

Facilities gear up
for school break

OBSERVER LIFE - SECTION C



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PETER'S PRINCIPLES - HEALTH, PAGE C6



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SUNDAY
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City will play host for (senior) Olympics

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Westland, already lauded for its senior citizen programs, will host the Western Wayne County Senior Olympics in 2007.

The event, in its third year, will come to Westland with such activities as basketball shooting, billiards, bowling, baking, card games, football tossing and horseshoes, among many others.

It'll give Westland a chance to showcase places like the senior Friendship Center and Thomas H.

Brown Central City Park - named after the city's first mayor.

"It'll bring a lot of people from other communities here to see what a great city we have," Mayor Sandra Cicirelli said. "It's great to host something like this."

The senior summer games will likely draw hundreds of participants and spectators, said Westland Senior Resources Director Peggy Ellenwood.

"I'm excited about it," she said. "Thomas Brown Central City Park will be a beautiful location for this type of event."

Van Buren Township hosted the first Western Wayne County Senior Olympics last year. This year, it's Northville's turn Aug. 21-25.

County Executive Robert Ficano spearheaded the senior games, patterned after a long-standing event that serves Downriver communities, Ellenwood said.

"The seniors don't have to be athletic to get involved," she said. "When people realize that you don't have to be the Olympic material you see on TV, they are more likely to participate."

Hundreds of seniors participated

in the first event, Ellenwood said, and the games are only expected to grow in popularity.

"By the time we host, it's going to be perfect," she said.

The senior games include an opening ceremony in which representatives from western Wayne County communities carry banners and torches.

Nearly 20 Westland seniors participated in last year's games, and some locals also will be involved in this year's event in Northville, Ellenwood said.

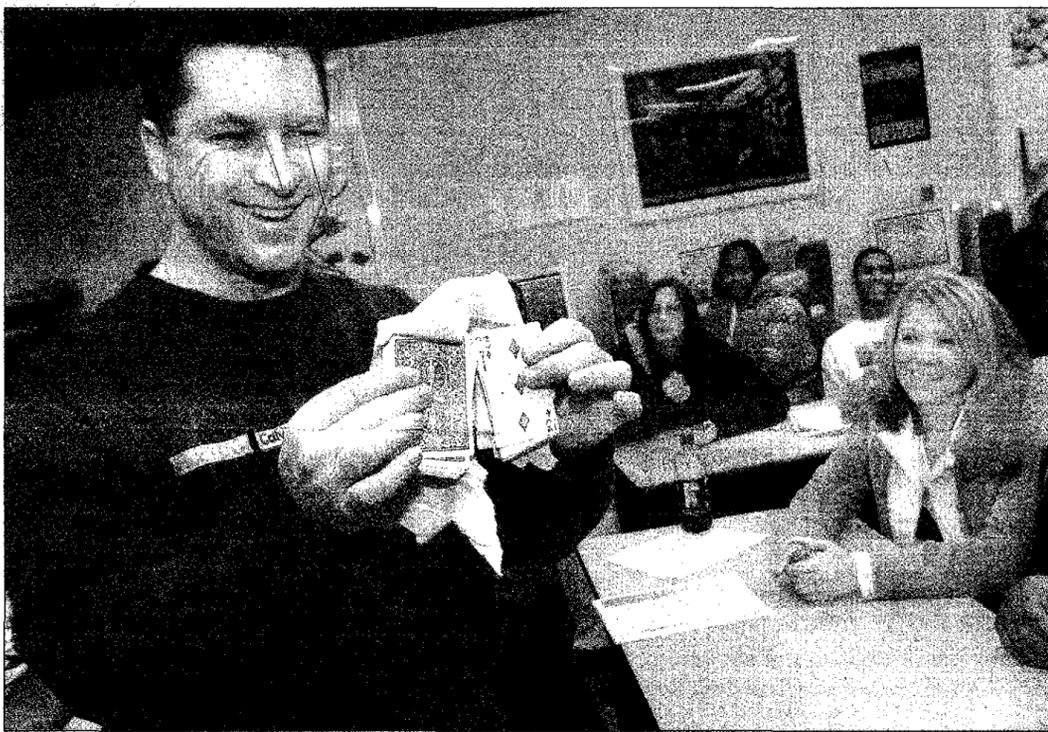
Although Northville will host this

year's games, Westland will be the site for this year's pinochle competition on Aug. 23, she said.

Western Wayne Senior Olympics participants should be 50 or older. For more information, Ellenwood recommended calling the Friendship Center at (734) 722-7628.

Westland has previously drawn attention for its senior programs. It won past national honors for its Senior Health & Fitness Day, initiated locally by former senior Director Sylvia Kozorosky-Wiacek.

dclem@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2110



PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

William Heine, desktop publishing teacher at the William D. Ford Career Technical Center, shows his students one of 127 tricks he knows with cards as an incentive for finishing projects on time.

Magic moments



Teacher catches students' attention with his 'tricky' hand work

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER

The first day David Mitchell sat in amazement and watched his teacher set a wallet on fire.

"He said he was going to do some tricks and when the wallet caught on fire he said it was a hot trick," Mitchell said. "Actually, it was pretty cool."

Little did Mitchell know that his teacher, William Heine, not only knows his way around a computer, but also is a professional magician.

"I'm creating wonder," said Heine. "Now days kids have so many distractions, so I take a little time to have them wonder. With magic, they see things that

they don't understand and appreciate that they don't understand."

Heine, a former sales consultant and trainer for graphics products, has been teaching desktop publishing at the William D. Ford Career Technical Center in Westland for three years, using his magic to capture his students' attention and as an incentive.

"Before I get the message across I need to get their focus," the Plymouth resident said. "My students enjoy being entertained."

Get a project done on time and Heine brings in a few tricks. At Halloween, he puts on a half-hour show for his students. That's when he brings in the big stuff - the birds, the sound system, the



Career Technical student Linda Dowd (from left) looks on as Michelle Horeluk helps Eric Austin split the package containing a deck of cards. All three students attend John Glenn.

PLEASE SEE MAGIC, A6

Governor's budget proposal won't plug hole in WW's 'bucket'

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER

Gov. Jennifer Granholm wants to increase per pupil state school aid \$200 next year. It sounds good, it looks good, but is it enough?

According to Wayne-Westland School Superintendent Greg Baracy, the answer is no. Borrowing a phrase from former state superintendent Tom Watkins, Baracy said the proposed increase doesn't come close to plugging "the hole in the bucket."

"We appreciate getting the \$200, but it's a far cry from making up the three years of frozen foundation allowances and charge backs," he said. "And even with a \$200 increase, it won't cover the health care and retirement increases for our employees."



Baracy

For Wayne-Westland, an extra \$200 per student would generate \$2.7 million in revenue.

However, it expects to spend \$268

per student for anticipated increases in retirement (\$115) and health care (\$153), leaving a deficit of \$68 per student to cover "modest wage increases, increased operating costs and significant increases in utilities," Baracy said.

"And we may not get \$200," he said. "Some of that may be dedicated to other things."

The effect on the budget would be similar to this year, according to a chart prepared by Gary Martin, the deputy

PLEASE SEE PROPOSAL, A5

Elementaries 'lasso' students at roundup

Do you know a member of the class of 2019?

