakwood.

"Anytime we have anything



City officials, staff and volunteers celebrated the recent opening of the new HOPE Clinic in Wayne.

we need, Oakwood has been there," said Dekker. "It's great."

Lisa Rutledge, corporate director for Community Outreach for OHI, said the partnership is an important one for Oakwood.

"Oakwood believes that patients come first, and has some key partners in our community to assist people to

access primary health care," she said. "We are proud to help HOPE clinic offer free medical care at their Wayne clinic."

The clinic has also joined the Oakwood Circles of Care group in western Wayne County, a group of faith based clergy and leaders who work with people in the health care and social services industries to help

improve the health and well being of people in their congregations and their communities.

The Wayne Hope Clinic is at 35080 Chestnut St., just north of Glenwood. For more information, call (734) 710-6688 or visit www.thehopeclinic.org. For more information on Oakwood Healthcare, go online to www.oakwood.org.

MILESTONES

Coffee Break

Time/Date: 5:30-9 a.m. Fridays, now through Nov. 3

Details: Tune in to the Paul W. Smith Show weekdays from on News/Talk 760 WJR to find out how your can enjoy your Friday morning coffee on BIGGBY COFFEE and WJRI Each Friday morning now through Nov. 3, Paul W. will be announcing a specific BIGGBY COFFEE location where 100 lucky listeners will receive a free drink of their choice! This offer is only valid on Fridays and at a different BIGGBY COFFEE location each week, so make sure to tune in.

Contact: For more information, visit www.WJR.com.

Free classes

Time/Date: Beginning Sept. 15

Location: Bailey Recreation Center in Westland, the Maplewood Community Center and Garden City High School in Garden City and the Northwest YWCA in Redford.

Details: Elements of Exercise is offering free fitness classes, open to all residents and beginning Sept. 15. There's no obligation, just an invitation to enjoy some fun and fitness. The free classes included Zumba 7-8 p.m. Wednesday, Sept.

15, and Yoga/Pilates Fusion 7:30-8:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 16, at the Bailey Center; Zumba 7:30-8:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 16, and Zumba Gold 9:30-10:30 a.m. Monday, Sept. 20, at Maplewood Center; Zumba 6-7 p.m. and Aqua Zumba 7:15-8 p.m., both Tuesday, Oct. 5, at Garden City High School, and Hip Hop Hustle 6-7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 23, at the Northwest YWCA.

Contact: For information, call (888) 363-3635 or visit elementsofexercise.com.

Dinner Theater

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Saturdays, Sept. 11-Dec. 18

Location: Hawthorne Valley Country Club, 7300 Merriman, north of Warren Road, Westland

Details: Cinema legend Doreen Lewis is about to make her Broadway debut opposite her ardent admirer Paul Burnside, when she intercepts a phone call for her dresser, confirming that "Mrs. Lewis" is pregnant. Shocked to learn of "her" condition and thinking Paul wants her ousted from the show via her contract's moral clause, she wears her mink on stage knowing Paul fur-allergy will reduce his

dialogues to sneezes. The producer, a shrieking neurosthenic who fears his backer Nunzio will machine gun his knees if the show flops, is terrified, and the Bavarian playwright is reduced to sobbing uncontrollably as his beautiful play goes to the dogs. A loony resolution caps the evening of non-stop guffaws in "Star on the Door." Cocktails are at 6 p.m. (cash bar), dinner at 7 p.m. The show immediate follows dinner. Cost is \$31.95 and includes choice of entree, soup, salad and dessert with show, taxes and gratuity. Payment due at time of reservation.

Contact: For more information, call (734) 422-3440.

Support a Great Cause

Time/Date: 7:05 p.m. Friday, Oct. 1

Location: Compuware Arena, 14900 N. Beck, Plymouth

Details: Tech Tool Supply of Plymouth has a goal of selling 3,000 tickets to Plymouth Whalers-Saginaw Spirit game Oct. 1 to raise money for Camp Quality Michigan. For each \$11 ticket sold, \$4 will go directly to Camp Quality Michigan for children with cancer and their families. In addition to selling 3,000 tickets, Tech Tool Supply

also plans to raise an additional \$3,000 through donations and the 50/50 raffle to give Camp Quality a \$15,000. The fund-raiser is in observance of Tech Tool Supply's

sixth anniversary on Oct. 4. Tickets must be ordered by Sept. 24 and are based on availability.

Contact: Tickets for this event can only be purchased from Tech Tool

Supply by calling (877) 208-6657, by sending a check to Tech Tool Supply, Attn: Rebecca Gillespie, 9060 General Dr., Plymouth, MI 48170 or online at www.TechToolSupply.com.

BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS

New staff members

Garden City Hospital's medical staff is growing. Now with more than 360 physicians in 47 specialties able to serve the community, Garden City Hospital has become a leader in providing quality healthcare and service to patients, visitors and staff.

Joining the medical staff are:

- Dr. Samer Ali, Internal Medicine, with offices at 8060 Merriman, Westland.

- Dr. Johnathan R. Grant, Internal Medicine, with offices at 6245 Inkster Road, Garden City.

- Dr. Danny T. Kewson, Ear, Nose and Throat, with offices at 2421 Monroe, Suite 201, Dearborn.

- Dr. Roger S. Toma, Ear, Nose and Throat, with offices at 2021 Monroe, Dearborn.

- Dr. Larry H. Wexler, Podiatry, with offices at 33566 W. 8 Mile Road, Suite C, Farmington.

For more information or to make an appointment with one of Garden City Hospital's new or existing physicians, contact the Physician Referral service

at (877) 717-WELL or visit www.gchosp.org.

Attends convention

Westland resident Natalie Thurmond recently joined thousands of entrepreneurs at the 2010 Shaklee Global Conference in Anaheim, Calif. At the event, Shaklee Corporation announced that it has surpassed \$5 billion in commissions paid to its more than 1.2 million Shaklee Family Members worldwide.

"Shaklee's mission is to create the best natural health products and market them through a business model that gives people the opportunity to achieve the dream of owning their own business and controlling their financial future," said Shaklee CEO Roger Barnett. "This commission milestone is a tribute to the tens of thousands of distributors around the world who have found success in their own independent business with Shaklee."

