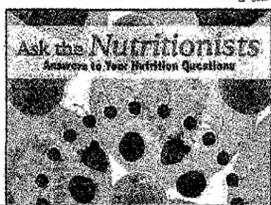


## Unicyclists ride for the challenge

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## Nutrition answers

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# WESTLAND Observer

SUNDAY  
February 12, 2006

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## Council split over plan to develop hospital site

BY DARRELL CLEM  
STAFF WRITER

A proposal to build 148 new homes near Merriman and Palmer could be a boon for a site where redevelopment has remained elusive, city leaders say.

But a preliminary plan to build 52 single-family homes and 96 condominiums has left Westland City Council members divided.

Known as Oakmonte, the new neighborhood would be built southeast of Merriman and Palmer on the former Wayne County General Hospital site.

"This, by far, is the most viable plan we've seen for this site," Councilman James Godbout said Monday during talks between city officials, developers and builders.

Still, some council members view the proposal as premature, saying they have deep concerns that should be addressed before any plans move forward.

The new homes would be built near the Walter P. Reuther Psychiatric Hospital and an Oakwood Hospital office building.

On Monday, a divided council voted 4-3 to approve preliminary plans for Oakmonte. Opponents refused to support the proposal until developers answer their concerns that fire trucks should have easier access and that some streets should be bigger for the condo portion of the project, which includes eight buildings with 12 residences each.

Some opponents also questioned whether the development would be appropriate in close proximity to the medical facilities.

"This has got to be thought through," Councilwoman Cheryl Graunstadt said.

Attorney Bryan Amann appeared before city leaders Monday with representatives from Agree Realty Co. and Hometowne Building Co.

"This is a very tough site (for redevelopment)," he said, but added that he believes the latest proposal is workable.

Preliminary plans moved forward amid support from Godbout and three of his council colleagues - Michael Kehrer, Charles Pickering and President William Wild. They overcame opposition from Graunstadt and Councilmen Richard LeBlanc and Robert Stottlemeyer.

Developers and builders still have to resolve issues, such as fire truck access, soil testing and condominium garbage-disposal sites, before the plan will be considered for final approval.

"If you make it right, I'll vote for it," Stottlemeyer told Oakmonte representatives Monday, adding later, "I don't think we should go any further until we get this all worked out."

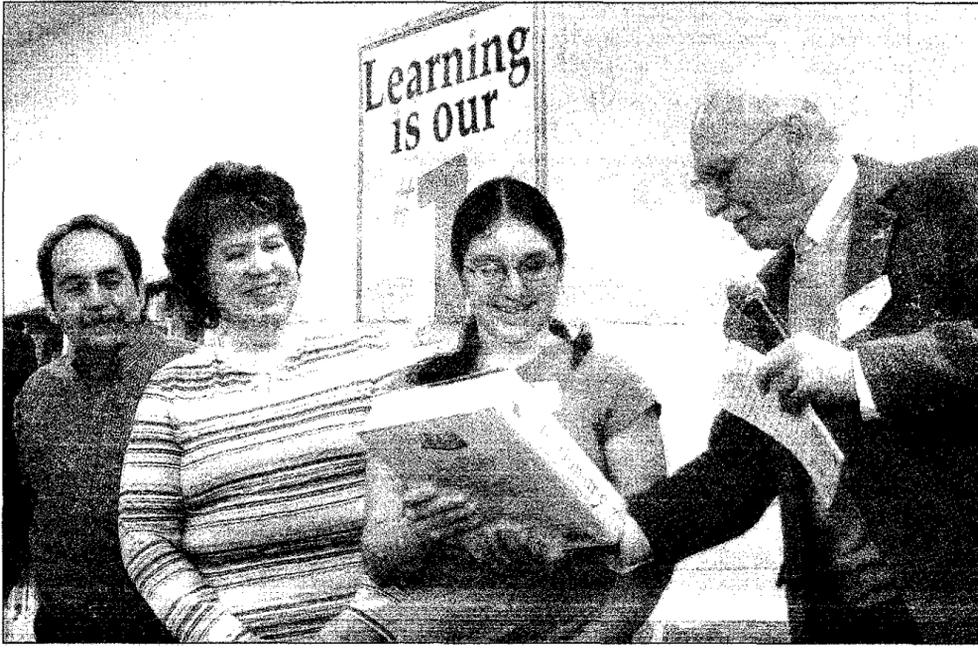
But a council majority chose to give preliminary approval to Oakmonte officials, saying they still could thwart the development unless their concerns are addressed.

Officials indicated that single-family, mostly brick homes would start around \$200,000 and that condos would begin at \$135,000.

"I personally think it's in the best interest of the city to develop this site," Wild said.

Amann indicated that Oakmonte officials will return to the council for final approval after they have addressed concerns cited by city leaders. It wasn't clear when that would be.

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PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Marshall Middle School eighth-grader Caitlin Moreno receives an American Heritage Dictionary from Earle Chorbagan after winning the middle school spelling bee. Looking on are her parents, Gonzalo Moreno and Sharon Mink.

## Winter weather doesn't stop work on summer festival

BY DARRELL CLEM  
STAFF WRITER

Despite the February chill, plans are moving ahead for a Westland summer party that organizers hope will be a crowd-luring success.

Westland Summer Festival planners are ambitiously aiming to make this year's event the best yet, particularly since it will come as the city celebrates its 40th birthday.

"With this being the anniversary year, we'll try to make it the biggest festival ever," Parks and Recreation Director Robert Kosowski said.

Kosowski serves as a liaison between Mayor Sandra Cicerelli's administration and a festival committee, chaired by former Councilman Kenneth Mehl.

The festival will start on Thursday, June 29, and culminate with a Fourth of July fireworks display over Thomas H. Brown Central City Park.

The festival will include its typical fare - a parade, a beauty pageant, carnival rides, arts and crafts, food, and likely thousands of people mingling around the park and the government complex on Ford Road east of Newburgh.

But Mehl indicated that festival planners will likely unveil a couple of surprises to heighten interest in this year's festival.

"We're working on a couple of ideas," he said.

Mehl has issued a preliminary report on the festival, partly to alert those interested in getting

PLEASE SEE FESTIVAL, A6

## F-a-t-i-g-u-e-s to a-p-p-r-o-b-a-t-i-o-n

Students show mastery of words at annual spelling bee

BY SUE MASON  
STAFF WRITER

Protectorate, noncombatant, mercurial, brigadier.

Big words to say, big words to spell. Big words that were stumbling blocks along the way to crowning the 2006 Wayne-Westland Elementary Spelling Bee champions.

It was a contest between fifth-graders Laura Darnell of Madison Elementary in Westland and Abhishek Roy of Walker-Winter Elementary in Canton. It ended when Darnell correctly spelled approbation and won the elementary spelling bee and Caitlin Moreno, a student at Marshall Middle School in Westland, claimed the middle school title.

"I guess my dad has to give me 20 bucks now," said Darnell, holding the American Heritage Dictionary she received as the contest winner. "He said he'd give me \$10 for



Laura Darnell, a fifth-grader at Madison Elementary, spells her final word - approbation - correctly to win Wayne-Westland's 26th annual Earle Chorbagan Elementary Spelling Bee.

PLEASE SEE SPELLING, A3

## Collision shop targeted for break-in, vandalism

BY JULIE BROWN  
STAFF WRITER

A break-in with property destruction late Wednesday or early Thursday at A.C.E. Collision on Ford was reported to Westland police.

