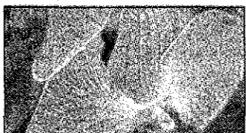


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AT HOME - SECTION D



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Guest PINK Picks with Detroit artist and girl-about-town

Gwen Joy pink PAGE D8



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Dispute ends in 3 arrests

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

A fight outside of a Westland biker/leather shop ended with the owner being attacked by three young men, including one who was stabbed by the owner's daughter as she came to her father's rescue, police said.

The incident happened about 2:15 p.m. Friday outside of R.A.W. Leathers, a business on Wayne Road south of Avondale that sells leather jackets and other biker goods, police Sgt. David Heater said.

The 41-year-old owner suffered bruises and abrasions when he was attacked by three Detroit men in their 20s, Heater said.

One of his assailants, 21, was stabbed in the right shoulder area when the shop owner's 18-year-old daughter got a folding knife from her car and intervened, according to police reports.

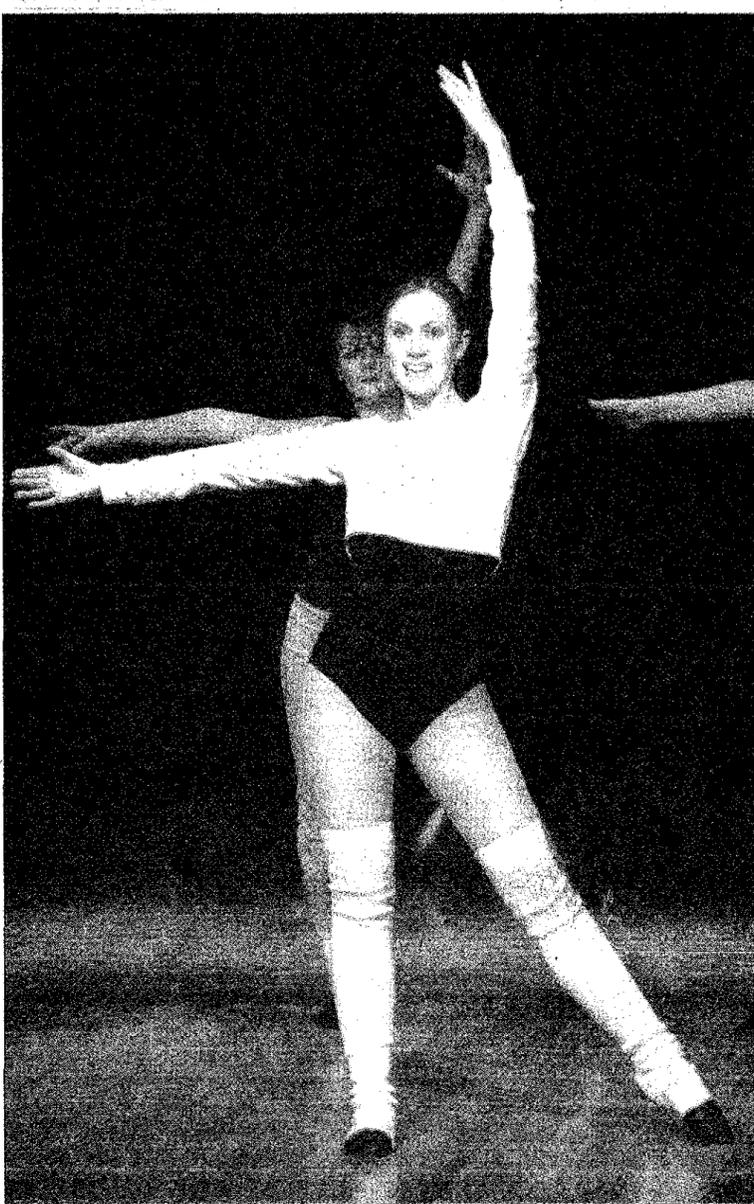
The 21-year-old man was treated at a hospital and released, Heater said.

The dispute actually started a short time earlier at a nearby KFC where, according to the shop owner's daughter, she and a teenage friend were harassed by the Detroit men while standing in line, Heater said.

The shop owner had accompanied the young women, but was in the KFC restroom at the time, according to statements made to police.

The teenagers told the shop owner about being harassed when he returned, and he and the Detroit men exchanged words in the KFC parking lot, Heater said.

PLEASE SEE DISPUTE, A5



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

It's show time!