If you have or know a student who will be in kindergarten next year, then you do. All 17 elementary schools in the Wayne-Westland Community Schools will host a Kindergarten Roundup for parents and children at 9 a.m. Tuesday, March 28.

Parents will have the opportunity to tour the school, meet the principal and kindergarten teachers, discuss the curriculum and review registration materials.

They'll also get an opportunity to hear about the district pilot all-day kindergarten program that will be offered in the fall at four schools -

Wildwood in Westland, Hicks in Inkster, Walker-Winter in Canton and Roosevelt-McGrath in Wayne.

Incoming kindergarten students will get the chance to visit the kindergarten rooms, make a craft and meet the teachers. They also will receive a backpack full of school supplies.

Children who will be 5 years old by Dec. 1, 2006, are eligible for kindergarten.

Parents must provide three proofs of residency, the child's birth certificate and immunization record to register their child.

For more information or to see which school a child will attend, call (734) 419-2000.

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Oscars:
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North Brothers expands to Troy Motor Mall

BY JULIE BROWN
STAFF WRITER

North Brothers Ford of Westland is expanding, finalizing a deal Thursday to take over Bob Borst Lincoln-Mercury at the Troy Motor Mall.

"We're extremely excited about this," said Tom North, new president of what will be known as North Brothers Lincoln-Mercury on Maple Road. "It's the right time for us. We believe it's a huge opportunity."

North declined to reveal the purchase price, but indicated that he and other family members had learned that Borst planned to retire.

"We've been looking to expand our business into another dealership," he said. "Some people, I think are, surprised. It's always good to buy

things when times are a little slower.

"We think the economy's going to rebound by the spring of '07."

North added that the family business can continue through that time as is. All Westland employees at the dealership on Ford Road, will stay. The business was started by his grandfather and grandfather's brother in 1936.

"It should be a fairly minor impact," he said of Westland operations.

The total number of Troy jobs won't change early on, but some additional sales staffers will come on board, he added.

"We know we're going to be growing and needing people in other capacities," North said. The Troy area has the right demographics for Lincoln-Mercury, he said, and



This dealership at the Troy Motor Mall on Maple is being purchased by North Brothers Ford in Westland.

is loyal to domestic products. Michele Hodges, president of the Troy Chamber of Commerce, was pleased to hear of the transaction Thursday, and that a business which has won many Ford customer satisfaction awards will be taking over.

"Winners are certainly welcome here in Troy, so we will roll out the red carpet," she said. "We consider the Troy Motor Mall an important asset here in Troy."

Hodges had praise for the Borst operation, also in business for many years.

"His reputation certainly precedes him," she said of Borst and his established business.

The chamber's involved in a major effort on the Maple Road corridor, and Hodges

said the organization "would welcome them to participate in that."

North's brother, Doug, will remain as president at the Westland dealership.

"Leaving the people and the relationships is the only hard part," said Tom North, who plans to get back when possible to visit Westland.

Westland has done well with top customer service, he said.

"We really work hard to keep our customers satisfied," he said, adding that he and others will work to gain new customers and keep them satisfied.

The Norths, who have young children, are expanding in part for career opportunities for the fourth generation.

"We want to have choices," he said.

Local business woman gets national honor

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

A Romulus woman with a Westland-based business has been lauded as one of the nation's top 100 skilled trades people.

Interior decorator ViLinda Everett, who grew up in Westland's Annapolis Park neighborhood, has been acclaimed as one of America's Master Tradesmen by Red Wing Shoe Co., in celebration of its 100th anniversary.

"I'm ecstatic about it," she said.

With her business, Intimate Touch Collections, L.L.C., Everett specializes in custom window treatments and visual displays for special events.

She also has been involved in community service projects. She provided some free services to the local nonprofit Peoples Hope for Homes, which built new homes to revitalize the old Carver subdivision in southeast Westland.

Mena Davis, a former official for the organization, nominated Everett for the Red Wing Shoe Co. award.

Everett, in business for 16



Everett

and economically disadvantaged people.

"I want to teach them to become self-sufficient," she said. "It's part of my giving back to the community."

Everett will be seeking sponsors to help with her apprenticeship program.

She hopes to start it within a year.

Red Wing Shoe Co. President David Murphy, in a letter to Everett, congratulated her on her award, which he wrote is "a tribute to your level of expertise, commitment to the community and dedication to the future of the skilled trade industry."

ViLinda Everett can be reached by phone at (734) 728-5505 or by e-mail at dzigns4u@aol.com.

dclem@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2110

Judge gives serial robber 5-15 years

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Serial bank robber Russell A. Rasmussen, accused of robbing a Westland bank, will spend five to 15 years in prison.

Rasmussen, 28, learned his fate just this month after pleading guilty in Wayne County Circuit Court to a bank robbery charge.

Rasmussen was suspected of bank robberies in several communities, including a Nov. 1 incident at the Comerica branch on Wayne Road south of Warren.

He entered the bank and passed a note to a teller indicating a holdup, police Sgt. Chris Benson said. The note warned the employee to hand over money "and no one will get hurt," although Rasmussen didn't actually reveal a gun, Benson said.

Rasmussen previously was imprisoned for such charges as unarmed robbery, fleeing from police and auto theft. He had been paroled last April and had

less than a year of freedom before being returned to prison.

Rasmussen was charged in Westland in November, within days of the Comerica robbery. His arrest came after a Plymouth Township woman told authorities that he had borrowed her car and didn't return it.

Dearborn Heights police found the woman's car and turned it over to her. In turn, she found a note that, according to authorities, looked like notes that Rasmussen had used in bank robberies.

He pleaded guilty and received a five-to-15 year sentence, meaning that his earliest possible release date will be in February 2011.

If he had decided to proceed with a trial and if he had been convicted, he could have faced penalties ranging up to life in prison. He had been jailed on a \$1 million bond for the Westland robbery, alone.

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STATE OF MICHIGAN IN THE 18th JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

CITY OF WESTLAND,
Plaintiff,

vs

Case No. 05-43591 GC
Hon. Gail McKnight

GERALD M. FELD,
Defendant.

ANGELO A. PLAKAS AND ASSOCIATES, P.C.
Angelo A. Plakas (P 18934)
Mark A. McConnell (P 46434)
Attorneys for Plaintiff, City of Westland
35330 Nankin Boulevard, Suite 702
Westland, MI 48185
(734) 421-5510

COMPLAINT

NOW, COMES the Plaintiff, THE CITY OF WESTLAND, by and through its attorneys, ANGELO A. PLAKAS & ASSOCIATES, P.C., and for its Complaint, states as follows:

1. That Plaintiff, City of Westland, hereinafter referred to as "Westland", is a Michigan Municipal Corporation, with its principal offices located at 36601 Ford Road in the City of Westland, Wayne County, Michigan.

2. That upon information and belief, at the time the events referred to in this Complaint occurred, Defendant GERALD M. FELD, resided at 2100 N. Globe, Westland, Michigan.

3. That the amount in controversy is less than \$25,000, and otherwise within the jurisdiction of this Court.

4. That on August 13, 2001, Defendant applied for, and was accepted into the City of Westland Septic Elimination Financial Loan Program. (Exhibit A)

COUNT I BREACH OF CONTRACT

5. Plaintiff hereby reasserts, realleges and incorporates herein by reference Paragraphs 1 through 4 of this Complaint in their entirety.