"Basically, they ransacked several cars and stole several stereos," said owner Todd Blevins, whose business is between Farmington and Venoy roads. "They were just malicious."

Blevins had about 40 vehicles parked outside the business, which has a privacy fence. Some 20 vehicles were damaged. Trunks were jimmied, and personal belongings taken.

"They didn't get into my building," he said. "I've got alarms on the building."

He said Westland police are good about patrolling the area, but his privacy fence obstructs the view and gives criminals privacy in which to work.

"This is the third time this has happened in the last two years," he said Thursday. He carries insurance, but with deductibles, it's often not worth filing a claim. Blevins estimates last week's crime will cost him \$5,000-\$10,000 out of pocket.

Those with information are asked to call the Westland Police Department at (734) 722-9600.

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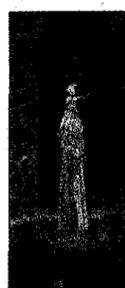
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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

## A landmark falls

Construction crews recently began tearing down Center Stage, a longtime fixture on Ford Road, just east of I-275. In its heyday, the venue hosted such acts as The Police, Rodney Dangerfield, The Allman Brothers Band and Grand Funk Railroad. A new 11,200-square-foot strip mall will be erected on the 4-acre site. Starbucks will occupy part of the building. Construction is expected to begin sometime this spring.

# Parents still question, board still defends Legacy

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA  
STAFF WRITER

Just the thought of the changes set to take place under Livonia Public Schools' Legacy Initiative are enough to bring Cathy Klockner to tears.

A Livonia parent, Klockner shared an emotional plea with the school board and community last week, one of several opponents who spoke. In reply, board members defended their decision.

"I have had enough of the Legacy proposal to last me a lifetime," said Klockner. She asked whether the concerns raised by hundreds of community members regarding the closing and restructuring of district schools made any impact.

"How can you continue to push the Legacy proposal down our throats?"

Members of Citizens for Livonia's Future, a group opposing the plan, have stated that they felt left out of the

## LIVONIA SCHOOLS

decision-making process, and rushed by the plan, which was passed in December by the school board.

In response, trustee Joanne Morgan said it is "all really about student achievement."

She asked that the community work together.

"It is sad to see there are so many people still struggling," Morgan said, of the Legacy plan.

Klockner said hearing regular updates and receiving transition information regarding the plan is heart-breaking. She asked the board to reconsider its decision and work with the community to find a better plan.

"Do not make us go through a lawsuit and recall," she said. "We love our schools. We love our community. We do not want this."

Klockner said she received support from other parents

who shared her sentiments, in the form of phone calls and e-mail letters immediately following her address before the school board Monday.

District officials recently received a letter, penned by Southfield Attorney Mayer Morganroth on behalf of the Citizens for Livonia's Future, asking that they "cease and desist all activities relating to the Legacy Initiative." Despite the request, board trustees approved the purchase of 20 new school buses and seven replacement buses, all to fulfill the extended transportation requirements of the Legacy plan.

The district has established its own transition team, as have individual school buildings, to plan for the changes due next fall. New building principals were announced last week for the new configuration. And administrators are working on staff placements.

Board members including Lynda Scheel and Kevin

Whitehead reiterated their support for the Legacy plan, and its attempt to save dwindling school dollars.

"We have to maintain a focus on student learning," said Whitehead. "We take student learning very seriously. We may have differing opinions but I will never ridicule anyone for having an opinion different than mine."

He was responding to comments coming from community members throughout Monday's meeting who vocally opposed Legacy-related issues.

Scheel said she too stands by her decision to support the Legacy Initiative. She commended those community members who have joined transition team efforts. "Stay involved, and get to know what's going on in the schools," she said.

Scheel said she believed people "were not paying attention" to the severe funding crisis that faces public education.

## Board race now 1-on-1

One of three candidates for Livonia Public Schools Board of Education has withdrawn from the race.

Joe C. Joseph took advantage of Friday's final deadline to remove his name from the May 2 school election ballot. The election will fill one board vacancy, for the next four years.

Joseph, a Livonia resident and member of the grassroots group Citizens for Livonia's Future, said he believed it was in the best interest of that group if he stepped down.

"I got into this because I'm not happy with the change," he said, referring to the district's Legacy Initiative. The plan is a cost-savings effort which requires the closing of schools and restructuring of grades within buildings.

"I'm still doing my part," Joseph said. "We're going to go forward and accomplish what we want."

The group is currently seeking a lawsuit against the school board for the way it handled and passed the Legacy plan. Citizens for Livonia's Future are also looking for support to unseat five trustees in a recall election.

Joseph said he withdrew because he didn't want to "split the vote" for candidate Steve King, who is vying against incumbent Joanne Morgan, who has 10 years of experience on the board.

"Right now, that would defeat our purpose," Joseph said.

By Stephanie A. Casola

# Ex-trustee asks for community vote

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA  
STAFF WRITER

Former trustee Larry Naser calls it nothing less than a civil war.

Naser, a Westland resident, spoke out Monday about the dissent and division that has emerged within the Livonia Public School community, since the passage of the Legacy Initiative. He urged the board members to reconsider, and put the issue to a vote.

"I believe this is a viable, fair end to this," said Naser. "I believe this will bring people back into the fold."

He suggested this contentious matter should be added onto the May ballot to allow district residents to vote whether they would prefer a K-6 elementary structure, or

a K-4 lower elementary structure for the coming year.

Board president Dan Lessard agreed "the community needs to get back together." But he disagreed that a vote on this issue was a feasible possibility.

"We live in a representative democracy," said Lessard. He said officials are elected to represent the people, to approach such issues in an expeditious manner.

Not every issue can be placed up for a vote he said, "what would be next?"

In addition, Lessard has concerns about the cost of an election.

He estimated such a move would cost \$30,000 to \$40,000, and added "that's probably what it costs us to keep a parapara in a kindergarten room."

It would cut into education expenses, he said.

Naser said he still supports, and has long supported, the closing of at least six schools.

Lessard agreed that several years ago Naser's proposals to close schools were "basically on target."

Though a newer member of the board, Cynthia Markarian has spent considerable time on the issue of school closings and finances. She said the recent divide in the community has caused distress for her as well.

Markarian said: "I did not want to close schools year after year after year and the Legacy Initiative offers LPS flexibility to meet the ever-changing demographics of our community, to contract and expand as necessary."

Because Naser has seen

staunch school supporters turn against the district, he said something must be done to remedy the situation. "We must keep the fabric of our community together."

Livonia resident Eileen McDonnell, backed Naser's sentiments. "I understand our school district does need to cut back," said McDonnell. "I really think we need to compromise."

Lessard said he's heard the concerns and he spends considerable time trying to come up with a way to bring the community together. Still, he believes the Legacy plan is what's best for kids, and he said staff members he's spoken with are excited about it, too.