John Glenn High School senior Jessica Syria is wearing several hats in the John Glenn High School production of *Hollywood on Broadway* this weekend. She appears as aspiring dancer Jody Sawyer in the production which she co-wrote with Sean Barone, an is the assistant director and choreographer. For more on the production, see Page A3.

New director aims to fill vacant stores

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

As Westland tries to weather an economic storm, Mayor Sandra Cicirelli has hired a new administration official to help.

William Caya, 58, started his job Monday as economic development director, filling a position that remained vacant nearly four years as Cicirelli fought to trim spending.

Caya left a similar job in Belleville, where Cicirelli said he "received a lot of good praise."

While some new businesses have moved in, Westland also has lost some longtime stores, most recently Pier 1 Imports and Mervyn's near Westland Shopping Center.

Although the mall remains healthy, some local leaders have voiced strong concerns about longtime vacancies, such as the old Best Buy, MedMax, Service Merchandise, Sam's Club and the Quo Vadis theater.

Caya appears acutely aware of those concerns.

"One of my goals will be to work toward filling the vacant big box stores," he said.

Caya also hopes to lure new tenants to the city's manufacturing and industrial parks, saying he wants to be "creative"

in luring businesses that may not be typical for those areas. "He has some good ideas," Cicirelli said. "He thinks outside of the box."

Since former Economic Development Director Scott Veldhuis' position was trimmed early in Cicirelli's first term as mayor, those duties have been handled by Planning Director Bruce Thompson.

With Michigan's economy still reeling, Cicirelli decided to restore the economic development director's post. She said she hired Caya "because of his extensive background."

Caya said he has worked 20 years in economic development, holding positions in Detroit, Flint, Flint Charter Township and most recently Belleville.

He was born in Detroit but grew up in the Downriver area.

Caya's hiring will come as welcome news to many in the local business community. Just recently, Westland Chamber of Commerce President Lori Brist said that filling the economic development director's post was long overdue.

Cicirelli formally introduced Caya during a Westland City Council meeting on Monday.

"He hit the ground running this morning," she said. dclem@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2110

Friends take to road to sell its cookbook

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Westland historians have cooked up another way of selling a cookbook aimed at raising money to renovate local historic buildings.

And what better place to market the book, *Cooking With Friends*, than in front of a grocery store?

The cookbook, with 295 recipes from 134 local contributors, will be sold 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday at the Farmer Jack store on the northeast corner of Warren and Middlebelt roads, said local historian Ruth Dale.

The book, compiled by the Friends of the Westland Historical Museum, costs \$10. Proceeds will be used to renovate buildings, such as the 1800s Rowe House and Octagon House, located on museum property on Wayne

Road, between Cherry Hill and Marquette.

Historians started selling the book in early March after ordering 400 copies from Tennessee-based Fundcraft Publishing - a firm specializing in fund-raising cookbooks.

"We've sold about 230 copies," Dale said.

That leaves only 170 copies, and she said Friends of the Westland Historical Museum want to try to sell out as soon as possible.

The cookbook is the latest way of raising money for the city's historic buildings. Other fund-raisers by such historians as Jo Johnson and Georgia Becker have included the sale of T-shirts and coffee mugs.

For more information about the cookbook or to get a copy, call Dale at (734) 425-1955 or Jim Franklin at (734) 595-8119.

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On the Web, the new Weekly Real Estate section has more than 200 local real estate offices and more than 24,000 local listings at www.hometownlife.com.

"We have invested months in researching this publication and talked with major real estate agents in the marketplace to better understand their business," Neill said. "We feel this product will help deliver the advertising message, not only in print, but be available to online users on a 24-hour basis - something that business and consumers today expect."



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INDEX

- APARTMENTS B9
- BELIEFS & VALUES A20
- AUTOMOTIVE C8
- CLASSIFIED INDEX C1
- CROSSWORD B8
- JOBS C1
- MOVIES E14
- OBITUARIES A20
- OPINION A10-11
- REAL ESTATE B7
- SERVICE GUIDE C7
- SPORTS B1

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Legacy's benefits, 'transparency' divide candidates during forum

BY DAVE VARGA
STAFF WRITER

The gloves came off at a League of Women Voters forum March 30 between Livonia Public Schools board candidates Joanne Morgan, the incumbent, and Steve King, the challenger.

The two, vying for a four-year seat in the May 2 election, faced some two dozen questions, many dealing with the controversial Legacy Initiative, a plan to close seven schools and reconfigure grades this fall to save money.