The company also announced a new Car Incentive Program which will allow distributors to qualify for car bonuses that can be used to

pay for a lease or purchase of a brand new car, with extra incentives for those who lease or purchase hybrid vehicles.

"Shaklee's new rewards and compensation program perfectly aligns with our values by creating new opportunities for distributors to grow their business with tangible lifestyle and financial incentives," said Barnett. "This program will also allow our distributors to touch more people and share the Shaklee opportunity of doing well by doing good. That's a powerful thing."

Founded in 1956, Shaklee Corporation is the number one natural nutrition company in the United States. With more than 1.2 million members and distributors around the globe, Shaklee currently operates in the U.S., Mexico, Canada, Japan, Malaysia, Taiwan, and China.

In 2000, Shaklee became the first company in the world to be Climate Neutral™ certified to totally offset its CO2 emissions, resulting in a net-zero impact on the environment. For information about Shaklee, visit www.shaklee.com.

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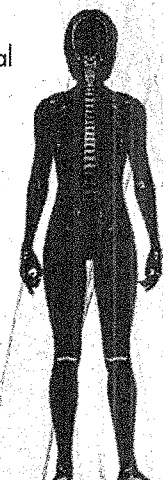
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Fall fun returns to annual Plymouth festival

Cars, crafts, food and carnival fun will take center stage in downtown Plymouth this weekend, Sept. 10-12, for the 55th annual Plymouth Community Fall Festival.

The festival will run noon to 11 p.m. Friday; 7 a.m.-11 p.m. Saturday; and 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sunday.

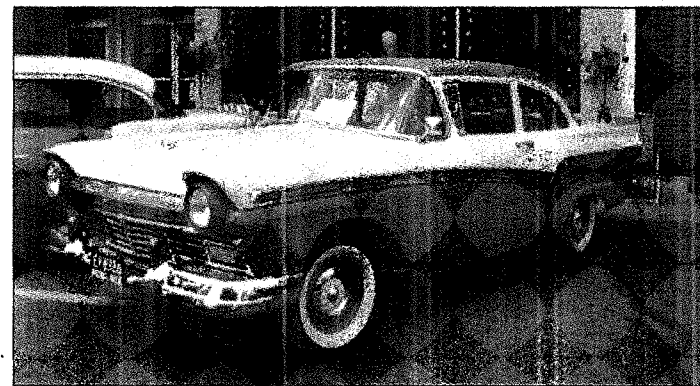
What started as a community picnic and chicken barbecue during the 1950s has evolved into a food and fun fest that not only offers barbecue, but breakfast, lunch and spaghetti dinner as well.

Taste Fest kicks off the weekend activities from 6-8 p.m. Friday, at Station 885, 885 Starkweather. Advance tickets are \$15 and available at Station 885 or the Chamber of Commerce Office, 850 W. Ann Arbor Trail. They'll be available until 5 p.m. Friday at the ticket booth at Main and Penniman. Ticket-holders will have a chance to sample foods from more than 30 restaurants. Beverages will be available for purchase. The Wile E. Coyote Band will perform at the Taste Fest Stage.

The Kiwanis Club will serve its annual pancake breakfast



Youngsters take a train ride at the carnival during Plymouth Community Fall Festival.



Visitors will find vintage and antique cars on display at the Plymouth Community Fall Festival.



Carnival games offer chances to win prizes at the Plymouth Community Fall Festival.



Families enjoy a pancake breakfast served by the Kiwanis Club.

from 7-11:30 a.m. Saturday, under the Gathering, across from Kellogg park. Tickets are \$6 in advance and \$7 at the

door. Children, 5 and under eat for free. Get tickets from Jim Grutza at (734) 216-2858. Or buy them at the festival at the ticket booth at Main and Penniman.

Can't decide between spaghetti or chicken? Try both. AM Rotary Club will serve pasta from 4-8 p.m., Saturday, at the northeast corner of Kellogg Park. Tickets are \$8 in advance and \$9 at the door; \$4 for kids, 1-12. Children under 2 eat for free. Call Rotary past-president Kate Rosevear at (734) 455-5810 for tickets or more information. Spaghetti is carry out or eat in.

The Rotary Club's Annual Chicken BBQ runs 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday in Kellogg Park and includes a half chicken, corn-on-the-cob, roll with butter, pop and a cookie for \$10 in advance or \$12 at the door. Advance tickets are available at Horton Plumbing, 1382

W. Main, Plymouth. Rotary ticket booths will be located at Ann Arbor Trail and Main or Penniman and Main.

After eating your way through the festival, try walking off the calories through the festival craft show on Union Street, between Ann Arbor Trail and Roe. Hours are noon-dusk, Friday, 9 a.m.-dusk Saturday, and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday. Take a spin on a carnival ride or browse through antique cars on display Saturday-Sunday.

The Kellogg Park entertainment stage will offer music all weekend, starting with Parker Welling on Friday, The Randy Brock Group and The Crutches on Saturday, and Double Cross Band on Sunday. Other entertainment includes an Optimist Club pet show, dance performances, and martial arts demonstrations.

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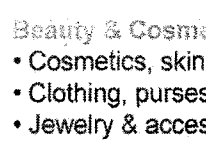
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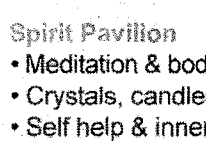
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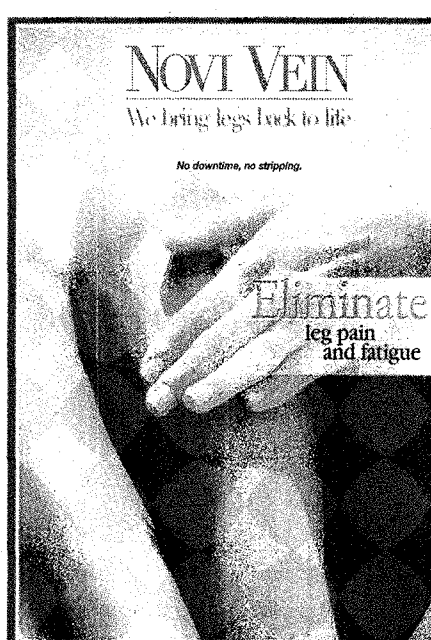


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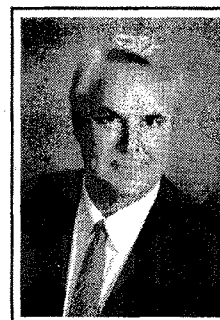
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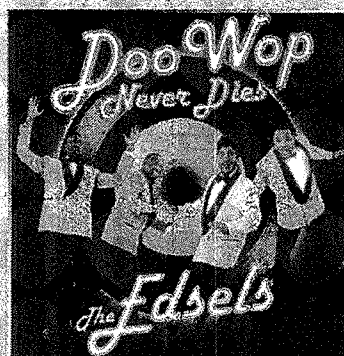
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Luncheon program is to 'dye' for

BY SHARON DARGAY
O&E STAFF WRITER

Look at a Marilyn Prucka quilt and you almost can see river eddies and ordered corn rows in the dyed, embroidered and burned patterns.