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**ANNUAL SPELLING BEE: WHO COMPETED IN IT**

Receiving certificates for participating in the spelling bees were:

- Edison Elementary - Jonathan Schiacht, winner, and Anthony Claxon, runner-up.
- Elliott Elementary - Marcus Allen Jr., Winner, and Shalonda Hill, runner-up.
- P.D. Graham Elementary - Jamison Vincent, winner, and Nicholas Schurig, runner-up.
- Hamilton Elementary - Drew Pennington, winner, and Abigail Sneddon, runner-up.
- Hicks Elementary -Shakim Harris, winner, and Rebecca Garza, runner-up.
- Hoover Elementary - Sam Herber, winner, Ty Weatherwax, runner-up.
- Jefferson-Barns Elementary - Savannah Walker, winner, and Charles Oatten II, runner-up.
- Kettering Elementary - Taylor Grondy, winner, and Madyzin Gehr, runner-up.
- Lincoln Elementary - Justin Spears, winner, and Jaeda Ewings, runner-up.
- Madison Elementary - Laura Darnell, winner, and Jalyn Bulls, runner-up.
- Patchin Elementary - Jazelle Straka-Braxton, winner, and Elise Lefebvre, runner-up.
- Roosevelt-McGrath Elementary - Aric Voll, winner, and Mary Porta, runner-up.
- Schweitzer Elementary - Hayden Smith, winner, and Chelsea Roach, runner-up.
- Taft-Galloway Elementary - James Walkup, winner, and Nicholas Kieszowski, runner-up.
- Vandenberg Elementary - Sage Parker, winner, and Saleaha Davis, runner-up.
- Walker-Winter Elementary - Abhishek Roy, winner, and Kevin McFadden, runner-up.
- Wildwood Elementary - Chase Burford, winner, and Jared Peterson, runner-up.
- Adams Middle School - David Schutler, winner, and David Petosky, runner-up, sixth-grade; Chelsea Morneau, winner, and Brandon Dombrowski, runner-up, seventh-grade; Stephen McNamara, winner and Brandie Jones, runner-up, for eighth-grade.
- Franklin Middle School - Derrick Lipke, winner, and Kaylie Knizewski and Trevor Lossos, runners-up, sixth-grade; William Cain, winner, and Jordyn Karpinski, runner-up, seventh-grade; and Jacob Hurst, winner, and Alaina Butner, runner-up, eighth-grade.
- Marshall Middle School - Te Lur Kykendall, winner, and Andrew Roberts, sixth-grade; Ernestine Carlos, winner, and Christopher Wimer, runner-up, seventh-grade; and Caitlin Moreno, winner, and Nicole Konwinski, runner-up, eighth-grade.
- Stevenson Middle School - Mitchell Leinbach, winner, and Matt Snyder, runner-up, sixth-grade; Shane Anderson, winner, and Nick Montagano, runner-up, seventh-grade; and Andrew Janos, winner, and Chelsea Bechtel, runner-up, eighth-grade.

**SPELLING**

FROM PAGE A1

second place, \$5 for third place and \$20 for first place."

"It was a nail biter for me," said her mother Marlene.

This was the 26th year the district has sponsored the Earle Chorbagian spelling bee. It was the brainchild of Chorbagian, at the time an assistant principal at Adams, and the school's media specialist, Edrhe Truesdell Smith, who proposed it after a nationwide spelling bee was discontinued in the 1970s.

Up until last year, youngsters in the fifth-eighth grades competed in the districtwide contest. Now there is a spelling bee for fifth-graders and one for sixth-, seventh- and eighth-graders.

Twelve sixth-, seventh- and eighth-graders from Adams, Marshall, Franklin and Stevenson middle schools competed in the contest.

Chorbagian, who has been retired from the school district for more than 20 years, was at Adams Middle School Thursday to present the awards to Darnell and Moreno.

**FINDING THE WINNER**

In the elementary competition, it took just seven rounds to get to the final three - Darnell and Roy, who were their respective school champions, and Chelsea Roach who, as runner-up, filled in for an ailing Hayden Smith, the Schweitzer Elementary spelling champion.

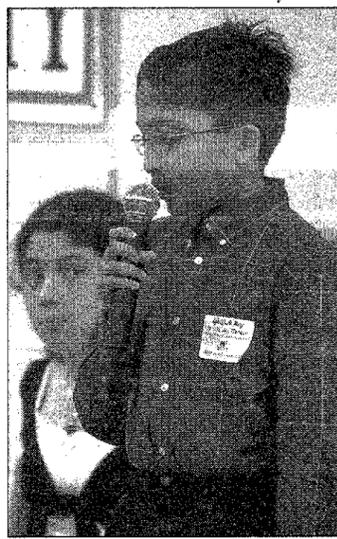
By the 11th round, just Darnell and Roy were left to spell word after word, round after round until he misspelled metabolize and she followed the correct spelling of billiards with approbation.

It looked as if Roy had the contest wrapped up when he broke into a grin on hearing his word fatigues in the 13th round, but a missing letter I kept Darnell's hopes of winning alive.

Both Darnell and her mother credit her interest in reading



Robin Roach (right) heaves a sigh or relief as her daughter Chelsea, a fifth-grader at Schweitzer Elementary, spelled her word correctly. Beside her is Schweitzer Principal Diane Nichols.



Winter-Walker fifth-grader Abhishek Roy attempts to spell a word as Laura Darnell, fifth-grader at Madison Elementary, watches.



Sheila Parker hugs her daughter Sage, a fifth-grader at Vandenberg Elementary, after she missed her word in the annual spelling bee.

for her spelling abilities. She only spent a few days a week preparing for the spelling bee. And winning the competition makes up for a less-than-perfect grade in spelling.

"She got a B, it was her first one ever," said her mother. "She always gets A's."

Principal Sue Keilty had to check with fifth-grade teachers Rene Love and Madeline Sommerman before proclaim-

ing Darnell as the first Madison student to ever win the spelling bee. To celebrate, she plans on taking Darnell out to eat.

"We're going to Red Robin," she said. "This is so exciting."

**FAMILIAR PLACE**

Winning a spelling bee is nothing new to Moreno. She was a fifth-grade winner while at Hamilton Elementary. She cemented her win by

correctly spelling recitalist and then the word fatigues, besting Jacob Hurst, an eighth-grader at Franklin Middle School.

"This very cool, very exciting," said Moreno who wasn't that keen on winning because of all the attention it would attract.

"She's very humble," said her mother Sharon Mink. "I told her to try and I'd buy her a CD, but I know we'll walk into the store and she'll say, 'How about a book?'"

Moreno and Hurst went head-to-head for six rounds, four of which neither one missed a word, but the door to victory opened for Moreno in the 13th round when Jacob misspelled illegible.

Like Darnell, Moreno is an avid reader and actually devoted her spare time to poring over the words in the book, *The Lightning Thief*, rather than in a dictionary.

She enjoys reading the works of Edgar Allen Poe, and even borrowed a book by the author from her teacher when she was in the sixth grade.

"On her Christmas list, the first thing she wrote was five or six book titles," Mink said.

Moreno admits that initially she was nervous, but by the fifth round she settled down. By that time, there were only four students left in the competition.

Moreno was calm and collected, but mom was the nervous wreck

"I'm so excited now, but my stomach was in knots and my hands were tight when she was spelling," said Mink.

And her father, Gonzalo Moreno, had his own way of helping his daughter spell.

"I tried to think the words to her telepathically," he said. Chorbagian was there to present the dictionaries and traveling plaques to the two winners and took time to praise the school district as well as the students.