6. That pursuant to the contract (Exhibit A), Defendant was to repay the entire amount of the loan, \$4,688.72 to Plaintiff.

7. That Defendant paid \$2,009.46 towards the loan, leaving a current balance of \$2,679.26.

8. That Defendant failed to pay his primary mortgage on this property, and he no longer owns the property this loan related to.

9. That Defendant failed to comply with the terms of the loan agreement. (Exhibit A).

10. That Plaintiff performed all of its obligations under the loan agreement.

11. That the failure to pay constitutes a material breach of the contract, and caused damages to Plaintiff.

COUNT II UNJUST ENRICHMENT

12. Plaintiff hereby reasserts, realleges and incorporates herein by reference Paragraphs 1 through 11 of this Complaint in their entirety.

13. That Plaintiff paid Defendant \$4,688.72 to complete the septic elimination on the property at 2100 N. Globe.

14. That Defendant used this money from Plaintiff to complete the septic elimination on the property located at 2100 N. Globe, thereby increasing the value of this property.

15. That Defendant has repaid \$2,009.46 of the original loan amount.

16. That Defendant would be unjustly enriched if he is allowed to retain the \$2,679.26 that has not been paid to Plaintiff.

WHEREFORE, the Plaintiff, CITY OF WESTLAND, respectfully requests that this Honorable Court grant judgment against Defendant in the amount of \$2,679.26, together with interest, costs and attorney fees.

Date: December 20, 2005

Respectfully submitted,
ANGELO A. PLAKAS AND ASSOCIATES, P.C.

Mark A. McConnell

ORDER FOR ALTERNATE SERVICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN EIGHTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

CASE NO. 05-43591 GC

36375 FORD ROAD, WESTLAND, MICHIGAN 48185 734-595-8720
CITY OF WESTLAND

GERALD M. FELD
2100 N. GLOBE
WESTLAND, MI 48185

Mark A. McConnell P-46434
35330 Nankin Blvd., Suite 702,
Westland, MI 48185
734-421-5510

THE COURT FINDS:

1. Service of process upon defendant Gerald M. Feld cannot reasonably be made as provided in MCR 2.105, and service of process may be made in a manner which is reasonably calculated to give defendant actual notice of the proceedings and an opportunity to be heard.

IT IS ORDERED:

2. Service of the summons and complaint and a copy of this order may be made by the following method(s):
d. Other: Publication in Westland Observer Defendant to have 28 days to answer.

3. For each method used, proof of service must be filed promptly with the court.

Date: 2/3/06 By: Dawn Stein, Deputy Gail McKnight P27420

Publish: February 19, 2006

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Susan Rosiek
Executive Editor
(734) 953-2100
srosiek@hometownlife.com

Hugh Gallagher
Managing Editor
(734) 953-2149
hgallagher@hometownlife.com

Sue Mason
Community Editor
(734) 953-2112
smason@hometownlife.com

Frank Cibor
Retail Sales Manager
(734) 953-2177
fcibor@hometownlife.com

Cathy White
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Filter
PURE ENTERTAINMENT
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KNOW THE SCORE
check out the numbers in today's SPORTS section

CORRECTION

A fifth-grader participating the Walk America program at Kettering Elementary School in Westland which appeared in the Thursday, Feb. 9, issue of *The Westland Observer* should have been identified as Chris Sabal.

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Coming Home King candidate Justin Collop is escorted into the Wayne Memorial gymnasium by Alex Worthy.



The freshman class gives there all in an attempt to win the tug o' war competition.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Be true to your school

Color coordinated, the Wayne Memorial High School junior class shows their spirit with their "Bet U Can't Do It Like Us" T-shirts at the annual Coming Home pep assembly Thursday.

AROUND WESTLAND

Meeting change

Due to Presidents Day, the Westland City Council will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday, rather than Monday, this week. The meeting will be held at City Hall, on Ford Road between Wayne and Newburgh.

Town hall

Mayor Sandra Cicirelli will have her first Town Hall meeting of 2006 at 6 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 23, at the senior citizen Friendship Center, 1119 N. Newburgh. Residents are welcome to voice concerns or ask questions of Cicirelli.

Coffee with Glenn

State Rep. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland, announced that his next local coffee hour with his constituents will be 9-10:30 a.m. Monday, Feb. 20, at the Westland Big Boy restaurant, 6360 N. Wayne at Hunter. Citizens are welcome to address Anderson with their concerns or questions.

Spaghetti Dinner

The Dyer Senior Center, 36745 Marquette, invites Westland residents to the best spaghetti dinner in town. Dinner will be served 4-7

p.m. Friday, March 24, at the center. Cost is \$6 for spaghetti, salad, dessert, entertainment and dancing. Call Mary Browe at (734) 419-2020.

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.

Open houses

St. Damian School will host its annual open house from noon to 2 p.m. Sunday, March 12. An accredited Catholic school, St. Damian is accepting enrollment for all classes at the school at 29891 Joy Road between Middlebelt and Merriman. It offers 3- and 4-year-old preschool, full day kindergarten and grades 1-8. Call (734) 427-1680. 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

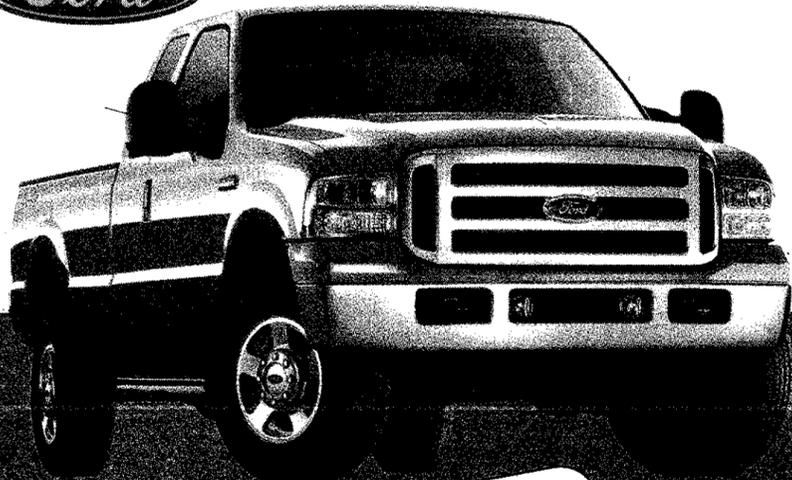
Livonia Public Schools will present Realtor Appreciation Day 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday, March 1, at Emerson Middle School, 29100 W. Chicago in Livonia. The event will include lunch provided by district food service staff, a tour of the school, a presentation featuring the Legacy Initiative video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

Randy Liepa will share a special presentation and be on hand to answer questions. All agents will receive district informational materials. Contact the district at (734) 744-2500.

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 khollenbeck@twmi.rr.com.

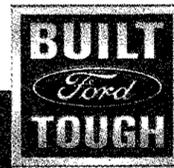
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OPEN SATURDAYS

Legacy opposition attorney: It's a 'strong case'

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA
STAFF WRITER

Southfield Attorney Mayer Morganroth addressed the grassroots group, Citizens for Livonia's Future, Thursday evening, telling the crowd they have good chance of halting the Legacy Initiative.

"We of course feel you have a strong case," said Morganroth, whose clients have included assisted suicide doctor Jack Kevorkian.