Take a whiff during the dye process and you can smell the landscape that inspires her work.

"The batting underneath is dyed with walnut hulls from walnut trees that grow along the river. When you boil the hulls ... it smells so earthy and wonderful," said Prucka, explaining the coloring process used on three quilts in her mudflats series.

Three pieces from the series, as well as 14 other quilts are on display this month at Plymouth Community Arts Council (PCAC). An artist reception for the exhibit will be held 6-8 p.m., Sept. 24 at the PCAC's JoAnne Winkelman Hulce Center for the Arts, 774 Sheldon, Plymouth. Prucka also is the guest speaker at the Council's Art Lunch, 11:45 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 15. The program includes a gourmet box lunch and Prucka's presentation, "Not Afraid to Dye," about her fiber art, creativity and process. Tickets for the luncheon are \$15.

Pat Adams, a member of the lunch committee who also handles exhibits, said PCAC offered two previous luncheons, one in December 2009 and one in May.

"They used to do them in the olden days here and then they got away from it," Adams said. "And the exhibits went away. We restarted those a year ago. There was a lot of interest in the luncheon and speakers and we decided to re-start them."

She said the first two luncheons sold out, drawing more than 50 participants. Monthly exhibits have included a variety of art styles and media.

"We're trying to offer different kinds of art. We go from watercolor to oil to woodcut to pastels. We haven't done a quilt exhibit since January," Adams said, adding that Prucka's work was recommended for display.

INSPIRED BY WATER

Prucka was volunteering as a docent at the Riverside Art Center in Ypsilanti when a PCAC member asked her to speak at Art Lunch. Prucka agreed to waive her usual speaker's fee in exchange for a quilt exhibit at the center.

"I'm tweaking it a bit," she said Tuesday, while hanging a few additional pieces for the show. "My inspiration has always been from the Raisin River. My studio is on the river. I take inspiration from the landscape. My studio is in a very rural area. I have a huge field across the road."

The Monroe artist combines river and land in many of her works, include a series of mini quilts called "River Meets Land."

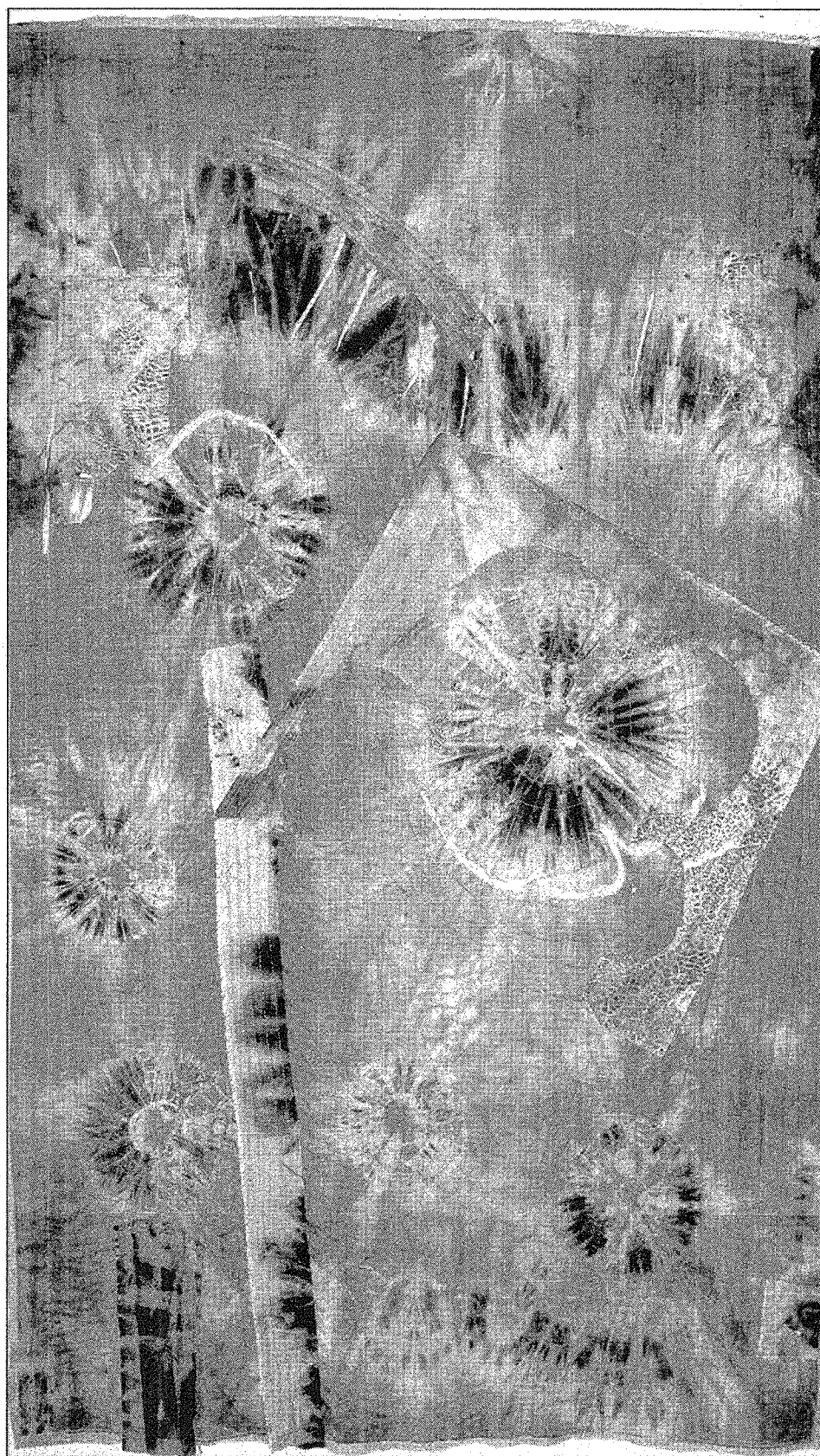
She uses a variety of methods, including dye, bleaching, painting, needlework and a technique that burns cotton fabric to produce her images.