"I want to congratulate the district for continuing a program that promotes language arts skills," he said. "Nice way to go Wayne-Westland." smason@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2112

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DEATHS

**B**  
**Maurice Clinton Beers**  
 Beers, 92, died.

**C**  
**Paul D. Carter**  
 Carter, 96, of Dearborn, died Jan. 27.

**Charles E. Childs**  
 Childs, 87, of Plymouth, died Feb. 2.

**Edward L. Chmielewski**  
 Chmielewski, 83, died.

**D**  
**Madaleen M. Doherty**  
 Doherty, 78, of Wayne, died Feb. 6.

**Paul N. DuBrico**  
 DuBrico, 85, of Waterford, died Feb. 9.

**H**  
**Richard T. Hartzell**  
 Hartzell, 70, of Orchard Lake, died Feb. 8.

**K**  
**Helene G. Kvet**  
 Kvet, 88, of Birmingham, died Feb. 6.

**L**  
**Katy Lee Howell Lett**  
 Lett, 80, of Birmingham, died Feb. 6.

**M**  
**Zachary Scott (Zak) Metzker**  
 Metzker, formerly of Rochester, died Feb. 4.

**N**  
**Craig Steven Nielsen**  
 Nielsen, 53, died Feb. 9.

**P**  
**George Frederick Pepp**  
 Pepp, 75, of Burnsville, N.C., died Feb. 5.

**Robert Ahlman Peterson**

Peterson, 62, of Grand Rapids, died Feb. 9.

**Laura Anne Polakowski**  
 Polakowski, 42, of Franklin, died Feb. 5.

**Virginia V. Pryce**  
 Pryce, 86, died Feb. 7.

**R**  
**William E. Ramsay**  
 Ramsay, 54, died Feb. 5.

**Ronald Dean Roberts**  
 Roberts, 74, of Gold Canyon, Ariz., formerly of Farmington and Livonia, died Nov. 23.

**Walter J. Roberts**  
 Roberts, 85, of Plymouth, died Feb. 7.

**S**  
**Marian Beck Schultz**  
 Schultz, 62, of Plymouth, died Feb. 7.

**Dolores R. "Laurie" Seregny**  
 Seregny, 78, formerly of Bloomfield Hills, died Feb. 5.

**W**  
**Jerome William Webb Sr.**  
 Webb died Feb. 3.

**Robert S. Whiting**  
 Whiting, 79, of Traverse City, died Feb. 6.

**Z**  
**Gary F. Zatorski**  
 Zatorski, 65, died.

Complete paid obituaries can be found inside today's newspaper in *Passages* on page C4.

# H.E.A.T. reports decline in auto thefts

H.E.A.T. (Help Eliminate Auto Thefts) responded today to statistics released by the Auto Theft Prevention Authority (ATPA) that indicate a decrease in auto theft in metro Detroit and across the state in 2004.

"After the increase in 2003, Michigan residents became aware of the need to assist local law enforcement in cracking down on auto crime in their neighborhoods," said Terri Miller, director of HEAT. "Resources like the HEAT tip line offer a safe, anonymous way to empower residents to report criminal activity and help recover stolen property."

HEAT is a partnership of Michigan's auto insurance companies, law enforcement and residents.

The HEAT program encourages citizen action through its toll-free tip line (1-800-242-HEAT) that gives financial rewards to people who provide information leading to the arrest and prosecution of individuals for auto theft, auto-related iden-

tity theft, carjacking and chop shops.

The 2004 numbers show a decline in auto theft:

- From 2003 to 2004, auto thefts in Michigan declined 6.2 percent, according to the ATPA. This compares with a nationwide decrease of 1.9 percent.
- In 2004, 49,982 vehicles were reported stolen in Michigan, compared with 53,307 in 2003. Data for the 2005 calendar year is not available until February 2007.
- From 1986 to 2004, Michigan auto thefts declined 30.6 percent and national thefts increased by 1.1 percent.
- Michigan comprised 4 percent of United States auto theft activity in 2004.
- The City of Detroit saw auto thefts decrease 3.1 percent, from 25,356 in 2003 to 24,573 in 2004.

Among Michigan's larger cities, declines in auto theft were seen in:

- Battle Creek - from 230 in 2003 to 181 in 2004.
- Dearborn - from 1,317 in

2003 to 1,037 in 2004.

- Detroit - from 25,356 in 2003 to 24,573 in 2004.
- Harper Woods - from 435 in 2003 to 281 in 2004.
- Kalamazoo - from 395 in 2003 to 313 in 2004.
- Southfield - from 1,126 in 2003 to 813 in 2004.
- Warren - from 1,587 in 2003 to 1,402 in 2004.

Among Michigan's cities, increases in auto theft occurred in:

- Flint - from 1,298 in 2003 to 1,563 in 2004.
- Inkster - from 219 in 2003 to 340 in 2004.
- Lincoln Park - from 302 in 2003 to 342 in 2004.
- Pontiac - from 409 in 2003 to 469 in 2004.
- Saginaw - from 280 in 2003 to 332 in 2004.

Since its inception in 1985, H.E.A.T. tips led to the recovery of nearly \$42 million in stolen property and the arrests of nearly 3,000 suspects involved in auto theft rings, chop shops, car jackings, fraudulent car thefts, among other crimes.

H.E.A.T. also has paid nearly \$2.9 million in rewards over the last 20 years.

Anyone with information on auto theft, car jacking, chop shops and auto insurance fraud in Michigan is encouraged to call the H.E.A.T. tip line at (800) 242-HEAT to provide a confidential report.

H.E.A.T. works with Michigan law enforcement agencies to follow up on tips. Tipsters are awarded up to \$1,000 if their tip leads to the arrest and prosecution of a suspected car thief or a person suspected of auto theft-related insurance fraud.

Rewards of up to \$10,000 are issued, if a tip results in the arrest and binding over for trial of a suspected theft ring or chop shop operators. H.E.A.T. rewards up to \$2,000 for information leading to the issuance of a warrant for a carjacking suspect.

The H.E.A.T. tip line is monitored by the Michigan State Police and funded by Michigan's auto insurance companies.



**CITY OF GARDEN CITY**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Garden City Council will hold a Public Hearing at the Civic Center, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan on February 27, 2006 at 7:22 p.m. regarding the proposed ordinance amendment:

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 54, SOLID WASTE, OF TITLE V, PUBLIC WORKS, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE CITY OF GARDEN CITY, SECTION 54.1, OWNER RESPONSIBILITY.**

**THE CITY OF GARDEN CITY HEREBY REPEALS THE EXISTING SECTION 54.04 OWNER RESPONSIBILITY, AND HEREBY ORDAINS:**

THAT THE CITY COUNCIL SHALL ENACT AN ORDINANCE, AS FOLLOWS:

**§ 54.04 OWNER RESPONSIBILITY.**

(A) It shall be the duty of the owner, occupant, or person in charge of any dwelling, house, store, or other business establishment, manufacturing company, or other building where refuse accumulates to provide suitable receptacles, and to cause to be placed therein refuse or other waste materials created or accumulated on the premises owned or controlled by him. It shall be the further duty of the owner, occupant, or other person to locate any garbage or rubbish receptacles within the property lines in the back or side yard so located as to not adversely affect adjoining properties. It shall be the further duty of the owner, occupant, or other person in charge to place or cause to be placed, on the days scheduled for the collection of refuse from the premises, the receptacles containing refuse at the curb line in front of the building. Refuse containers shall not be set out for collection prior to 5:00 p.m. preceding the day of collection, and after the receptacles are emptied they shall be removed from the street by 12:00 noon the next day. In case an alley is located at the rear or side of developed property in a business or manufacturing zone, refuse receptacles shall be placed in the alley or at such other location as may be designated by the Director. ('83 Code, § 53.04)

(B) It shall be the duty of the owner, occupant, or person in charge of any apartment buildings or multiple dwellings where refuse accumulates, to provide dumpster-type receptacles, as provided below, and cause to be placed therein refuse or other waste materials created or accumulated on the premises owned or controlled by him.