Often they came back to central themes: King saying the board needed to share information better, become more transparent in its decisions, and answer unanswered questions on the Legacy plan; Morgan focusing on student learning and educational excellence, defending the Legacy plan as forward thinking, maintaining small class sizes and as still a "work in progress."

King took the offensive in his opening statement, saying voters could judge his opponent's real legacy on the board on a litany of issues - selling the Rosedale property "at below market value" without bids, halting the superintendent search, proposing late-start times for school on Wednesdays (a plan that was dropped after parent pressure), spending \$40,000 on a special sinking fund election just over a month before the general election last year, etc.

'TRANSPARENCY'

"My first goal," King said, "is transparency in every decision this district makes." He'd urge a standing committee on land issues, zero-based budgeting and a host of cost-cutting proposals, such as eliminating unneeded snow days and slicing energy expenses in buildings.

Morgan said her goal "has to be student achievement," and that's why the Legacy plan is important. She listed its benefits - keeping class sizes low, reducing the need for split



Morgan



King

grades, reinstating physical education classes, adding professional development for staff, and keeping students together from fifth grade through high school.

However, Morgan noted that the plan isn't complete. "We continue to get input from the community," she said, noting that the transition teams were working on details. "This is a work in progress and we continue to work on this every day."

ON THE SPECIFICS

Questioners focused on the details. How much would the plan actually save?

Morgan said the cost of buying buses - among the one-time costs - was less than expected. She was reluctant to offer specific numbers, saying previously critics have "turned around and thrown (them) back at the board."

King estimated the costs at \$10 million. (He later explained that figure included new buses, drivers, renovating Emerson and Riley, rebuilding driveways and parking lots, etc.) As for avoiding specifics, King said, "that's what people are upset about. We have to have this information."

Another question focused on the extra 3,700 students who'll be bused.

"I'm very concerned about that, especially without traffic studies," King said, adding that fuel costs and safety could be issues.

"I would rather," Morgan countered, "have those 3,700 kids riding on a bus than be in larger classrooms or lose instrumental music or art or any other program."

Asked about the enrollment in the newly configured school buildings (K-4 and 5-6), Morgan noted that these larger buildings aren't ideal.

However, she explained that K-4 schools are significantly smaller than they would be under the other (K-6) plan. "In a world that's not ideal, we need to do what's best for our students."

King noted that all the research shows smaller campuses are better.

OPPONENTS

Each candidate referred back to their opponent's theme at points during the forum.

In reply to a question on the grades 5-6 plan and student learning, King said, "There's so many unanswered questions it's hard to say how learning is going to be enhanced."

Morgan, in answer to a question about safety at Cooper School, grew angry, saying students have attended Cooper for 15 years and it's "nonsense" that there's something unsafe. "To me," Morgan said, "transparency means telling the truth about things."

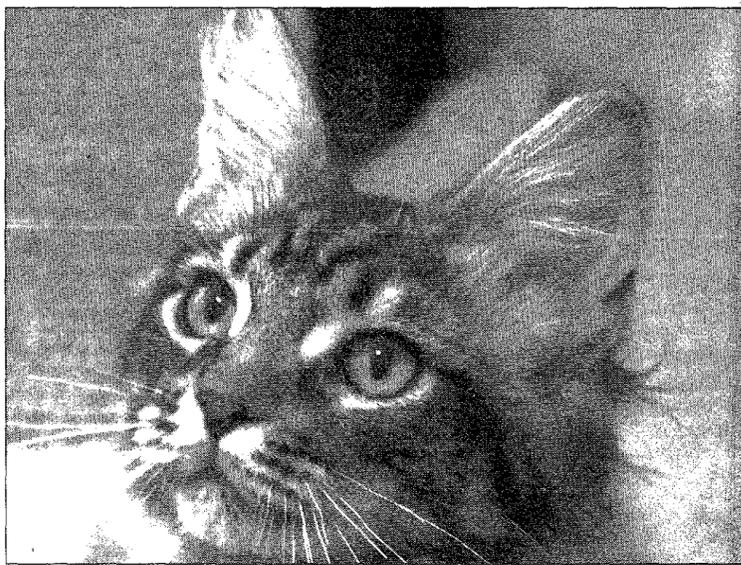
When it comes to staffing levels and pay rates, Morgan complimented teachers and other staff. (Their unions have endorsed her.) "In some ways I wish I could pay them more," she said.