A former hospital emergency room nurse, Prucka, took community college art classes before studying printmaking at the University of Toledo, where she earned a bachelor's degree. She switched to fiber arts for her master's degree at Eastern Michigan University.

"During course work on printmaking, a friend urged me to take an elective class called dyes and fibers. It totally changed my life."

Prucka said she works on art every day, whether weaving, quilting, or crocheting.

"It's something I love to do and I do it every day. I crave it," she said.



Fiber art by Marilyn Prucka is on display through September at the Plymouth Community Arts Council.

Westland theater offers youth classes

Inspire Theatre will register children and teens Saturday, Sept. 11, for its new Inspire School of Theatre Arts.

Registration for children, 7-16, runs 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 33445 Warren Road, Westland.

Students will learn about work on stage as well as behind the scenes. Study topics will include stage directions, finding your voice, understanding how to act, and working with others. Cost is \$20 weekly. A \$50 discount is available for full payment at registration.

Inspire Theatre began in 2005 and has produced such plays as the *Wizard of Oz*, *Father of the Bride*, *It's a Wonderful Life*, and many original productions, most written by Inspire Theatre founder Len Fisher. Fisher, who majored in theatre at Youngstown State and holds a degree from North Central University, has been involved in theatre most of his adult life. He has acted, produced, written, and directed more than 50 productions and has directed children and adults both professionally and on the community level.

Most Inspire Theatre productions have included children but the classes are the theater's first venture solely for children.

Classes will begin Saturday Sept. 18 and run for 10 weeks, concluding with a Christmas production, *Charlie Brown's Christmas*.

Inspire Theatre will offer classes for homeschoolers on Tuesdays beginning Sept. 21. Registration will run 1-3 p.m., Tuesday Sept. 14.

Class size is limited to 25. For more information e-mail Fisher at inspire@inspiretheatre.com or call (734) 751-7057.

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High Holy Days focus on responsibility, repentance

Jews mark Rosh Hashana, Yom Kippur or Day of Atonement

BY SHARON DARGAY
O&E STAFF WRITER

Members of the metro area Jewish community will gather together today, Sept. 9 to celebrate Rosh Hashana, the beginning of the new year and start of High Holy Days that end Sept. 18 with Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement.

According to the Jewish Community Relations Council in Bloomfield Hills, worshippers will pray for peace in Israel and Jerusalem, security for the Jewish State, successful peace negotiations to bring Israelis and Palestinians together and a diminished threat of terrorism from such groups such as Hamas and Hezbollah.

But at Congregation Bet Chaverim in Canton, members will hear a message that resonates closer to home.

"The central message of High Holy Days is personal responsibility," said Rabbi Peter Gluck. "I will talk on how each of us needs to take better care of ourselves and families and to make small changes we are capable of making. I can't make international peace, but I can do better with family, friends, the work place."

"For me, the message (of High Holy Days) is that while there are global issues going on, that many people feel are beyond control, let us remember that our personal lives are what God asks us to take care of."

That includes eating better, exercising, avoiding excess, being responsible, being kind to others, organizing the day to accomplish important tasks, responding to others with love rather than anger, maintaining a positive outlook and giving thanks.

"Peace can come, but it starts with our own homes and friends and then we let that ripple out to the world," Gluck said. "If you look at the theme of Yom Kippur, the whole point is to start with yourself and assume personal responsibility in the part of

the world you live in, in every day life. If everyone did that you wouldn't have to worry about the world. The message is that in the flow of events, to show consideration and kindness and not just talk about it."

COLLABORATIVE EFFORT

Bet Chaverim's relationship with Cherry Hill United Methodist Church is a living example of peaceful coexistence, mutual respect and care.

The congregation began using a portion of the church for services 14 years ago. Through the years the Christian and Jewish congregations have collaborated on church maintenance tasks and on an occasional joint education program. They invite each other to their services every year, including Sukkot, the harvest celebration of thanksgiving held a few days after Yom Kippur.

Families and congregations, like Bet Chaverim, build a sukkah — a hut or booth — made of boards and covered by a roof of branches and leaves at the holiday. The improvised structure is a reminder of the temporary dwellings used by the Israelites during their wandering through the desert.

Bet Chaverim will invite Cherry Hill United Methodist Church to help decorate the sukkah and give thanks together.

"We celebrate together as mutually caring communities. We have different pathways to God but the common values are there," Gluck said.

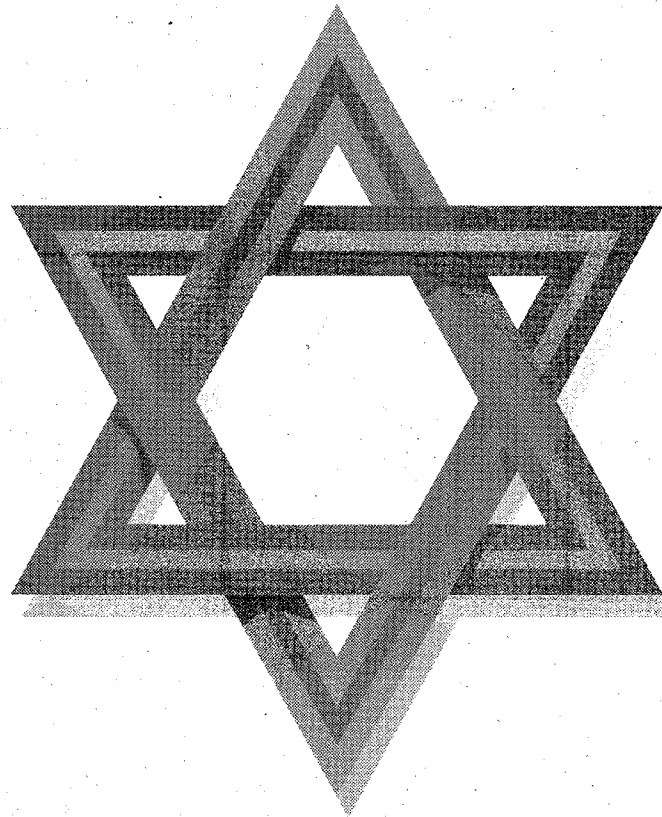
"It's a wonderful example of what can be when people take charge and relate and are responsible and live what they are teaching."