1 - 4 apartment unit	One 2-yard dumpster
5 - 8 apartment unit	One 4-yard dumpster
For each additional 4 apartment units	2-yards of additional dumpster capacity

ALLYSON M. BETTIS  
Treasurer/City Clerk

Publish: February 12, 2006



**CITY OF GARDEN CITY**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Garden City Council will hold a Public Hearing at the Civic Center, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan on February 27, 2006 at 7:20 p.m. regarding the proposed ordinance amendment:

**THE CITY OF GARDEN CITY HEREBY REPEALS THE EXISTING SECTION 54.01, DEFINITIONS, AND HEREBY ORDAINS:**

THAT THE CITY COUNCIL SHALL ENACT AN ORDINANCE, AS FOLLOWS:

**§ 54.01 DEFINITIONS.**

For the purpose of this chapter the following definitions shall apply unless the context clearly indicates or requires a different meaning.

**ASHES.** The residue of combustion of any fuel such as wood, coal, coke, charcoal, or any like substance.

**COMMERCIAL ESTABLISHMENT.** For purposes of this section, "commercial establishment" includes, but is not limited to, businesses, rental residential units (in excess of two units), cooperatives, condominiums, row houses, apartments, churches, etc.

**CONSTRUCTION RUBBISH.** All rubbish and debris resulting from excavation, construction, remodeling, or altering of buildings or structures of any kind.

**DIRECTOR.** The Director of Public Services.

**GARBAGE.** All waste animal, fish, fowl, fruit, or vegetable matter incident to the use and storage of foods for human consumption, including spoiled food found within the limits of the city, but excluding food containers.

**REFUSE.** Any of the foregoing items of waste herein defined.

**RUBBISH.** All miscellaneous waste material resulting from housekeeping and ordinary mercantile enterprises. Rubbish is further classified as domestic rubbish or commercial rubbish, depending upon its source.

**YARD WASTES.** General yard and garden waste materials, including branches, twigs, shrub clippings, weeds, and leaves.

ALLYSON M. BETTIS  
Treasurer/City Clerk

Publish: February 12, 2006

## District hires human resources director

Livonia Public Schools hired a new director of human resources last week.

Current Principal of Holmes Middle School, Dorothy Chomicz will take on the administrative cabinet position July 1.

Stephen Smith recently retired from the position, so it will remain vacant until the start of the new fiscal year when Chomicz takes over.

"She's a wonderful team player, and also a no-nonsense person," said Randy Liepa, superintendent.

He said Chomicz will bring to the position "a wealth of experience in our school district."

She has been principal of Holmes Middle School since 1994. Prior to that, Chomicz served as an assistant principal at the school, as well as at Emerson Middle School. She taught language arts and social studies classes at both Emerson and Riley middle



Chomicz

schools, and has earned honors including Teacher of the Year and the District's School Improvement Team Effort Award.

Chomicz earned her bachelor's and master's degrees from Wayne State University, as well as certification and post graduate work from both Madonna University and Marygrove College.

"This is certainly a great opportunity for me," said Chomicz, as she accepted her new position.

She told the board that she's very people-oriented and has a collaborative leadership style.

"Learning is my number one priority," said Chomicz. "I support a learning environment that's caring. We need to have a safe learning environment."

By Stephanie A. Casola

## Local students explore nursing at seminar

According to *The Journal of the American Medical Association*, there will be an estimated shortage of 800,000 nurses by the year 2020.

That staggering number, combined with the ever-growing need for healthcare workers, prompted five registered nurses from Oakwood Annapolis Hospital to host a

recent nursing seminar for students at the William D. Ford Career Technical Center in Westland.

The seminar addressed careers in nursing with a focus on educational requirements and specializations. The presentation involved a panel discussion with detailed visual aides and a series of videos dedicated to the nursing profession.

"Presenters give students choices. It really opens their eyes and helps them make a decision," said health occupation instructor Ruth Ann Petres said of the program.

Students planning for careers after graduation were eager for the opportunity to hear first-hand from professionals in the field. Second-year students Holley Davidson and Jessica McHugh said they look forward to the challenge and are reassured about their career choices because of the presentation.

Registered Nurse and presenter Melody Cole explained many important aspects of nursing and spoke in detail about the clinical advancement program or CAP, which requires nurses to continue education throughout their career.

Other Oakwood registered nurses in attendance included Cathy Binkley, Wanda Shaver, Karen Laurita and Susan Levergood.

Oakwood Annapolis Hospital, a 259-bed, full service community hospital, has been serving western Wayne County since 1957.

## Fear of COMMITMENT?

If your knees shake at the thought of tying your money down long term, have we got a certificate for you! It's a special-rate 3-month Certificate with a **4.20% Annual Percentage Yield\*** (APY)! Balances of \$25,000 or more earn a higher rate. No long-term commitment, no pressure. Call us at 313.336.2700 or toll free at 888.336.2700 outside the local area. Or stop by a branch. For current rates log on to [www.dfcufinancial.com](http://www.dfcufinancial.com). Have no fear. We're committed to helping your money grow.



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AROUND WESTLAND

Vegas Night

Garden City Hospital's Health Enhancement Center is bringing casino-style gaming to Westland at its annual "Heart of Gold" fund-raiser. The event, with a Vegas Night theme, takes place on 3-7 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 25, at the Hawthorne Valley Country Club, 7300 N. Merriman in Westland. All proceeds raised will benefit the center's Cardiac Rehabilitation Equipment Fund. Tickets are \$25 and are available by calling (734) 458-3248.

Participants will have the opportunity to play a variety of classic casino games and enjoy dinner while listening to musical entertainment provided by the Gold Tones. "Vegas Night" is sponsored by Midwest Cardiology Associates.

Open house

Willow Creek Co-Op Preschool will have an open house 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, March 14, at the preschool in Kirk of Our Savior Church, 36660 Cherry Hill, Westland. For more information, call (734) 326-0078.

Realtors to visit LPS

Livonia Public Schools will present Realtor Appreciation Day 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday, March 1, at Emerson Middle School, 29100 W. Chicago in Livonia. The event will include lunch provided by district food service staff, a tour of the school, a presentation featuring the Legacy Initiative video and more. Supt. Randy Liepa will share a special presentation and be on hand to answer questions. All agents will receive

district informational materials.

For more information regarding the event, agents can contact the district at (734) 744-2500.

Happy New Year Celebrate the New Year - the Chinese New Year - at Chinese buffet hosted by the Grange and Harris-Kehrer VFW Post 3323 5-8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 24.

The cost is \$7 for adults and \$4 for children 5-12 years old, youngsters age 4 and under free. Take-out orders are available for an additional 50 cents.

The post is at 1055 S. Wayne Road at Avondale.

This is the first of five monthly ethnic meals. There will be a St. Pat's Day dinner on March 17, Good Friday fish fry on April 14, German/Polish night on May 19 and Hawaiian luau on June 16.

Toastmasters

The Westland Easy Talkers Toastmasters Club can help people overcome their fear of speaking in front of people by teaching public speaking in a friendly and supportive atmosphere. The club meets at 6:30 p.m. Thursday evenings at Denny's Restaurant, 7725 Wayne Road at Cowan.

For more information, call John Elbe at (734) 414-3401 or Curt Gottlieb at (734) 525-8445.

Scrapbook workshop

Ss. Simon and Jude Parish will have a scrapbooking workshop 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 25, at the church, 32500 Palmer east of Venoy, Westland. The cost is \$35 for the full day and \$25 for a half day. For more information,

contact Karen Kopcak at (734) 634-3934 or by e-mail at khol-lenbeck@twmi.rr.com.