King said staff should have been brought "to the table" before granting 2.5 percent pay increases and step increases. Would they have taken 1 percent less in increases to stop this plan? "I don't know if they were asked," he said.

The two candidates also differed when asked about land sales.

"I would not advocate selling any of our large lots of property," Morgan said, noting that future boards may want to build on them. Board policy is that land should only be sold for "a compelling reason," she noted.

King said the district will probably never add 10,000 or even 500 new students. He would propose selling the former Bryant school property. "I'm opposed to being land barons," he said, suggesting new houses help. "What we need is kids in the seats."



Cat's meow

Cats and kittens like five-month-old Maine Coon kitten 5800 Dreams Lord Murphy 1879, bred and owned by Kathryn and Gregory Calhoun, Chicago, Ill., will be center stage Saturday, April 8, at a cat show at the Wayne Ford Civic League, 1645 North Wayne Road, Westland. The one-day show is sponsored by the Just Cat-In Around Cat Fanciers and Allbreed Cat Fanciers Association Cat Club. It will be open to the public from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is \$5. More than 200 pedigreed cats and kittens from across the country will compete for rosettes, awards and titles at the show. The Cat Fanciers Association is the world's largest registry of pedigree cats. Just Cat-In Around is composed of cat enthusiasts from all over the Midwest. For more information, call (612) 964-4191.



CFA Allbreed Judge Evelyn Prather judges an 11-month-old Maine Coon female in championship.

It's spring, it's time to compost

It's another sign of spring: The compost season has started in Westland.

Compost pickup started Monday and will continue through Dec. 8, and the pickup days will coincide with the days of regular trash pickup, according to the Westland Public Services Department.

The city also has started chipping tree branches - a

service that is done the day after trash pickup. No evergreen or pine branches can be chipped.

To notify the city of branches to be chipped, call (734) 728-1770.

Also, the city transfer site, or dump, is now open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays on Marquette, east of Newburgh. Dumping of such items as ply-

wood, 2-by-4s, railroad ties and drywall will be accepted. For more information, call the above-listed phone number.

Cost for the dump is \$13 for a car, sport utility vehicle or minivan, \$23 for a small pickup or regular van, and \$31 for a standard size pickup or a trailer up to 4 feet by 6 feet, according to the public services department.

CORRECTION

People interested in more information about the Westside Rods and Custom Car Club shows can call Jane Thomas at (248) 320-1706.

School board recognized with state awards

Livonia Public Schools Board of Education earned two honors from the Michigan Association of School Boards Monday night for service and leadership.

Justin King, executive director of MASHB, presented all seven trustees with the Honor Board Award and the Standard of Excellence Award.

It is the second consecutive year in which the board has earned the Honor Board nod, which recognizes that every trustee has achieved certification through MASHB. That requires 30 hours of coursework covering topics like school law, leadership development, curriculum development

and contract negotiations, King said.

Board president Dan Lessard said he challenged his fellow trustees to work toward getting a second Honor Board award.

"This is an awful lot of work and an awful lot of hours," he said. "Joanne (Morgan) and I have been around a long time. Tom Bailey, Lynda Scheel, Rob Freeman and Cynthia Markarian are all in their first term. It's an astounding accomplishment. I am so proud of them. I am going to issue a challenge again for third level certification. Each one gets little tougher. There are only four of them. We're

moving into some rarefied company."

Only 11 boards in the state earned the Standard of Excellence Award, he added, saying that it's not an easy honor to achieve.

"Every one on this board has received the Award of Merit," said King, adding that it requires 45 additional credit hours of participation in conferences and symposiums, the Legislative Relations Network, or activities like writing a letter to the editor.

"You should be proud of yourselves," said King. "We're proud of you."

By Stephanie A. Casola

WESTLAND Observer

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City fills Easter calendar with plenty of activities

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Westland will offer enough Easter activities to make Humpty Dumpty want to pull himself together, even without the help of all the king's horses and men.

Whether it's bowling, basketball, soccer, dancing or skateboarding, local children and their parents won't have to put all their eggs in one basket to celebrate the holiday.

"We're offering 10 events for Easter," Westland Parks and Recreation Director Robert Kosowski said. "I don't think you'll see that in many other places."

Eggs-actly.
The festivities will start this Saturday and continue through April 21, giving children many options through Easter break.

"Some of the activities are longtime traditions, and some are new," said Margaret Martin, a Bailey Recreation Center supervisor.