Rosh Hashana morning service at Bet Chaverim is 10 a.m. Sept. 9; Yom Kippur services are 7 p.m. Sept. 17 and 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Sept. 18. The Sukkot celebration is Sept. 26. It's located at 321 Ridge Road Canton.



ARCHIVE PHOTO

Members of Congregation Bet Chaverim in Canton celebrate Sukkot. The harvest holiday follows the High Holy Days, which start with Rosh Hashana and end with Yom Kippur.



Bet Chaverim's relationship with Cherry Hill United Methodist Church is a living example of peaceful coexistence, mutual respect and care. The congregation began using a portion of the church for services 14 years ago. Through the years the Christian and Jewish congregations have collaborated on church maintenance tasks and on an occasional joint education program. They invite each other to their services every year, including Sukkot, the harvest celebration of thanksgiving held a few days after Yom Kippur.

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Religion calendar items appear on Thursdays on a space available basis. To submit an item, e-mail sdargay@hometownlife.com or write: Religion Calendar, Observer Newspapers, 615 W. Lafayette-2nd Level, Detroit, MI 48226. Attn: Sharon Dargay. Item must include the venue address and phone number and any admission costs for events. Items must be submitted at least a week in advance of publication. Feel free to send a related photo in jpg form.

SEPT. 9-15

Detroit Lutheran Singers

Time/Date: Auditions by appointment only; rehearsals 7:30-9:30 p.m., Mondays, beginning Sept. 13
Location: Westminster Church, on west Outer Drive, east of Greenfield in Detroit

Details: The group plans auditions and will begin preparing for its fall concerts

Contact: To schedule an audition, call (248) 644-1091 or e-mail to rightlady@comcast.net

Grief Share

Time/Date: 6-8 p.m., Sundays, beginning Sept. 12

Location: Faith Community Church, 14560 Merriman, Livonia

Details: This 13-week seminar features practical suggestions and reassurance through video interviews with counselors, grief experts and others who have experienced the loss of a loved one. "The Effects of Grief," "Your Family and Grief," and "Stuck in Grief" are just three of the topics that will be discussed. Workbooks will be provided. There is no charge for the program, but a \$15 donation is suggested to help cover costs.

Picnic

Time/Date: 10 a.m. Bible class, 11 a.m. worship, followed by picnic, Sunday, Sept. 12

Location: Livonia Church of Christ, 15431 Merriman, Livonia

Details: Bounce House for the kids and other children's activities as well as lots of food

Contact: (734) 427-8743

Prayer service

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 6:45 p.m., silent prayer vigil; 7-8 p.m., prayer service; Thursday, Sept. 9

Location: 28660 Five Mile, Livonia

Details: Unity World Day of Prayer involves people of all faiths joining in prayer for the health and well-being of the world, as well as for one another.

Contact: (734) 421-1760; www.unityoflivonia.org

Rediscovering Catholicism

Time/Date: 9:30-11:30 a.m., Mondays, Sept. 13-Oct. 18

Location: St. Aidan, 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia

Details: Discussion of Matthew Kelly's book, "Rediscovering Catholicism." Participants will follow the author's study guide of questions for reflection, as the group reads selected passages of the book. A limited number of free books are available. Participants can pick one up from the church office when they register for the discussion group.

Contact: Register by calling Nancy at (734) 591-9164, or e-mail to nnau-jokas@hotmail.com

Schedule change

Time/Date: Sunday morning Eucharist is at 8:30 a.m. (non-singing) and 10:30 a.m. (singing). Sunday School for adults and children is 9:30 a.m.

Location: Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit, 9083 Newburgh, Livonia
Details: The church resumes its regular worship schedule on Sept. 13. A new priest, the Rev. Wayne Knockel, will start the regular service schedule.

Contact: (734) 591-0211

Sunday school

Time/Date: 9:30 a.m. worship; 10:30 a.m. Sunday school, Sunday, Sept. 12

Location: Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 37775 Palmer, just west of Newburgh in Westland

Details: Music, crafts, games and fun kicks off the new season of Sunday school. Activities are designed for kids age 3 through fifth grade, but Sunday school is offered to individuals of all ages who are curious about God and Jesus' teachings; no prior experience necessary. An additional activity is designed for young adults and adults

Contact: (734) 722-1735

SEPT. 16-30

Breakfast

Time/Date: 8:30 a.m. to noon, Sunday, Sept. 19

Location: St. Theodore Social Hall, 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland

Details: All you can eat pancake and French toast breakfast includes ham, sausage, scrambled eggs, applesauce, tea, coffee, milk, juice; \$3 adults; \$1.50 children, ages 2-10. Sponsored by St. Theodore Men's Club

Contact: (734) 425-4421

Drug, alcohol talk

Time/Date: 7 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 30

Location: St. Joseph Parish multi-purpose room, 830 S. Lafayette, South Lyon

Details: Alcohol and drug discussion is designed for abusers, family members, anyone interested in the topic. Theresa Lilly, author of "Addiction of a Loved One," and James Balmer, president of Dawn Farms in Ypsilanti, are the speakers. There will be time for questions and answers and refreshments will be served

Contact: (248) 349-3127

ONGOING

AWANA

Time/Date: 6:30-8 p.m.,

Wednesdays

Location: Faith Bible Church, 23414 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills
Details: AWANA program for children from kindergarten through fifth grade

Contact: (248) 426-0096

Classes/study

Emmanuel Lutheran Church

Time/Date: 7-8 p.m., second Monday of the month

Location: 34567 Seven Mile, between Farmington and Newburgh roads, Livonia

Details: Open Arms Bible class for adults with developmental disabilities and special needs. Includes songs, Bible lessons, crafts and activities, prayer, snacks and fun.
Contact: Judy Cook at Emmanuel, (248) 442-8822 or e-mail to jcook59@att.net.