Charity bowling

The Westland Chamber of Commerce will hold 2006 Winterfest charity bowling event 1-5 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 25, at Westland Bowl, 5940 N. Wayne Road. Partial proceeds benefit the Joseph F. Benyo Scholarship Fund.

Registration is at 12:30 p.m. with the tournament starting at 1 p.m.

Four-person teams will bowl, alternating every fourth frame. Cost is \$120 per team or \$30 per person.

Price includes bowling, two well drinks and dinner buffet after the tournament at Marvaso's Italian Grille, 6569 N. Wayne Road.

For more information, call the chamber at (734) 326-7222.

Las Vegas Party

St. Bernardine Men's Club is sponsoring a Pinochle/Euchre Card Party on Fridays, Feb. 17 and 24, at the church, southwest corner Ann Arbor Trail and Merriman in Westland.

Participants don't need a partner to play. Snacks and soft drinks are included in the \$5 charge. Games start at 7:30 p.m.

Singers needed

Do you like singing religious music, Kirk of Our Savior on Cherry Hill west of Wayne Road, Westland, is looking for singers for its adult (ages 13 and up) traditional choir. All Christian faiths and all voice ranges are welcome.

Rehearsals are at 7 p.m.

Thursdays. For more information, call Tim at (734) 718-8733 or the church at (734) 728-1088.

Car donations

People with a car to donate can give it to Veterans Haven. The organization is accepting cars, running or not running, that are given to veterans to provide them with transportation to work, school of medical needs.

To date, the agency has given away more than 250 vehicles and three fully furnished mobile homes to needy veterans. To donate, call Veterans Haven at (734) 728-0527 or go to vetshaveninfo.org on the Internet.

Room rentals

Looking for more office space? Planning a party? Having a meeting?

Look no further than the YWCA of Western Wayne County. If you or someone you know is looking to start or expand a business, the YWCA has office space available for rent. There also is room to have meetings for any organization.

The YWCA is available for birthday parties, wedding or baby showers, luncheons, or any other celebration.

Kitchen facilities also are available. It also has accommodations for dance and aerobics classes.

Evening and weekend times are available. Call the YWCA of Western Wayne County at (313) 561-4110, Ext. 18, for more information on facility rentals. The YWCA is at 26279 Michigan Ave., Inkster.

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9-9  
SUN.  
9-7

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**STEAK**

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WOW

Fresh, Boneless, Skinless



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WOW

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Limit 2

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WOW

Mild Atlantic FRESH



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**STUFFED  
PORK CHOPS**

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WOW

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# Back Pain?

Westland, MI - According to a recently released back pain relief report, most back pain sufferers have no idea how to eliminate their pain. Some use heat, others ice. From sleeping on the floor, to pillows underneath the legs, back pain relief techniques vary. But thanks to a free report, local back pain sufferers finally know exactly what to do. To get a copy of the free "Back Pain Relief Report", call toll-free, 1-888-744-2225. (Toll-free, 24 hour recorded message)

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## Arthritis Today

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Phone: (248) 478-7860



### WHY DRUGS STOP WORKING

It is not unusual for a patient to tell me that: "I hurt again, the drug isn't working, I've become immune to it." That sums up a more complicated process that results in a drug losing its efficacy.

Arthritis medications work by either entering a cell that causes inflammation or by binding to a receptor site on the surface of that cell. By binding to the cell receptor the drug stops a series of actions that cause that cell to produce inflammatory chemicals called cytokines.

Medications that enter a cell face the problem that the cell sees that medicine as not belonging there. Over time the cell produces proteins that enable the cell to extrude or pump the medicine out. When the pumps become efficient, the medicine cannot remain long enough within the cell to be effective.

In some cases, the arthritis medicine stops an enzyme from working that the cell needs. Over time, the cell produces excess enzyme and so overcomes the effect of the medication.

Inflammatory cells can battle drugs that fix on the cell's receptor site. The cell may develop a mutation, that is change the configuration of the receptor site to make it impossible for the drug to claim the receptor site. At the same time the change is sufficiently small to permit the chemical needed to start the inflammatory cascade to take hold when it reaches the receptor.

The ability of cells to adapt means that developing an effective drug for rheumatoid arthritis does not mean an end to the condition. Physicians always need another medication for the future.

www.drjweiss.yourmd.com

## MY SHINGLES ARE GONE BUT THE PAIN ISN'T.



Pain that occurs after an outbreak of shingles has healed is called post-herpetic neuralgia or PHN.

Volunteers are needed to participate in a clinical research study of an investigational medication for the treatment of post-herpetic neuralgia.

You may qualify if:

- You are 18 to 80 years old
- You are experiencing pain at least six months after your shingles have healed

Qualified participants will receive:

- Study-related examinations
- Study-related medication
- Compensation for time and travel

TO LEARN MORE, PLEASE CALL:  
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734-677-6000  
Option 4

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Minimally Invasive and Bariatric Surgery

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- Experienced in advanced laparoscopic gastric bypass surgical techniques

**Paula Magid, Bariatric Program Director**

- Program Manager of the Year Award - 2004
- A post-op patient happy to share her experience

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- Specially trained registered nurses, dieticians, behavioral specialists and exercise physiologists.

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Learn more at one of our **FREE** educational seminars:  
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# Senate passes Toy water board bill

BY ALEX LUNDBERG  
STAFF WRITER

In the ongoing battle over who controls the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department, state Sen. Laura Toy, R-Livonia, has decided that it's time for the suburbs to have a greater voice in how that water department is run.

Legislation introduced by Toy, SB 372, was approved Tuesday by the Michigan Senate.

The bill would create an advisory board that would have oversight over the DWSD rate process, ensuring that rates are fair and reasonable. The bill would also require advance notice of rate changes and only allow one rate change per 12-month period.

The bill now goes to the House of Representatives for consideration.

Similar legislation three years ago was vetoed by Gov. Jennifer Granholm who called the legislation divisive and said other means could be used to

correct any problems in the DWSD.

"It's time to shine the spotlight on the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department and ensure there's more accountability in how it operates," Sen. Toy said in a press release. "Half the state of Michigan is served by the department and changes are needed. My legislation isn't a takeover of the department, but a way to ensure that the water department's operations are reviewed and that recommendations for improvements are made."

U.S. District Court Judge John Feikens ruled earlier this year that Detroit can be the only owner and operator of the DWSD, shooting down Oakland County Drain Commissioner John McCulloch's bid for a regional authority. McCulloch has alleged that the city can own the system while governance that includes the DWSD's customers can be established.

At the same time as his ruling, Feikens said the city and

its customers need to have a closer, more collegial relationship.

Toy said years of action in the courts hasn't worked for DWSD customers and it's time for a new solution.

"What has (Judge) Feikens done to help?" she asked. "Is he the judge and jury for the whole issue?"

She said half the state's population hasn't been able to get straight answers about their rates or question DWSD officials about no-bid contracts for work on the system. The legislation would put more accountability into the system through better oversight.

"There would be three representatives for Detroit and one each for Oakland, Macomb and Genesee counties," Toy said. "They'll review the contracts and with another set of eyes going over everything, the operation will straighten up."

What the customer communities do with the water when it flows through their city, she said, is not the focus of the leg-

islation.

"Some communities may mark up the prices and tack on fees, we're talking about wholesale rates," Toy said. "Problems keep appearing. We have a responsibility to do something. People just want representation that's fair and equitable and they want responsible answers."