The Legacy plan, passed in December by the Livonia Public Schools Board of Education, aims to close schools and reconfigure buildings into lower and upper elementary, middle and high schools next fall. The plan is a districtwide effort to save \$1.5 million to \$2 million a year for the next five years.

Citizens for Livonia's Future

have united against the plan, hoping to stop school closings for the coming year, allowing time to form a new demographics committee and further investigate changes for the future of the district.

Morganroth said he is currently petitioning Wayne County Circuit Court for a temporary restraining order and a preliminary injunction - which would each serve to stop the district from implementing its Legacy Initiative, including recently approved bus purchases, planned school renovations, and transition activities already in progress.

Morganroth said those petitions would be filed Tuesday. He anticipates the court will set a preliminary hearing over the next three to five weeks.

Citizens for Livonia's Future hope to show the court that the actions of the school board and

school district in passing the Legacy Initiative were "arbitrary and capricious." Morganroth also intends to prove that the board violated the Open Meetings Act by allowing four trustees to attend a demographics committee meeting, thus constituting a quorum.

District officials have denied there was ever a quorum at a committee meeting, and said the committee did not keep a record of attendance or minutes.

Morganroth noted that the group's strength lies in its numbers. "Anytime you have this amount of people opposed to it, something's gotta be very wrong with what you're doing,"

He said the board's actions were "inappropriate, improper and downright foolish."

Joe DiDomenico, a parent in the Taylor School area, said

communicating with the school board throughout this process has been like "talking to a wall. They didn't respond to the letter (sent by Morganroth). The bottom line is they just don't care what we say or what we do."

Morganroth said that "lack of response and consideration (is) all part of arbitrary and capricious" behavior.

Morganroth expects the lawsuit would be expedited by the court, rather than become a long, drawn-out process. He said the process would take up to six months, much shorter than a common Wayne County Circuit Court case which he said often takes one or two years.

"This is much greater than a school district event," said Steve Futrell, president of Citizens for Livonia's Future. "This is a communitywide issue. This is not just about the schools. Our kids are very important, and that's why we're here. But it's a community issue."

Futrell told the crowd gathered Tuesday at St. Mary's Church that they need continued support - both in the form of volunteers and financial contributions to support the group's legal expenses.

Citizens for Livonia's Future have begun the effort to recall trustees Dan Lessard, Cynthia Markarian, Lynda Scheel, Rob Freeman and Kevin Whitehead. According to Jody Hamilton the group aims to garner 11,000 signatures - per

Citizens group raising money to pay legal bills

Citizens for Livonia's Future are coordinating a host of fund-raising activities to support their efforts in stopping the school district's Legacy Initiative.

Here are some upcoming events:

■ Bowling for the Future of LPS will begin at 10 p.m. Friday, Feb. 24, at Merri-Bowl Lanes, 30950 Five Mile in Livonia. Cost is \$20 per person, adults only. Call (734) 522-1840.

■ Family Bowling will be 11:45 a.m. to 2 p.m. or 1:45-4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 26, at Wonderland Lanes, 28455 Plymouth in Livonia. Cost is \$10 for children, \$12 for adults. Call (734) 542-0504.

■ Buy or help sell Little Caesars Pizza Kits. Send e-mail to csummers@twmi.rr.com for details.

■ Corsi's Restaurant and Pizzeria will host a spaghetti dinner event noon to 3 p.m. Sunday, March 19, at the banquet center, 27910 W. Seven Mile in Livonia. Cost is \$10 for kids 12 and under, \$15 for adults. Meal includes pasta, salad, bread, beverages and dessert. Send e-mail to savelps@sbcglobal.net.

Contributions to any fund-raising events or efforts will be used to help cover legal fees and additional costs incurred by the citizen's group. They are not tax-deductible, as the group is not registered as a non-profit organization.

Donations are accepted as addressed to Citizens For Livonia's Future, P.O. Box 530892, Livonia, MI 48153-0892. Donations may also be made at LaSalle Bank, where an account has been set up in the group's name. For more information, see www.citizensforlivoniasfuture.com.

trustee - by May 1. If the group is able to collect enough valid signatures, a recall election could take place on Aug. 8.

"We're off to a great start," said Hamilton. "It hasn't even been a week and we've distributed 1,000 petitions. It's much better than we ever expected."

Hamilton said they are in the process of contacting local businesses and coordinating locations to seek signatures for their effort. In the meantime, the group has permission to

ask for signatures in school buildings, "as long as there are no safety issues," and in public parking lots and sidewalks.

If all goes as planned, Hamilton said, "We could have a new board seated by November."

Futrell reminded the group: "This is a process. We as a community are basically fighting the school board... We're standing up and saying 'We don't want this.'"

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Lipari Premium Ham Only \$3.49 LB.	Old Time Deli American Cheese Only \$3.29 LB.	Kowalski Loafs Olive, Pickle, Kielbasa & Old Style Only \$4.19 LB.
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Henry Ford Wyandotte Hospital's Bariatric Surgery Center presents a **FREE** Workshop.

6 p.m., Thursday, March 2
HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS
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Parlor Room A

6 p.m., Tuesday, March 7
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- Insurance Q & A

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INFORMATION CENTRAL

February is Library Lover's Month at the William P. Faust Public Library of Westland. Library Lover's Month is a month-long celebration of public, school and private libraries.

This is a time for everyone to recognize the important role libraries play in the cultural and economic success of local communities and the nation as a whole.

Whether you depend on the library for best-selling books, school assignments, work, children's story times or access to computers and the Internet, we encourage you to show how much you love your library this month.

The Public Library of Westland is celebrating Library Lover's Month by sponsoring an "I Love the Library" contest. Just pick up an entry form at the Reference Desk, the Reception Desk or the Library Lover's display. Tell us why your library is important to you, and drop the form in the box at either the Reference Desk or the Reception Desk.

Each week one person will be selected through a random drawing to receive a prize! Rules are posted on the display. You also will find a lovely display of books and a selection of bookmarks for you to choose from.

There are many ways that you can love your library year round. Be a friend. Join the Friends of the Westland Library. The Friends provide fund-raising assistance for the library, mainly through quarterly used book sales.

Other volunteer opportunities include delivering books to our homebound residents, shelving books, repairing books and assisting staff with various projects.

Promote and support your library by urging local, state and federal legislators to invest in libraries, and by supporting your library in future millage elections.

The library also is looking for volunteers to deliver books to our Homebound patrons. Contact the Homebound Coordinator at (734) 326-6123, if you're interested.

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 *Frinde* by Andrew Clements. Register and pick up your copy of the book from the Children's Desk.

Science Fiction Book Club: 7 p.m. Feb. 22.

Join us as we discuss *Anansi Boys* by Neil Gaiman. Please read the book before the meeting.

Travel on the Internet: 10:30 a.m. Feb. 25.

Feeling the need to get away from the snow and cold? Learn how to plan your trip using the Internet.

A Drug-Free Approach to ADHD: 7 p.m. Feb. 27.

Join Dr. Brian Brackney to learn about safe, natural solutions to help improve behavior and performance. This program is specially designed for parents, teachers, day care supervisors, or anyone who interacts with children.

For more information about the library, call (734) 326-6123, visit the library at 6123 Central City Parkway or take a look online at www.westland.lib.mi.us.