Livonia Unity

Time/Date: Monday movement Qigong, 7-8:30 p.m.; Thursday Qigong meditation, 10-11:15 a.m., and Friday Therapeutic Qigong, 7-8:30 p.m.

Location: 28660 Five Mile, Livonia
Details: Learn Qigong, the ancient form of Chinese energetic medicine — a safe and effective way to rid the body of toxic pathogens and years of painful emotions

Contact: (810) 813-4073 or gary@energeticarts.org.

Men's Bible study

Time/Date: Breakfast at 7 a.m. and study at 8 p.m.

Location: Kirby's Coney Island, 21200 Haggerty, Northville Township
Contact: John Shulenberg at (734) 464-9491

New Life Community Church

Time/Date: Jobs seminar, 8-9 a.m., Fridays; reading program for students in grades K-12 and martial arts instruction, both at 10 a.m., Sundays

Location: 42200 Tyler, Belleville
Contact: (734) 846-4615 for information

Nicole's Revival

Time/Date: 9 a.m., Monday-Friday
Location:YWCA Northwest Branch, 25940 Grand River, west of Beech Daly, Redford

Details: Scripture reading
Contact: (313) 531-1234

Our Lady of Loretto

Time/Date: 6:30-7:30 p.m. Monday
Location: Six Mile and Beech Daly, Redford

Details: Scripture study
Contact: (313) 534-9000

St. Andrew's Presbyterian

Time/Date: 10:30 a.m., Wednesday and 10:30 a.m. Thursday

Location: 26701 Joy
Details: Wednesday study/discussion group focuses on relationship with God and that of other religious groups and philosophical and scientific issues that might impact faith.

Thursday group examines early writings not included in the Bible as well as other versions, extensions and controversies concerning Christianity. Led by interim pastor Larry Hoxey
Contact: (313) 274-3820

Ward Presbyterian

Time/Date: 7 p.m., Mondays
Location: Room A101, 40000 W. Six Mile, Northville

Details: Learner's Bible study is held

Contact: (248) 374-5920

Clothing bank

Canton Christian Fellowship

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., fourth Saturday and 5-6:30 p.m., second Wednesday

Location: 41711 Joy, between Lilley and Haggerty

Details: Canton Christian Fellowship Clothing Bank offers free clothing (men, women and children) for those in need

Contact: (734) 404-2480, visit www.CantonCF.org or send e-mail to info@cantoncf.org

Crafters wanted

First United Methodist Church

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Oct. 23

Location: Eight Mile and Taft in Northville

Details: 3rd Annual Community Bizarre Bazaar to benefit Village Banking at the church. A great opportunity for local entrepreneurs and artists to showcase their talents and products to hundreds of local customers. Booking now

Contact: For details and to reserve a place, e-mail to Pat Breslin at fumcbazaar@gmail.com. Learn more about Village Banking at www.FINCA.org

Riverside Park Church of God

Time/Date: Oct. 22-23

Location: 11771 Newburgh, Livonia

Details: Applications are being accepted for the annual fall craft show. Rental spaces are 8- by 5-feet and can be reserved for one day at a cost of \$20 or two days for \$30. Tables an additional \$5

Contact: (734) 464-0990; download an application at www.riverside-parkchurch.org

St. John's Episcopal Church

Time/Date: Oct. 9

Location: 555 South Wayne Road, Westland

Details: Looking for crafters and vendors to participate in a fall craft sale

Contact: (734) 721-5023

St. Thomas a'Becket

Time/Date: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 4

Location: 555 S. Lilley, Canton
Details: Accepting applications for handmade crafts only for 20th annual Christmas Craft Show

Contact: craftshow@abecket.org or (734) 844-1232

Fellowship dinner

St. James Presbyterian

Time/Date: 6 p.m., the first Thursday of the month

Location: 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford
Details: Cost is \$8 and includes dinner, beverage and dessert. The Cookie Lady, Susan Navarro, provides the meals

Contact: (313) 268-7780. The church phone number is (313) 534-7730

Food Bank

New Hope Church

Time/Date: 5-7 p.m., every Friday by appointment only

Location: is 44815 Cherry Hill, Canton

Contact: Call pastor Ranay Brown to schedule an appointment at (734) 270-2528.

Moms

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church

Time/Date: 9:30-11:30 a.m., second Tuesday and 7-9 p.m., fourth Tuesday

Location: 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia

Details: Mothers of Preschoolers. Aimed at mothers of infants through kindergartners

Contact: Angie at (248) 427-1020

Dunning Park Bible Chapel

Time/Date: 9:30-11:30 a.m., first and third Tuesdays

Location: 24800 West Chicago Road, Redford

Details: MOPS is a place where moms can build friendships, receive mothering support, practical help and spiritual hope

Contact: Amy at (313) 937-3084 or Kristen at (734) 542-0767

Prayer

Nardin Park United Methodist Church

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Wednesday

Location: 29887 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills

Details: Participate in an open time of praying silently and aloud together as well as responding to personal requests

Contact: (248) 476-8860

St. Edith Church

Time/Date: 7 p.m. Thursday

Location: 15089 Newburgh, Livonia. Enter through the back of the church

Details: Music, singing, prayer

Contact: Grace at (734) 464-1896, Shirley at (734) 464-3656; or Geri at (734) 464-8906

St. Michael's Church of Livonia

Time/Date: 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. third Wednesday

Location: Corner of Plymouth and Hubbard roads, Livonia

Details: Parish prayer and Eucharistic Adoration. Benediction service follows. (734) 261-1455

Senior citizens

Riverside Park Church of God

Time/Date: 11:30 a.m., third Thursdays

Location: 11771 Newburgh, Livonia

Details: Senior adults, age 50 and over, enjoy social interaction and food

Contact: (734) 464-0990

Singles

First Presbyterian Church

Time/Date: Thursdays 7:30-7:45 p.m. for social time, 7:45-8 p.m. opening, 8-9 p.m. program

Location: 200 E. Main St., Northville

Details: Single Place Ministry meets; cost is \$5

Contact: (248) 349-0911 or visit www.singleplace.org

Steve's Family Restaurant

Time/Date: 9 a.m. second and fourth Thursday

Location: 15800 Middlebelt, 1/4 mile north of Five Mile, Livonia

Details: Widowed men of all ages may attend the Widowed Friends Men's breakfast. This is an informal "peer" group where men have an opportunity to meet with others who are ready to help cope or become involved in the other social activities offered by Widowed Friends.