Gov. Jennifer Granholm's press secretary Liz Boyd echoed Judge Feikens' ruling that the DWSD system is not something that falls under the jurisdiction of state lawmakers.

"This issue will not be resolved through litigation or legislation," she said. "DWSD owns the system, local governments need to work with the city."

She said the region has just finished with a picture-perfect example of cooperation, Super Bowl XL, and there needs to be a replay of that.

"It was a beautiful example of people working together," Boyd said. "We can do that again."

## INFORMATION CENTRAL

February seems to be the month of love with Valentine's Day being the center of the attention.

Not only are cards, candy and gifts exchanged among loved ones, but Valentine's Day is one of the most popular days for marriage proposals. Approximately 10 percent of more than two million couples who get engaged each year pick Feb. 14 as the day to pop the big question.

Thus, February has also become known as National Weddings Month.

The William P. Faust Public Library of Westland can help get you in the spirit of the month. Not only does the library carry a wonderful selection of Valentine's Day materials for the young and the old, but there is an extensive collection of items that can help you plan almost every aspect of that special wedding day.

Whether you're planning that lavish, tropical wedding or the cost-conscious second ceremony you can find help in the many wedding planning books that the library owns. Books like *Your Stress-Free Wedding Planner* by Judy Allen and *The Everything Wedding Book* by Shelly Hagen will give an overall picture of what your wedding day can be like.

Future brides love to browse through *Bride's* magazine to help pick out that perfect gown. Carla Roney's *Knot Book of Wedding Flowers* and Ardith Beveridge's *Faux Florals for Your Wedding* will give suggestions for that beautiful bouquet and floral arrangements.

Prospective grooms might want to look at books like *Ultimate Groom's Guide* by Elizabeth Luch and *Clueless Groom's Guide* by Peter Van Dijk.

*Bridal Guide* magazine's *New Etiquette for Today's Bride* may help you with all of the sticky details of how to properly arrange seating for

the reception.

Not the bride or groom but a participant of the wedding party, you might want to check out one of these titles: Sharon Naylor's *Mother of the Groom*; Marquerite Smolen's *Mother of the Bride* and Kate Chynoweth's *Bridesmaid's Guide*.

Please check out the special book display for National Weddings Month near the new books area when you're in the library during February for even more ideas. The William P. Faust Public Library of Westland is open 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday-Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday-Saturday and noon-5 p.m. Sunday.

**Mentioning Unmentionables:** 7 p.m. Feb. 15.

Join us to learn about the true "Victorian Secrets." This program will take you the History of Undergarments, including an interactive demonstration, with Kim Parr, director of the Crocker House Museum and the Macomb County Historical Society. Registration required.

**Adult Book Club:** 7 p.m. Feb. 21. This month's book is *The Secret Life of Bees* by Sue Monk Kidd. Please read the book before the meeting. All are welcome.

**Third-Fourth Grade Book Club:** 7 p.m. Feb. 21. The title of this month's book is *Fred* by Andrew Clements. Register and pick up your copy of the book from the Children's Desk.

The library is looking for volunteers to deliver books to our home-bound patrons. Contact our home-bound coordinator at (734) 326-6123, if you're interested.

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



**CITY OF GARDEN CITY**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Garden City Council will hold a Public Hearing at the Civic Center, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan on February 27, 2006 at 7:24 p.m. regarding the proposed ordinance amendment:

**§ 54.09 COLLECTION RATES.**

Services for city pick up of rubbish and garbage are to be charged at the following rates.

(A) Residential and commercial curb-side or alley pick-up, one time per week, not to exceed five 20-gallon containers per week other than grass and leaves separated for composting: No charge.

(B) Commercial container service: one two-yard dumpster will be provided, and collected one time per week: No charge.

(C) Commercial or industrial establishments that generate more than two cubic yards of refuse per week shall be responsible for arranging private disposal of anything in excess of the two cubic yards per week disposed of by the City contractor. If such arrangements are with the City's contracted service provider, the cost of service provided in subsection (B) shall be deducted by the provider from any charges to the establishment. If any other provider is arranged, all costs (including those provided in subsection (B)) shall be borne by the establishment. The selection of the City's contracted service provider shall be at the City's sole discretion.

Publish February 12, 2006 OE08411-05

**HURON VALLEY HONOR ROLL**

Students earning Honor Roll status for the first semester at Huron Valley Lutheran High school in Westland include:

**Highest honors**

Seniors Jeremy Freimark, Matthew Frisco, Erik Gruenewald, Brittany Hickman, Adam Kipfmiller, Zachary Mousseau, Vincent Pelligrino, John Sharrow and Renee Wendland.

Juniors Melissa Bergemann, Erin Henkel, Scott Hoff and Eryn Van Patten.

Sophomores Katie Kipfmiller, Lauren La Manna, Brandy Nocella, Robert Russ and Kathryn Strauch.

Freshmen Lindsay Bushong, Abby Hoff, Aaron Howell, Kyle Tacia and Braden Woldt-Babb.

**Honors**

Seniors Jacob Ficken, Michael Nocella, Lindsey Pyle and Brad Schmidt.

Juniors Tod Bartholomew and Amanda Gruenewald.

Sophomores Lauren Adlof, Colin Beerbower, Emily Helwig and Catherine St. John.

Freshmen Samantha Barber, Cheyanne Curry-Hendrix and Kayla Stockdale.

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE**

Pursuant to state law a sale will be held at: Secured Self Storage, 6855 Yale, Westland, MI, February 25, 2006 @ 1:00 PM.

#124 John Johnson; #507 Gregory Wohlers; #914 Heather Tank; #1007 Cheryl Williams; #1325 Lynne Miller; #416 Amy Schinski; #716 Robert Parker; #345 John Stevens; #919 John Ascencio; #203 Cedrick Vanhook; #236 Marita Eckford; #103 Lola Pitts; #515 Margaret Rose Dowling. Units contain: misc. household items & restaurant equipment.

Publish: February 9 & 12, 2006 OE0841008

**FESTIVAL**

FROM PAGE A1

involved in the parade, the beauty pageant, and the arts and crafts show.

The parade will start at 6:15 p.m. Thursday, June 29, proceeding west on Ford Road from Schoolcraft College Radcliff Center to Westland City Hall. Mehl said community groups that want to participate should call Jeanie Cox at (734) 722-6979.

The beauty pageant, with scholarship money at stake, will follow the parade on a stage in Central City Park. It is

open to Westland women ages 16 to 22, said Normie Brazier, who is organizing the pageant along with Jan Sander. For more information, call Brazier at (734) 326-2099 or Sander at (734) 788-0135.

Anyone interested in joining the arts and crafts show should call Gale Armstrong at (734) 994-0450, and those interested in participating in food concessions should contact Sue Haslacker at (734) 237-4158.

For general information about the festival, call Mehl at (734) 261-5955 or Pam Martin at (734) 595-0697.