Martin encouraged participants to visit the Bailey Center 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily - unless otherwise noted below - to register for the events of their choice.

With help from groups such as Westland Civitans and the Jaycees, here's a look at what the city is offering:

■ From 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, April 8, a pancake-and-sausage breakfast will include a visit from the Easter Bunny at the VFW Harris-Kehrer Post 3323, on Wayne Road at Avondale. Cost is \$3 for children up to age 12, \$4 for everyone else. Those who don't bring their own cameras can pay \$2 to have Polaroid pictures taken. Call (734) 729-8075.

■ From 1-4 p.m. Saturday, April 8, an Easter Egg Scramble, or hunt, will be held in Jaycee Park, next to the Mike Modano Ice Arena at Wildwood and Hunter. Children will be placed in various age groups, and they'll be able to enjoy inflatable games. For more information, call (734) 226-0400.

■ From 4:45-6 p.m. Monday, April 10, children can join instructor Shirley Moore at the Bailey Center to make their own Easter baskets and eggs. The Easter Bunny is expected to visit. Children ages 3-12 are welcome; those under 5 should have adult supervision. Cost is \$7, including \$5 to the city and \$2 for supplies from the teacher.

■ From 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday, April 17, an Easter break bowling party is scheduled at Westland Bowl, 5940 N. Wayne Road. Cost is \$3. Children in kindergarten through eighth grade are welcome. Preregister by April 12. For more information, call (734) 722-7570.

■ From 10-11 a.m. Tuesday, April 18, children in grades one through six can try their luck on the golf simulators at the Westland Municipal Golf Course, 500 S. Merriman. Cost is \$5 per student. Pay at the golf course. For more information, call (734) 721-6660.

■ From noon to 3 p.m. Tuesday, April 18, a volleyball skills camp will be offered at the Bailey Center for students in grades four and up. Cost is \$20. Preregister by April 13. Call (734) 397-7010.

■ From 9 a.m. to noon Wednesday, April 19, students in grades one through eight, or ages 7-13, can participate in a basketball "hoops" clinic at the Bailey Center. Cost is \$12. Preregister by April 17. For more information, call (734) 722-7620.

■ From 2-4 p.m. Thursday, April 20, a Detroit Rockers soccer clinic will be offered in the Bailey Center gymnasium for children in grades one through eight. Cost is \$15. Preregister by April 18 at the Bailey Center or by contacting the Rockers at (734) 427-6017.

■ From 2-3:30 p.m. Friday, April 21, an afternoon dance party with Miss Helen's School of Dance will be held at the Bailey Center for students in grades one through eight. Cost is \$6. Preregister by April 18.

Musical revue starts with students

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER

Five young artists find love and friendship and face hardships and heartache in the Big Apple in this weekend's musical revue, Hollywood on Broadway, presented by the John Glenn High School Theatrical Guild.

The production, scripted by Glenn students Jessica Syria and Sean Barone, will feature music from Hollywood flicks like *Sister Act II*, Disney's *Tarzan*, *Saturday Night Fever*, *Flashdance* and *Dirty Dancing*.

Staging a revue written by students is a first from the high school, according to drama teacher Sheri Grove who is sharing directorial duties with Jennifer Arquette.

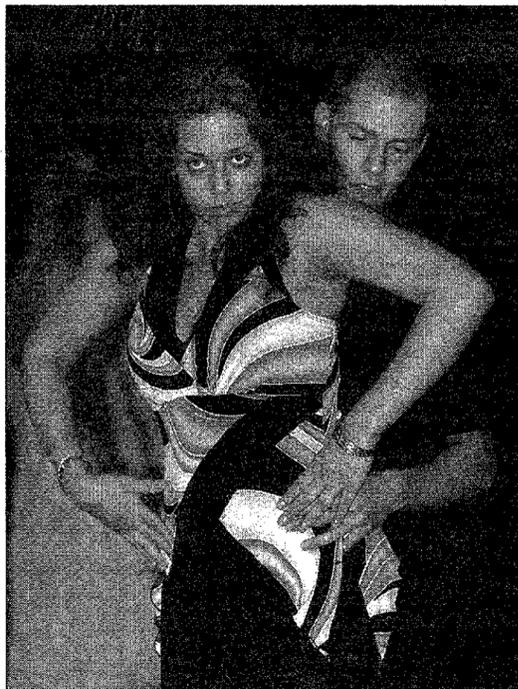
"The students were asking about doing a revue as the spring musical and Grove was considering it when the two students asked if they could give it a shot. She said yes and then shocked them when, after reading the script, agreed to using it."