Contact: (313) 534-0399

Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church

Time/Date: 11:30 a.m., Sunday

Location: 40000 Six Mile, Northville

Details: Single Point Ministries, for 30 and up, offers fellowship. Coffee, doughnuts, conversation

Contact: (248) 374-5920

Song Circle

Congregation Beth Ahm

Time/Date: Noon to 12:30 p.m., every Shabbat

Location: 5075 W. Maple, West Bloomfield

Details: Sing zemirot (traditional Shabbat songs) and celebrate Kiddush following morning services. Lyrics are provided in transliteration as well as the original Hebrew.

Contact: (248) 737-1931 or e-mail nancyellen879@att.net.

Support

Detroit World Outreach

Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m. Tuesday

Location: 23800 W. Chicago, Redford; room 202

Details: Addiction No More offers support for addictive behavior problems, drugs, alcohol, overeating, gambling

Contact: (313) 255-2222, Ext. 244

Farmington Hills Baptist Church

Time/Date: 7-9 p.m., second Tuesday of the month except

January, July and August
Location: 28301 Middlebelt, between 12 Mile and 13 Mile

Details: Western Oakland Parkinson Support Group

Contact: (248) 433-1011

Merriman Road Baptist Church

Time/Date: 1-3 p.m., second and fourth Thursday

Location: 2055 Merriman, Garden City

Details: Metro Fibro-Myalgia support group meets; no dues, but donations are accepted

Contact: www.metrofibrogroup.com; or call Lucy with questions at (734) 462-1768

Riverside Park Church of God

Time/Date: 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday-Friday

Location: 11771 Newburgh, Livonia

9/9/10



Passages

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RICHARD R. ARONSON
 Age 84, of Livonia, passed away September 6, 2010. He was born July 26, 1926 in Detroit to Carl and Anna (Martenson) Aronson. On April 17, 1982 he married Sherry Ellison and they were very devoted to one another. He was a Teacher with Riverview Public Schools for 32 years and also was an adjunct facility member at Eastern Michigan University. Richard was a member of the Wayne County Reading Assoc., the Michigan Reading Assoc., the International Reading Assoc., and the Scholarship Fund for Children. He enjoyed gardening and loved roses. He was an avid reader and would read anything. He is survived by his beloved wife Sherry; his children, Karl R. Aronson, Jane A. (Chris) Flieller, and Charlotte J. Aronson; and his brother Carl (Mary Kay) Aronson. He was preceded in death by his parents, his son Kris M. Aronson, his son David J. Aronson, and his sister Lenore Bly. Visitation will be held Friday, September 10 from 2-8pm at Casterline Funeral Home, Inc.

FOOD

Thursday, September 9, 2010

hometownlife.com

HAVE A STORY IDEA?

Contact Editor Sharon Dargay

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Wine expert entertains, educates at Schoolcraft culinary event

BY BILL EMERICK
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Lee Hershey is into wine. He teaches a class about wine. He has experience as a retail consultant for wholesalers, wine shops and restaurants. He hosts wine-tasting events at homes and businesses. He reads about wine, writes about wine and extols the virtues of the drink at every occasion.

Mostly, though, he just wants to get people to taste the ancient fermented-grape beverage. Most anyone who does, Hershey feels, will be hooked.

Hershey, 74, will be conducting a wine-tasting seminar at the 19th annual Culinary Extravaganza, a food and beverage event to benefit the Schoolcraft College Culinary Arts Program. The event, scheduled for 2-5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 26, is at the college's VisTaTech Center.

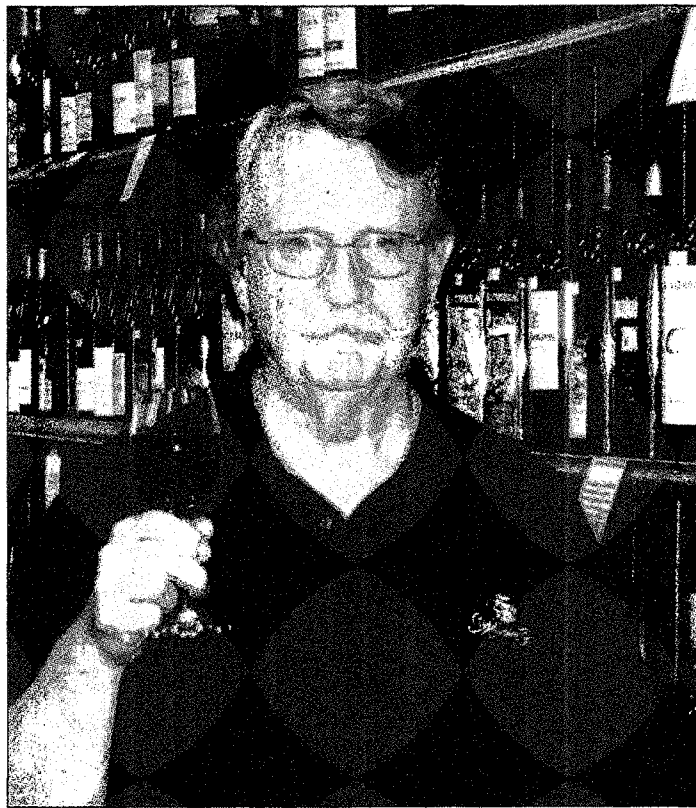
More than 50 vendors, featuring the area's leading restaurants and pastry shops, will be on hand to offer samples of food and beverages, including wine and distilled spirits. Tickets are \$50, \$20 of which is tax-deductible.

Hershey's role at the Extravaganza is the same one he's pursued for the last 35 years — entertaining and educating about the wide world of wine. "I'm kind of like this conduit for wine," he said in describing his avocation.