DEATHS

B

Lillian "Patricia" Bassett
Bassett, 90, of Plymouth, died Feb. 12.

C

Frances T. Caldwell
Caldwell, 89, of Rochester Hills, died Feb. 3.

William J. Cecelski
Cecelski, 76, of Rochester Hills, died Feb. 10.

Gladys E. Cutsinger
Cutsinger, 98, of Farmington Hills, died Feb. 15.

D

Margaret M. Donnelly
Donnelly, 73, of Rochester, died Feb. 2.

Margaret Rose Downer
Downer, 54, of Garden City, died Feb. 3.

F

Todd W. Ferguson
Ferguson, 43, of Waterford, died Feb. 15.

G

Jason William Gamble
Gamble, 28, of Wayne, died Jan. 9.

N

Robert Nigohosian
Nigohosian, 69, died Feb. 13.

P

Angela M. Paschke
Paschke, 36, of Farmington Hills, died Feb. 12.

Marguerite J. Primo
Primo, 87, of Lake Orion, died Feb. 8.

Virginia V. Pryce
Pryce, 86, of Westland, died Feb. 7.

S

William R. Steiner
Steiner, 76, of Rochester, died Feb. 7.

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

PROPOSAL

FROM PAGE A1

superintendent of administrative and business services.

This budget year, the state increased school aid by \$175 per student, but while it is bringing in \$2.4 million, it doesn't even cover the \$2.5 million lost due to declining enrollment, \$1.4 million in increased retirement costs and \$1.3 million increase in employee benefits, primarily health.

The net impact, according to Martin, is a \$2.9 million

revenue loss or \$213 in per pupil dollars.

"Until we start keeping up with the rate of inflation, we're going to continue to deplete our savings," Baracy said. "We can't get out of the hole, if we're not keeping up with the increases."

In presenting her proposal, Granholm recommended that the foundation allowance, the per pupil amount the state gives school districts, be increased \$200 to \$7,075 and that \$25 of that amount be given to districts this budget year.

"Our position is that we

would prefer all the money be in the foundation allowance so we have local control over the expenditures," he said.

She is also proposing a \$50 million allocation for districts with declining enrollment. Districts with at least two consecutive years of losses would be eligible and the payment would be based on the difference between a three-year average and actual enrollment. Some 240 school districts could benefit from the proposal.

Wayne-Westland is experiencing declining enrollment. The current school year mem-

bership dropped by 340 students, but Baracy said the proposal appears to be aimed at helping the Detroit Public Schools which has lost thousands of students a year for several years.

The governor's proposal also has targeted \$10 million for improving mathematics and reading literacy skills in kindergarten through third grade and expanding the Great Start School Readiness Programs' funding by \$28.8 million to serve an additional 4,700 students across the state.

Granholm also wants to

provide \$15 million for the implementation of a Michigan After School Program designed to provide after-school learning opportunities in mathematics, science and technology skills for middle school students.

"It's only the governor's recommendation," Baracy said. "We all know it's too early to get excited about additional funds. The budget has to go through the legislative process, so we know it will be significantly different than what we see here."

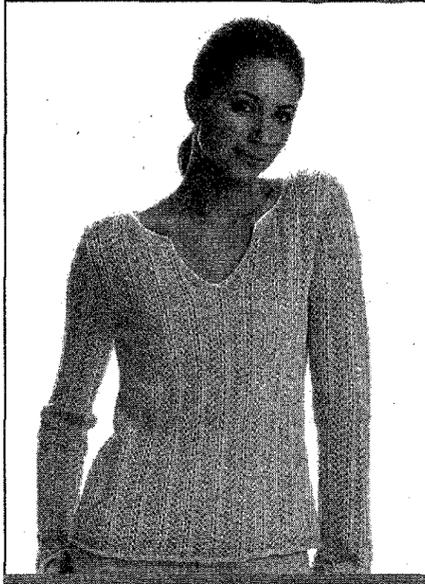
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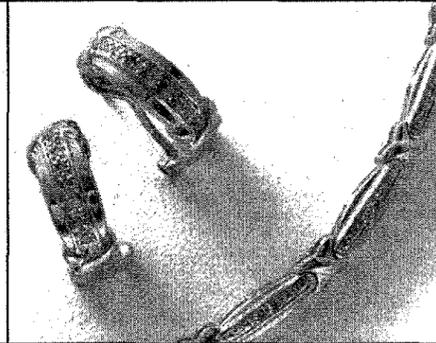
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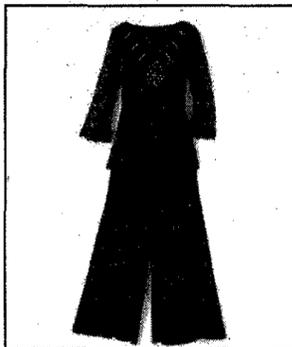
19.97 1/8 CT. T.W. EARRINGS, BRACELETS & PENDANTS. **Orig. 60.00-100.00**, Bonus Buy price 19.97, after Monday 29.99. IN ACCESSORIES.



19.97 YOUR CHOICE of any size Oleg Cassini "Savannah" luggage. Choose from personal tote, 21" upright, 25" upright or 28" upright. **Orig. 80.00-140.00** each, Bonus Buy price 19.97 each, after Monday 39.99 each. IN GIFTS. COLORS AND SIZES VARY BY STORE.



14.97 GIRLS' GAUCHOS from Amy Byer, Ferocious Chick and Beatees. Sizes 7-16. **Orig. 30.00**, Bonus Buy price 14.97, after Monday 22.50. Also available, tops from Beatees and Eyeshadow. Sizes 7-16. **Orig. 24.00-26.00**, Bonus Buy price 12.97, after Monday 18.00-19.50. IN CHILDREN'S.



14.97 each CROCHET TUNICS AND PALAZZO PANTS in Vibe (Young Contemporary). **Orig. 38.00** each, Bonus Buy price 14.97 each, after Monday 19.99 each. IN VIBE. NOT AVAILABLE AT NORTH POINT MALL.



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CITY OF GARDEN CITY
ORDINANCE # 06-004

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 154 ZONING OF TITLE XV LAND USAGE OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE CITY OF GARDEN CITY, SECTION 154.036 PERFORMANCE GUARANTEE.

THE CITY OF GARDEN CITY HEREBY REPEALS THE EXISTING SECTION 154.036 PERFORMANCE GUARANTEE, AND HEREBY ORDAINS:

THAT THE CITY COUNCIL SHALL ENACT AND ORDINANCE, WHICH REGULATES THE REQUIREMENTS OF PERFORMANCE GUARANTEE, AS FOLLOWS:

§154.036 PERFORMANCE GUARANTEE; REQUIREMENTS; PERMITS AND/OR APPROVALS

(A) *Intent and scope of requirements.* To insure compliance with the provisions of this chapter and any conditions imposed thereunder, the Planning Commission, Community Development Director, Zoning Administrator or their designee may require that a performance guarantee be deposited with the city, prior to the issuance of permits or approvals, to insure faithful completion of improvements, in accordance with §4e of the City or Village Zoning Act, public Act 207 of 1921, being MCLA §§125.581-125.590, as amended. Improvements for which the city may require a performance guarantee include, but are not limited to roadways, lighting, utilities, sidewalks, driveways, screening, grading and drainage, incomplete structures, site clean-up and landscape buffers.