"I believe they wrote it in one night," Grove said. "I read the script, made a few corrections and said yes. I think they were in shock. I don't think they ever thought it would be a reality."

Not only the writer, Syria also is the assistant director, the choreographer and appears as the aspiring dancer Jody Sawyer. According to Grove, being assistant director is a great opportunity for Syria who is in the directing class at Glenn, especially in directing her own work.

"It feels amazing to be able to do this," said Syria. "I'm really glad Sean and I got the chance to make a difference in the school and school district with this."

Syria admits she was surprised when Grove agreed to produce the play and the experience has her rethinking her career choices. While she had thought of going to New York, she's now planning to study to be a drama teacher at Eastern Michigan University.



PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Senior Sean Barone - daytime soap opera star Michael Seaver, dances with Salina DeLaRossa - conceited model Candi O'Hare - to I've Had the Time of My Life from the film Dirty Dancing in a scene from *Hollywood on Broadway*.

reduce the play and the experience has her rethinking her career choices. While she had thought of going to New York, she's now planning to study to be a drama teacher at Eastern Michigan University.

"She said it was a good idea, different and original," said Syria. "I hope everyone will enjoy it because it was a thrill for us to do."

"It's been a work in progress," said Grove. "Once we started exploring the script, we had to make changes to accommodate the stage and the number of students in the cast."

In Hollywood on Broadway,

Sawyer goes to New York City with her best friend Violet Sanford, an ambitious singer played by Alison Closser. The two women meet up with a conceited model, Candi O'Hare (Salina DeLaRosa) who invites them to live in her apartment where they meet her boyfriend, Michael Seaver (Barone), a star in daytime soap opera, and his best friend, Johnny Castel (Curtis Sieczkowski).

Castel tries to help out his friend's crumbling relationship only to meet the woman of his dreams in what becomes a confusing triangle of life, love, friendship and heartbreak.



Alison Closser plays Violet Sanford, an ambitious singer, who comes to New York City for the first time in the musical revue.

"It reflects a lot of the students' dreams and their struggles to pursue those dreams," said Grove. "I thought it was appropriate, being written by students, to perform in high school."

Movie music buffs will get their fill with hits like Martha Reeves and the Vandellas' *Dancing in the Streets*, Phil Collins' *You'll Be in My Heart*, Irene Cara's *What a Feelin'*, Bill Medley and Jennifer Warnes' *I've Had the Time of My Life* and *What Is Love?* from *A Night at the Roxbury* among the selections included in the revue.

The play will be presented at 7 p.m. tonight through Saturday, April 6-8, in the auditorium of John Glenn High School on Marquette west of Wayne Road.

Tickets, priced at \$5 for students and \$10 for adults, are available at the door.

Also appearing in the production are Allison Werth, Ciara Adams, Rachel Piro, Amber Fernitz, Brandon O'Sullivan, Ashley Johnson, Karyn Fowler, Dominique France, Collette Johnson, Amanda Sparks, Megan Walker, Rachel Zajac and Laurence Vickery.

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<p>Try this with Goat Cheese!</p> <p>Parker Station '02 Chardonnay \$12.99 750 ml.</p> <p>This wine shows a nice balance of fruits, oak, acid and body.</p>	<p>Great with a glass of Red Wine</p> <p>Beemster Classic Gourmet Dutch Cheese \$10.39 lb.</p>	<p>Tasty</p> <p>Kalamazoo Brewing Wheat 2, Wheat 4, Wheat 6 & Wheat 8 6 Pks. 750 ml. Plus tax & deposit \$8.99 - All other Kalamazoo products while supplies last</p>
<p>Fill your home with springtime at Joe's!</p> <p>Daffodils, Tulips and Hyacinths \$6.99 Each Hydrangeas Starting at \$14.99</p>	<p>"New Holland" Snacking Havarti Cheese \$7.59 lb. All Flavors</p>	<p>Fill your home with springtime at Joe's!</p> <p>Easter Lilies Starting at \$9.99 Calla Lilies \$16.99</p>
<p>All Flavors!</p> <p>Starbuck's Ice Cream 2 / \$7.00 Quart size only</p>	<p>Dairy Fresh Butter 2 / \$5.00</p>	<p>1/2% and Skim Only</p> <p>Baremans 1/2% & Skim Gallon Milk 2 / \$4.00</p>

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Hungry businessmen offer Schoolcraft opportunity in China

BY HUGH GALLAGHER
STAFF WRITER

American businessmen are beating a path to set up operations in China. But after sampling the local cuisine, they might have a hard time finding some good lasagna or a hearty beef Wellington.