For the past 23 years, Hershey has taught classes on wine at Schoolcraft College as part of the school's personal enrichment program. His fall schedule includes Wines of the Southern Hemisphere and The Heart of Great Lakes Wines, both five-week courses that introduce students to the history and significance of the wine-making tradition in those regions — as well as plenty of tasting.

PASSION FOR WINE

Hershey has also been involved in various consulting positions, including with the famed Beaulieu Vineyard in Rutherford, Calif., located in the legendary Napa Valley. He's spent time as a sommelier at the Bay Harbor Yacht Club near Petoskey and most recently was instrumental in building the wine collection



Lee Hershey teaches wine classes at Schoolcraft College and will conduct a tasting seminar the the annual Culinary Extravagna.

at The Grapevine restaurant in Novi.

It's his passion for wine, though, that's evident after even a short conversation about his beverage of choice. Hershey looks forward to his seminar at the Extravaganza as a way to widen the cult of devotees.

"It introduces people to me and, if you like my presentation, you may take my wine class," he said. "That benefits the school, it benefits me and it may benefit them in the end. We never know what you learn, but we all learn a little bit from each event."

Hershey will be offering samples of some of the half-dozen wholesalers and vintners expected at the Extravaganza, including Black Star Farms from Michigan's Leelanau Peninsula, J&J Importers and Ann Arbor Beverage. The idea is to give patrons a taste of different varietals and vintages in the hope they'll later hunt for something they enjoyed.

"You're tasting it, you're not really guzzling it," he said, "just like you're not going to eat 50 meals. If you pour a wine and you like it and want it, you'll go to a retailer and ask for it later."

"People can come and eat and drink and have a good

time and learn a lot."

'ENJOYABLE AND APPROACHABLE'

The seminar is just a small taste — pun intended — of what Hershey offers in his ongoing enrichment classes at Schoolcraft. He's seen a bit of a dropoff in enrollment in light of the state's economic woes, but he also said up to 45 percent of students take the class more than once, some as many as 35-40 times. Ages range from 21 (minimum) to as old as 80. And women outnumber men by a large margin.

"All the guys are in the bar, drinking beer," he said, chuckling.

Even so, there's no one demographic that dominates his students.

"Every imaginable (type of) soul on the planet has taken my classes," he said. "You name it — all kinds of folks have taken the classes."

Once they've enrolled, it's Hershey's job to see that they put aside any misconceptions that abound about wine and wine drinkers.

"The problem with people getting involved (with wine) is the amount of pretension in the world," he said. "A Frenchman or an Italian

ALL ABOUT WINE

Lee Hershey will conduct his wine seminar and tasting at the 19th annual Culinary Extravaganza, 2-5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 26, at the VisTaTech Center on the campus of Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty Road, Livonia. Tickets are \$50 and can be obtained by calling (734) 462-4518 or going online at www.schoolcraft.edu/foundation.

Hershey is also teaching two classes this fall as part of Schoolcraft's personal enrichment program. Wines of the Southern Hemisphere starts Sept. 20 and The Heart of Great Lakes Wines starts Nov. 8. Each meets 7-9 p.m. Mondays for five weeks and costs \$169 (\$135.20 for seniors). To enroll, call (734) 462-4448 or go online at www.schoolcraft.edu/cepd

thinks of wine like we think of groceries — you know, pick up a loaf of bread, a salad and a bottle of wine. In this country, there's a standoffish attitude about alcohol, I think from in the prohibition days.

"There's an aura that's been created and people are intimidated. It's hard to get people into (wine) because of this attitude. In a class like mine, we try to show people it's fun and something they can enjoy. It's very enjoyable and approachable. That's the biggest hurdle to getting people into the wine world."

Hershey's seen a lot of trends in his years in the industry, but the current economic downturn has actually contributed to some positive aspects in his mind.

"The economy is such that you don't have a lot of enthusiasm for getting into wine like it once was," he said. "People are very cautious and becoming better wine buyers. We're putting pressure on wine makers to produce better wines. It doesn't matter if it's cheap — if it's no good, you won't buy a second bottle. If it's garbage, it's garbage."

"A lot of retailers don't necessarily know their market.

If you've got a stack of \$4.99 bottles of wine, you're going to end up marrying them," he added with a laugh.

"The sale of \$25-\$30 bottles of wine haven't changed that much. The people who spend \$40 on a bottle of wine with dinner haven't been affected by this economy. They never moved like a forest fire, but they haven't been hurt."

Hershey still attends several dozen trade tastings a year and estimates he tries up to 5,000 different wines each year. He doesn't have a favorite ("My favorite wine is the one someone else pays for"), but he will offer this allegory.

"If I was stranded on an island and a voice from above said you can have only wine one for the rest of time, but you can have as much as you want for the rest of your life, for me it would be a red Burgundy from France," he said.

It might not be the same for everyone, but Hershey would like to help his students find out for themselves — one glass at a time.

bemerick@hometownlife.com
(313) 223-4340

A SPIRITED VENDOR

If wine is not your beverage of choice, fear not. Attendees of the Culinary Extravaganza at Schoolcraft College's VisTaTech Center can also partake in a "flavored martini" promotion courtesy of McCormick Distillery. According to Joe David, McCormick's area manager for the Midwest, the company will offer tastings of its 360 vodka line of "eco-friendly" products. This is the third year McCormick has participated in the Extravaganza, but David said the variety will be larger this year thanks to new flavors introduced this summer.

The 360 brand of vodka features locally sourced grain for the company's distillery in Kansas City, Kan., and recycled and biodegradable packaging. David said the vodka is distilled four times and filtered five times. "It's a very clean-tasting product," he said. McCormick will serve half-ounce tastings either chilled or on the rocks of eight different flavors of vodka: double chocolate, cola, Mandarin orange, Bing cherry, Madagascar vanilla, sorrento lemon, Concord grape and Georgia peach.

"The way we infuse these products is so that they taste just like the flavor right out of the bottle," David said. "Unlike some flavored vodkas, we added residual sugars. We tried to collect the essence of the flavors."

David said the martinis were very popular at last year's Extravaganza. "We ran out of olives," he said.

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