(B) *General requirements.* The performance guarantee shall meet the following requirements:

- (1) The performance guarantee shall be in the form of cash, certified check, irrevocable letter of credit from a Michigan lending institution, surety bond or performance bond which names the property owner/developer/contractor as the obligor and the city as the at-will obligee or beneficiary.
- (2) The performance guarantee shall be submitted at the time of issuance of the permit authorizing the activity or project.
- (3) The amount of the performance guarantee shall be sufficient to cover the estimated cost of the project/development/improvements for which the performance guarantee is required. Prior to the issuance of the permit authorizing the activity or project, the applicant shall provide an itemized schedule of estimated costs to complete the project/development/improvements. The amount of the performance guarantee shall be determined by the Zoning Administrator or Building Official and shall be reasonably related to the costs incurred by the city to complete the project/development/improvements.
- (4) The entire performance guarantee shall be returned to the applicant following issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy by the Building Official and/or final site approval by the Community Development Director or designee where appropriate. The performance guarantee may be released to the applicant in proportion to the work completed on various elements, provided that a minimum of 10% shall be retained on each element until satisfactory completion of the entire project.

(C) *Unsatisfactory completion of improvements.* Whenever required improvements are not installed or maintained within the time stipulated or in accordance with the standards set forth in this chapter or the Approved Site Plan, the city may complete the necessary improvements and assess all costs of completing the improvements plus interest against the performance guarantee. Prior to the City completing the improvements, the city shall notify the owner, site plan review applicant, or other firm or individual responsible for completion of the required improvements.
(Ord. 92-005, passed 2-17-92) Penalty, see §154.999

REPEALER
Any section of the City Code in conflict herewith is hereby repealed.

SAVINGS CLAUSE
Any prosecution, civil suit or other court proceeding which is pending on the effective date of this Ordinance and which arose from any violation(s) of any Ordinance repealed by this Ordinance, or a prosecution which is started within one (1) year after the effective date of this ordinance arising from any violation of any Ordinance repealed by this Ordinance that was committed prior to the effective date of this Ordinance, shall be tried and determined exactly as if the Ordinance had not been repealed.

SEVERABILITY
The invalidity of any clause, sentence, paragraph or part of this Ordinance hereby adopted shall not affect the validity of the remaining parts.

DATE OF EFFECT
This Ordinance shall become effective on February 19, 2006.

JAYLEE LYNCH Mayor
ALLYSON BETTIS City Clerk-Treasurer

Adopted: February 13, 2006
Resolution: 06-02-029
Publish: February 19, 2006

Wayne-Westland Community Schools
Westland, Michigan 48185

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
RE-BID for Bid Division 101 & 104 ONLY

Sealed bids for Wayne-Westland Community Schools' Bid Package #19,

Consisting of: Wayne Memorial H.S. Athletics Program Addition, Wayne Memorial H.S. Gym Air Conditioning, Wayne Memorial H.S. Toilet Room Remodeling, David Hicks Elevator Addition

will be received until **1:30 P.M. local time on Tuesday, March 7, 2006** at which time they will be opened and read publicly at Wayne-Westland Community School Board of Education Office, located at 36745 Marquette, Westland, Michigan 48185. Bids received after this time and date will be returned unopened.

This is a Re-Bid for Bid Divisions 101 & 104 only. Bids for all other Bid Divisions will be returned unopened.

Faxed proposals will not be accepted.

This Bid Package will consist of a separate sealed bid for the following Bid Divisions:

101	Site Excavation / Sit Utilities
104	Concrete Footings & Foundations

Bidding documents prepared by **TMP Associates, Inc.** will be available for public inspection at the office of the Construction Manager, **McCarthy & Smith, Inc.**, 24317 Indoplex Circle, Farmington Hills, MI 48335; the FW Dodge Plan Room, Southfield; the Construction Association of Michigan Plan Room, Bloomfield Hills; and the Daily Construction Reports Plan Room, Detroit.

Bidders may obtain one (1) set of bidding documents, beginning Wednesday, February 15, 2006, by contacting the Construction Manager, **McCarthy & Smith, Inc.**, at (248) 427-8400. Additional plans may be ordered and purchased directly from Dunn Blue Reprographics Technology, (248) 353-2950. Bids are to be submitted in a sealed envelope supplied by the Construction Manager, **McCarthy & Smith, Inc.** The bid division(s) being bid is/are to be identified on the outside of the envelope.

A sworn and notarized statement disclosing any familial relationship existing between the bidder and any member of the school board, school superintendents, or chief executive must accompany each bid. A board shall not accept a bid that does not include this statement. This statement is on the proposal execution form.

Each bid shall be accompanied by a Bid Bond in the amount of five (5) percent of the amount of the bid, payable to Wayne-Westland Community Schools, as a guarantee that if the proposal is accepted, the bidder will execute the contract and file the required bonds within ten (10) days after notice of award of contract.

If awarded a contract, the successful bidder will be required to furnish a Performance Bond and Labor and Material Payment Bond. Wayne-Westland Community Schools reserve the right to reject any or all bids received and to waive any informalities and irregularities in the bidding.

This project is to be bid at the prevailing wage rate.

Publish: February 19 & 26, 2006



A flame shoots from an open wallet where William Heine had stashed a playing card. Like magic, it turned up in the deck.

MAGIC

FROM PAGE A1

whole shebang."
"It works very well, they push each other along so they get to see more magic tricks," he said.

Magic is a way to introduce students to the idea of looking at things from different perspectives in desktop publishing.

"In magic, you try to capture people's attention by showing them something they don't always see, they're not use to seeing things done that way," he said. "Magic is the same way. You want to fool the senses."

SLEIGHT OF HAND

Heine has been doing magic for 35 years. He was introduced to the sleight of hand at age 10 and did his first show at age 11. He made \$5. That first gig was three doors down his street at a birthday party.

He also remembers his first trick, the egg bag, a trick in which an egg magically appears and disappears in a bag.

At the peak of his career, he was opening at the Fisher Theater for comedian Robert Townsend and for fellow magician Harry Blackstone Jr.

"It was pretty exciting being in a theater like that," he said. "Now, I do it on weekends and a lot more in the summer."

And it was his magic that got Heine into desktop publishing. He delved into it to produce his own magic brochure.

With 14 years of experience in graphic design, he decided to shelve his sales job and turned to teaching. Now he's only one class away from getting his vocational certification.

"I wanted to do something that meant more to me than selling things," he said. "This job you can have a positive impact on kids."

Heine not only entertains his students with his magic, he also teaches them a trick at the end of the school year.

"I teach them something so they can see how it looks before and how it looks after," he said. "They learn it so they can see the difference."

TEACHING OTHERS

Heine also plans to take his teaching beyond desktop publishing. He plans to open a magic summer camp in 2007 for kids ages 7-12, teaching beginning and intermediate magic.

"So many parents would come up to me and ask if I would teach their kids, or tell me I should have magic lessons," he said. "It's a way of getting kids away from video games and teach them coordination, presentation skills and self-confidence."

Mitchell and classmate Sarah Thurmond enjoy Heine's feats of prestidigitation. One of their favorites is when he crumples a newspaper, rips it and then puts it back together. "You even hear it rip," said Mitchell. "It's fun. He jokes around."