The need to feed western businessmen could be a niche market for Schoolcraft College's esteemed culinary arts program. Last month, three representatives from the college returned from a 10-day exploratory visit to three Chinese cities to test the idea of providing training to Chinese culinary arts students in the preparation of western food.

John Walsh, executive director of development and government relations; Bruce Konolow, director of culinary arts; and Shawn Loving, culinary instructor and owner of the Loving Spoonful restaurant in Farmington Hills, spent a hectic but productive trip visiting schools and commercial operations in Beijing, Shenzhen and Shanghai.

"Our mission was to learn about the culture and the business and educational climate so we can gather facts and see where we fit in to the big picture," Konolow said. "By being exposed to the three cities we went to, I believe we accomplished that. We also wanted to make friends and I believe we did that as well."

The trip was proposed by Laura Wang, a Northville business consultant. She accompanied the three men on the trip, acted as an interpreter and consultant and stayed behind to attend some more meetings.

"She knew about the college and had a personal familiarity



John Walsh and Shawn Loving, far left, explore an outdoor market in China.

with our academic program ... and she knew a good meal," Walsh said. "She had eaten here. She also knew from business clients that they were struggling to find a decent western meal."

Wang chose the three very different venues. Beijing is the nation's capital, but it is also the site of the 2008 Summer Olympics and will be hosting thousands of visitors from the west. Beijing also has a Western Cuisine Association.

"She picked Shenzhen because it's a relatively new city, four million and growing. Fifteen years ago it was farm country," Walsh said.

In Shanghai, western-style cooking is available at the major hotels, which have European and American chefs but are required to hire Chinese cooks who need

training. Shenzhen Polytechnic Institute, which looks like a Florida resort, has a state-of-the-art culinary arts facility and shares a lot in common with Schoolcraft College. But other schools and restaurants, except for the major western hotels, aren't equipped to handle western cooking.

"A typical eastern kitchen is composed of a cooking line of woks," Konolow said. "A wok for sauteeing, a wok for deep frying, poaching or boiling. Something that's an all-purpose unit. They do have a small oven that they use for various things, but they don't have the baking facility that we have. Their kitchens are styled for their cuisine. Very unglamorous, they're minimalists. They don't have the razzle-dazzle or sophisticated equipment they feel we

need for our cuisine."
FAST FOODS AVAILABLE

China has been introduced to some western cuisine — fast foods. Kentucky Fried Chicken, Pizza Hut, McDonald's, Burger King and Sizzler have all opened shops in the major cities. On weekends, Kentucky Fried Chicken often has long lines. But few western chefs are moving to China to open full-service restaurants. Western meals are primarily served at the major western hotels.

Starbucks and Coffee Beanery have also invaded China.

"We didn't get a bad cup of coffee anywhere we went, which is surprising given how important tea is to them," Konolow said.

Walsh said the trip offered several potential opportuni-



Chef Shawn Loving of the Loving Spoonful restaurant, third from left, Chef Bruce Konolow of Schoolcraft College, in the center, and John Walsh of Schoolcraft College, met with Chinese cooks in Shanghai.

ties for Schoolcraft.

"In Shenzhen we saw an opportunity. It might start merely with an exchange of students and faculty," he said. "One thing we talked about at length was the possibility of a joint degree; a degree in western cuisine from Schoolcraft and a degree in eastern cuisine from Shenzhen. That student would be valuable anywhere in the world, not just China."

He said in Shanghai, the opportunity might be more a business relationship. The group met with representatives from the Ritz Carlton and Marriott about doing seminars at the hotels. He said Beijing was both less western and more bureaucratic, offering fewer opportunities for a partnership.

Konolow and Walsh were surprised by the size of the country and its expanding capitalistic economy.

"Take New York five times over and you might have Shanghai," Walsh said. "When we drove in, driving in this little car, I turned to Bruce

and Shawn and said our coming and going is not even a ripple."

The Schoolcraft group did make some excursions away from their business meetings — to the Great Wall and to a 1,000-year-old "water village" or fishing community.