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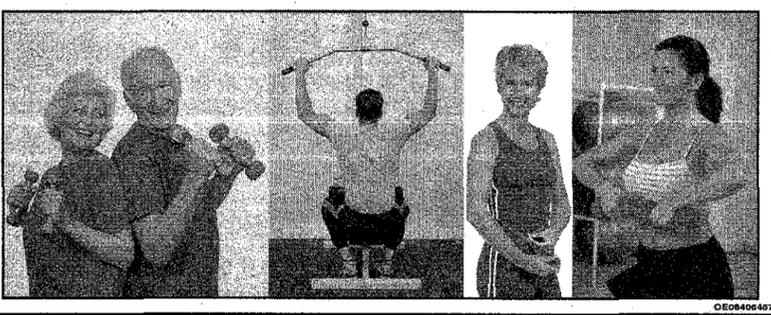
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<p>Lean &amp; Meaty • Boneless <b>Pork Chops</b> Only <b>\$2.79</b> LB.</p>	<p>USDA Select <b>Delmonico Steaks</b> Only <b>\$5.99</b> LB.</p>	<p>USDA Select • Boneless <b>Rump Roast</b> Only <b>\$2.99</b> LB.</p>

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PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Johnson Elementary fourth-grader Tanisha Miti holds up the fruit and vegetable sculpture she assembled as part of the Healthy Me program Monday afternoon.

# Johnson students focus on healthy habits

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA  
STAFF WRITER

Johnson Elementary students learned to play with their food this week – as part of the school's Healthy Me program.

The schoolwide project kicked off Monday as specials teachers incorporated health and nutrition tips with their usual activities.

Students created edible food sculptures out of fruits and vegetables in art class, sang songs about healthy foods in music, and relay-raced from one end of the gymnasium to the other to create a healthy food plate.

And that was just the beginning of a week devoted to healthy living. The school also hosted raffles and trivia competitions related to the theme "Healthy Me."

Lunice Clay, elementary student assistance program provider, said this was the first year of the program.

She worked with children to discuss everything from nutrition to the importance of sleep and playtime. Students were exposed to new fruits and vegetables each day – with a healthy snack.

Because the specials classes hosted Healthy Me activities, student's daily schedules were not disrupted, said Clay. She

said she hopes the students will learn that healthy eating and exercise is "a positive thing," and that they might be more willing to try new foods.

"I think the more children are immersed in an idea, the more they truly pick up," Clay said.

Johnson staff members worked with employees at St. Mary Mercy Hospital and Madonna University in Livonia, as part of their dedication to the Michigan Surgeon General's Step Up to Health initiative. The Johnson Elementary School Health Team developed the Healthy Me activities to coincide with an ongoing effort to

promote healthful choices in nutrition and exercise.

Cheryl Grougan, a nurse and community outreach health educator at St. Mary Mercy Hospital, was on hand Monday to assist with the activities. "As you can see, the kids are enjoying themselves," she said.

She said it's also important for Madonna University students to see how schools, hospitals and universities can interact "to improve the welfare of the community."

But for the students, it all came down to taste. Ashley Sutton, a fourth-grader, said she'd never eaten craisins before she tried them during



Christine Lakatos, Johnson Elementary art teacher, shows examples of fruit and vegetable sculptures before students attempt to make them.

art class – while making an edible sculpture. "I think it's good for kids because it's a chance to do fun stuff but to stay healthy," she said of the program.

Her classmates Elaine Carlsen and Juhi Deshmukh agreed they'd never done activities in school which were like the Healthy Me-inspired class assignments they were given on Monday.

"You shouldn't just have junk, and you should eat

healthy things," said Alyssa Keeling, also a fourth grade student. "You should learn to eat stuff, even if you don't like it."

The event was funded and supported by Johnson's PTA. Donations of fruits and vegetables were provided by Westborn Market in Livonia. Costco in Livonia also contributed to the project.

scasola@hometownlife.com  
(734) 953-2054

# Benefit at Applebee's aids domestic violence victims

BY JULIE BROWN  
STAFF WRITER

Applebee's Neighborhood Grill & Bar in Westland will have a Dine To Donate fundraiser every Tuesday in February for the nonprofit Above Water.

Above Water assists victims of domestic violence, said executive director and founder Kim M. Holt-Mays of Westland. This Tuesday, Feb. 14, Detroit jazz band Swinging Marvin with Brooke Ratliff on vocals will perform at Applebee's, 36475 Warren in Westland.

"That's going to be really great," Holt-Mays said of the vocalist. "She's a great person." The band will play 6-8 p.m.

Fund-raising hours at the restaurant are 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. The benefit will continue each Tuesday in February at the Westland restaurant, Holt-

Mays said, then move in March to the Applebee's on Ford Road in Canton.

She founded the nonprofit, then in Redford, in 1999. It's now based at Merriman and Plymouth roads in Livonia and can be reached at (734) 716-9473. She refers victims to such shelters as First Step and others.

Above Water has a resource center offering support groups and help with jobs. Medical help is another area, and proceeds from the Applebee's fund raising will go to that. She has a group of health care professionals she plans to work with to meet health needs of domestic violence victims.

Holt-Mays approached Shelly Smith, general manager of the Westland Applebee's, about fund raising there. She's found Applebee's to be helpful and appreciates that.

<p><b>BOB'S OF CANTON</b> 31210 W. Warren (at Merriman) Westland 734-522-3357 Sale Dates February 13th thru February 19th HOURS: Mon.-Fri. 10 am - 7 pm Sat. 9 am - 7 pm • Sun. 10 - 6 pm We Accept Food Stamps E-mail Address: www.bobsforcanton.com Thank You!</p>	FROM OUR DELI DEPT. Honey Mesquite <b>TURKEY BREAST</b> \$3 <sup>89</sup> lb. Dearborn Honey CURED HAM \$3 <sup>79</sup> lb. USDA GRADE A Bone-in-Split CHICKEN BREAST \$1 <sup>09</sup> lb.	CORN FED SELECT BEEF For Your Sweetheart Sweetheart Steaks from <b>DELMONICO STEAKS</b> \$6 <sup>49</sup> lb. CORN FED SELECT BEEF Boneless Beef NY STRIP STEAKS \$5 <sup>39</sup> lb. SAVE \$1.70 lb.	CORN FED SELECT BEEF Whole Beef TENDERLOINS \$10 <sup>99</sup> lb. TENDERLOIN FILLET STEAKS \$12.99 GOVT. INSPECTED BEEF Extra Large Tail On COOKED SHRIMP \$6 <sup>49</sup> lb. SAVE \$1.50 lb.
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- 18th District Court - (734) 595-8720
- Assessment - (734) 467-3160, e-mail assessor@ci.westland.mi.us
- Building Department - (734) 467-3210, e-mail building@ci.westland.mi.us
- CATV/Community Relations - (734) 467-3198, e-mail cabletv@ci.westland.mi.us
- City Attorney - (734) 421-5510, e-mail inquiry@plakasadassociates.com
- City Clerk - (734) 467-3185, e-mail clerksofci.westland.mi.us
- Elections and Vital Records - 734-467-3187, e-mail clerksofci.westland.mi.us
- Zoning Board of Appeals - (734) 467-3186, e-mail clerksofci.westland.mi.us
- Community Development - (734) 595-0288
- Downtown Development Authority - (734) 467-3220, e-mail info@westland-dda.com
- Engineering Division - (734) 467-3239
- Finance - (734) 467-3172, e-mail finance@ci.westland.mi.us
- Management Information Systems - (734) 467-7952
- Purchasing - (734) 467-3204, e-mail purchasing@ci.westland.mi.us
- Tax Information - (734) 467-3172, e-mail finance@ci.westland.mi.us
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- Traffic Bureau - (734) 722-9633
- Youth Assistance Program - (734) 467-7904
- William P. Faust Public Library Of Westland - (734) 326-6123
- Public Service - (734) 728-1770, e-mail dps@ci.westland.mi.us
- Engineering Division - (734) 467-3239, e-mail Engdiv@ci.westland.mi.us
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