"After third hour, I look forward to his class," said Thurmond. "I love the computer work and taking a picture and making stuff out of it."

The teens had been working on calendars and some, like Thurmond were moving on to doing CD covers. Heine also has them do a project in which they are responsible for the entire campaign.

"Teens have a hard time with time constraints, so I teach deadlines," he said. "They don't have a lot of time so they have to change their strategies to meet the deadlines."

As for the lesson they get from the magic ... "They learn that magic takes dedication," he said. "You can't do it haphazardly, you have to commit to learning the presentation skills."

People interested in William Heine's magic camp, can call him at (734) 454-9392 or e-mail him at magicguy_10@yahoo.com.

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HURON VALLEY HONORS

Receiving highest honors – grade point averages between 3.75 and 4.0 -- for the first semester of the 2005-06 school year at Huron Valley Lutheran High School in Westland were:
■ 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

Those receiving honors – grade point averages between 3.0 and 3.74 – were:

■ 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 Tacila and Braden Woldt-Babb.

PURE ENTERTAINMENT!

Filet Every Thursday!

American Dream has bypassed Michigan's working class

There's an old saying that goes you can't pick your family or your neighbors, only your friends. In my case, I dearly love (most of) my family members and I get along well enough with my neighbors.

But from all that I've been reading and listening to recently about the sad state of affairs throughout Michigan, it seems my (extended) family is precisely the type of folks who have no future here.

A little background: My maternal family tree can be traced back to County Monaghan, Ireland, to one Francis McElmeel, who was born in the early 1800s. Like many other people in this area, I still have countless relatives in the mother country, in my case the Emerald Isle.

My maternal grandparents emigrated to the U.S. in the 1920s, my grandfather as a young adult on his own, my grandmother as a teenager with her parents. They eventually made their way to the Detroit area, where they met and were married in 1936 at St. Leo's Catholic Church in the city.

Over the years, they moved to Lincoln Park, where they raised 13 children with my grandfather the sole bread-winner of the family; he retired in 1973 after working 43 years for Great Lakes Steel in Ecorse. He kept his grandchildren amazed in his later years by showing off his "souvenir" of working in the steel mills — a right hand missing the ring and pinkie fingers.

The very idea that a family of 13 children could be financed today with one salary is beyond the pale — unless, of course, your income is that of a professional athlete or corporate executive. Yet that's what my grandparents did, even sending most of their children to parochial schools. They were the very embodiment of hard work until the day(s) they died — my grandfather in 1992, my grandmother in 2000.

Their children have grown into adulthood, middle age and now their twilight years, themselves marrying and having children. That next generation, while spread from early childhood to approaching 50, has further multiplied and spread the family genes to succeeding generations. Amazingly enough, virtually every descendent from that union some 70 years ago still lives in the metro area, including myself, my wife and our two children. When you count all the various in-laws added to the brood over the years, the numbers are quite staggering.

Yet to hear Gov. Jennifer Granholm and other elected officials talk, my family has no role to play in the future of Michigan — despite the rather large role we played in its history. Why?

Because we are a family of typical Michigan stock. Many of my uncles served in the U.S. Army (Vietnam era); most didn't attend college. In fact, although the numbers have increased with each generation, only a handful of my relatives have any post-secondary schooling.

Instead, the vast majority found honest work in the automobile industry — more than I can count. Those that didn't labored elsewhere, in construction work, as county or city employees, as service workers and many other essential jobs that have provided them a good, solid living — the very essence of our state's middle class.

We gather often as a group, to celebrate birthdays, anniversaries, weddings and, regrettably, funerals. We go to Red Wings games, to Tigers games, to concerts at Cobo Arena and Pine Knob (take that, DTE). We head outdoors to places like Hines Park and Erie Metropark. Some of us own boats or snowmobiles that get dragged up North whenever the opportunity arises.

Truth be told, as a group we probably drink too much, smoke too much and (on occasion) eat too much. I have no doubt that we've contributed our fair share to Michigan's ongoing obesity problem.

In short, ours is a story that could be retold by any one of thousands of Michigan families, people who came to this state in search of a better life than they left behind. For the most part, we found it and have been able to give the next generation a better foundation in the process.

But is this where it stops? Have we reached the point where Michigan offers no promise to those willing to work hard and sacrifice to earn a living? Let's face it — we aren't all going to be engineers or biomedical technicians or life sciences specialists, just as most of our ancestors weren't those things.

I fear for my children's future in this area, where we've been told that it will be impossible to earn an honest day's pay for an honest day's work. Those days are gone forever, and they're not coming back. What about all the people who have in the past and continue to engage in the hum-drum of blue-collar work?

Sure, I want my children to go to college. In fact, they're probably sick of listening to me recite the same mantra every day — your education is your ticket in life. But, just as with any big game or red-hot concert, not everyone is going to be able to acquire a ticket.

I've been fortunate enough to have witnessed and partaken in the classic American dream. Some might tell me it's time to wake up. That's fine — because I'm afraid the nightmare is just around the corner.

Bill Emerick is a copy editor for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. He welcomes comments at bemerick@hometownlife.com.

Patterson's proposal could spur needed tax reform

If there's one person in Michigan politics who can be depended on to raise a rumpus, often at just the right time, it's Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson. He did it again — big time — last week in his State of the County speech.

He announced he'd lead a statewide drive to repeal the Single Business Tax, and he's planning to raise \$800,000 in pledges from businesses and individuals to fund a petition drive to put the issue on this November's ballot.

Michigan's main business tax, the SBT, is essentially a tax on payroll. But it is complex, difficult to administer and stands out like a sore thumb in comparison with business taxes in other states. According to state government revenue forecasts for 2006, the SBT yields \$1.8 billion in revenue for the state, representing nearly one-quarter of the state's total \$8.2 billion general fund.

Flourishing his reliably flamboyant rhetoric, Patterson called the SBT "damnable," a "job killer" and a "business killer."

"More than the global economy, the Single Business Tax is killing this state because it is killing jobs in Michigan," he said.

He assaulted "our friends in Lansing" for pussy-footing around the fundamental problem of Michigan's arcane tax structure. "They've introduced legislation, which quite frankly nibbles around the edges of meaningful business tax reform. ... We've been arguing about the impact of the Single Business Tax in this state for more than 15 years. The endless debates on this subject have produced more flatulence than a Super Bowl party at an MSU frat house."

Whew! But regardless of the rhetoric, Patterson's move does two things, both very good. First, by threatening to put a radical — and likely popular — tax cut on the ballot, he is forcing both the Legislature and Gov. Jennifer Granholm to get serious about a problem that they've been ducking for years.

Second, it puts front and center just what \$1.8 billion from the SBT buys. It's almost exactly the same amount the state spends in total for either all our colleges and universities or the entire corrections system. So if you eliminate the SBT and don't make up the revenue it produces, you have no higher education system or no jails and prisons.

Patterson's speech also sets up a magnificent sensible scenario for a way out of this morass. He hints at a way in which Michigan can simultaneously reform its out-of-date tax system and begin to resolve the chronic billion-dollar-plus structural state budget deficit.

At the same time, we could undo the damage to our economic future that's been caused by \$300 million in cuts to our universities over the past five years.

Here's how it could work:

Most importantly, anybody who knows anything about economic development would love it, as it is plain that our economic future absolutely depends on the ability of our higher education system to help us toward a knowledge-based economy.

The Legislature passes a bill repealing the SBT, which is signed by the governor. Contained in the bill is a requirement that the \$1.8 billion in lost revenue be replaced either by an increase in the state income tax or a reduction in the rate of the state sales tax, which would then be expanded to apply to both goods and services.

Voters statewide will be presented with a choice between these two on the November ballot. And the legislation contains an earmark allocating a specified percentage of the new revenue stream to our state's colleges and universities.

Business would love it. Politicians who want to be anti-tax would love it, especially since selecting which device to make up the lost revenue would be put in the hands of the people. Colleges and universities (and their students and their families, who have been forced to make up for legislative cuts in state support by increased tuition payments) would be thrilled.

Most importantly, anybody who knows anything about economic development would love it, as it is plain that our economic future absolutely depends on the ability of our higher education system to help us toward a knowledge-based economy.

I asked Tom Clay, the respected research director of the Michigan Citizen's Research Council, how the numbers worked. He estimates a 5-percent sales tax (down from the present 6-percent rate) levied on most services — excepting health care — would come close to making up the loss in income from the SBT.

When I presented this scenario to Patterson, he jumped at the idea.

"To get the Legislature and the governor to act saves me a long season of hard slogging," he told me.

"Broadening the sales tax while reducing the rate seems fair. And earmarking part of the revenue stream for higher education strengthens just the things in Michigan that will drive our future economic growth."

OK, Gov. Granholm. OK, legislators. Brooks Patterson has teed it up for you. Do you have the guts to do the right thing at the right time? Or will you whiff and fail us, yet again? It's your choice.

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



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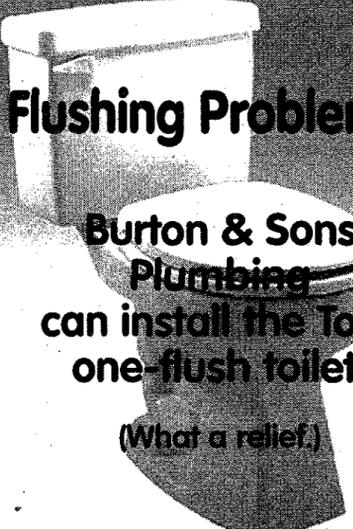
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DeVos: This year's governor's race is all about jobs

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER

Dick DeVos said it's no surprise from talking with people he's met across the state — including those with whom he spoke to Friday in Livonia, Plymouth and Canton — there's one campaign issue the people of Michigan want the next governor to tackle the most. "It's all about jobs, and how are we going to get Michigan back to work," said DeVos. "Seems to make sense to me that if the issues are business related, maybe it's time for somebody with a business background."

DeVos, who made his fortune heading the Amway Corp. in Grand Rapids and is the Republican candidate for governor, said in order to get Michigan back to work, the state's Single Business Tax needs to be repealed. "It's a tax that punishes employers," said DeVos. "If employers add health care for their employees, they get

taxed on it. It's a disincentive to do what we want to do in this state and have jobs.



DeVos

"I would ask for a repeal as soon as possible, and we would work — in the meantime — to resolve how to take care of any deficit as a result," said DeVos. "We need to take that kind of bold step forward in this state. This governor said in the campaign she was going to get rid of the Small Business Tax, and it hasn't been done."

DeVos has been criticized by Granholm for failing to outline details of his economic recovery program. DeVos said not to worry, it's only February, and he's not tipping his hand early in the campaign. "The current governor didn't issue any plans (in her last campaign) until September, that's the histo-

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ry," said DeVos. "We'll have proposals in place well before a full and lively debate."

DeVos is also quick to fight back against accusations by Democrats that his corporation cut Michigan jobs and invested in China. "They're lying," DeVos said straight-faced. "I had to restructure a company during a time when we also knew we had to grow the business, and entered the China market. Not one job

left the United States to go to China, not one product manufactured at our plant in China left China to come to the United States."

"The Democrats are saying one plus one equals 11," he said. "Maybe in the new math, but not in the real world."

When it comes to new math, DeVos isn't too sympathetic about the dilemma faced by many school districts throughout the state which are dipping into cash reserves that are rapidly disappearing, resulting in program cuts.

"We're 48th in the country in the amount of money that gets stuck in administration versus going into classroom delivery," said DeVos. "It's a matter of management, priority and accountability, that's why charters are such an important part of the mix. They provide a real challenge for every school to be focused on what it delivers to its students and the parents who send them there."

"A lot of them (public schools) have apparently made the decision to go into deficit spending ... but have they really done what they need to do to adjust their expenses to suit the reality," questioned DeVos.

Last summer, more than 10,000 supporters of education rallied at the state capitol, urging legislators to change Proposal A and its funding mechanism for local school districts. DeVos said if he's elected, the tweaking of Proposal A will not be a priority.

"I don't foresee a change in Proposal A ... it's working quite well, considering the circumstances," he said. "If you're going to cut back and continue to do everything you used to do to be everything to everybody, at the end of the day you're going to be nothing to nobody."

"This governor flatlined funding for education per student for the first few years," he said. "Gov. (John) Engler, a Republican gover-

nor, had 12 years of consistent increases for education. He realized it was a priority, and put his money where his mouth is."

Despite the adversities of Michigan's automotive industry, DeVos said it's up to the carmakers and suppliers to deal with the realities, not the state.

"No governor can solve the problems of the auto industry," said DeVos. "The leaders of the unions, the leaders of the companies, have got to work together to resolve those issues and make those hard choices to get those companies back on their feet."

"You're not going to diversify the economy without helping small- and medium-size business to grow," he said. "They're going to be the engines for jobs of the future ... taking up the slack and offering opportunities for those workers to get back to work."

tbruscato@hometownlife.com
(734) 459-2700

Schoolcraft marks Women's History Month

Schoolcraft College will mark the first day of Women's History Month with a talk by Suzanne Mallare Acton, artistic and musical director for Rackham Symphony Choir, on Wednesday, March 1.

Acton will speak on Voices of Light: Looking at History through a Modern Multi-Media Lens. Voices of Light is a contemporary oratorio, written to accompany the 1928 silent film

masterpiece *La Passion de Jeanne d'Arc* (The Passion of Joan of Arc). She will accompany her remarks with scenes from the film.

The piece is a celebration of female spirituality and heroism, bringing to life the trial and end of life of St. Joan by giving her a voice. The text is built around a series of writings by women writers of the Middle Ages.

The talk begins at 11 a.m. in the Forum Building, room 310, from 11am-12pm. A question and answer period will follow.

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For arthritis, back pain, muscle aches and neck stiffness, use heat. Heat opens up blood vessels, and augments local blood supply. The flow of blood through an inflamed area carries away chemicals irritating the area and brings in nutrients that hasten healing. Thus heat helps.

In the same situations there is a role for cold. What cold does is to create numbness around the irritated areas, replacing the sensation of pain with the more acceptable sense of tingling. You feel better, but the underlying impairment remains unchanged. Thus cold comforts.

In the way of applying heat, physicians are leery of electric heating pads. The heat keeps flowing and can cause a burn at the site of application. Hot water bottles and hydrocollator packs start hot and cool down, resulting in little chance of heat injury.

When applying heat or cold, 10-15 minutes at a time suffices. More does not open blood vessels further or increase the relief numbness brings.

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