"In my opinion, that gave us a real feel for traditional or rural China," Konolow said. "Out of 1.3 billion population, 800 million are farmers."

Walsh said the next step will be to meet with Schoolcraft President Conway Jeffress and report on their findings. The school has been asked to participate in a couple of cooking fairs in China this summer and fall. The prospects look good for some kind of culinary program in China, which could expand to programs in nursing, hospitality and engineering.

"China is a player," Konolow said. "They are looming large in the world economy. It's important to be part of that economy." hgallagher@oe.homecomm.net (734) 953-2149

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*U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

DEATHS

- D**
Gall L. Duke
Duke, 71, of Bloomfield Hills, died April 3.
- F**
Richard A. Femmel
Femmel, 79, of West Bloomfield, died March 31.
- H**
Florence M. Hirschmann
Hirschmann, 88, of Ann Arbor, died April 2.
- Richard L. Huber Jr.
Huber, 66, died April 3.
- L**
Charles H. Leinenkugel
Leinenkugel, 84, formerly of Birmingham, died April 2.
- Louise M. Linder
Linder, 90, died March 31.
- T**
Eileen R. Toy
Toy, 77, died April 2.

Complete paid obituaries can be found inside today's newspaper in Passages on page A20.



Where are Rich, Karen and Barry?

Rich, Karen, and Barry invite their previous customers to stop in and receive a complimentary oil change

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LINCOLN MERCURY

Lone gunman robs pizza delivery driver

Driver robbed
A 48-year-old pizza delivery driver told police she was robbed at gunpoint about 8:40 p.m. Friday, March 31, while delivering an order in the 2600 block of Ackley.
She told police that a man armed with a blue steel revolver approached her as she was getting into her car. She said he held the gun in her face and demanded money.
The woman complied, and the bandit fled on foot. An investigation is continuing.

Suspect tackled
Two men chased a purse-snatching suspect and held him until police arrived during an incident that happened about 2 p.m. Tuesday at Town & County Lanes, a bowling alley at 1100 S. Wayne, police

CRIME WATCH
said.
The suspect is accused of stealing a woman's purse from under a table while she was bowling, but he was seen and chased as he fled toward the door, according to a police report.
Two men tackled the 30-year-old Westland suspect in the bowling alley parking lot and held him until police officers arrived to arrest him.

Juvenile assault
A 13-year-old boy told police that he was assaulted and robbed of his cell phone and coat while walking near Jefferson Elementary School about 1 p.m. Sunday.
The boy told police he was

punched in the face but not seriously injured when he was approached by three suspects.
An investigation has resulted in police seeking a warrant from the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office against an 18-year-old Westland man. Two juveniles have been referred to juvenile authorities for their alleged involvement.

Car accident
Wayne County sheriff deputies arrested a 22-year-old Romulus woman after she fled during a drunken driving stop in Westland and slammed into an ambulance, slightly injuring two people.
The incident happened about 1:45 a.m. Wednesday, March 28, when deputies stopped the woman after she was driving erratically on

Merriman Road near Michigan Avenue, according to the sheriff's department.
The driver, who already had one drunken driving conviction on her record, refused the officer's instructions and sped off, heading south on Merriman, according to the department.
The woman is accused of making a wide right turn at Van Born and hitting an ambulance that was stopped at a light waiting to turn north onto Merriman. She and the two emergency medical technicians sustained minor injuries.
The woman is charged with resisting and obstructing a police officer, fleeing and eluding an officer, operating a vehicle while impaired (second offense) and driving with a suspended license.

DISPUTE

FROM PAGE A1

The shop owner drove off in a minivan with the teenagers, and Heater said the dispute would have ended there. However, he said the Detroit men trailed them to the biker/leather shop, where the situation escalated.
"There's a difference of opinion on who threw the first punch," he said.
The young women told police that the three men surrounded the shop owner, attacked him and kicked him, even after he fell to the ground "and rolled up into a ball," Heater said.
The owner's daughter told police that, to help her father, she went to the minivan she had been in, got a folding knife

and stabbed one of her father's attackers.
The stabbing victim fell to the ground, and the other two Detroit men went back to their car, Heater said.
Responding to a 9-1-1 call, police arrested the shop owner's daughter and two of the Detroit men, while the third was taken to a hospital for treatment, Heater said.
The shop owner's daughter has been released, and the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office has delayed any possible charges against her until the incident is investigated further.
Early this week, two of the Detroit men had been charged with misdemeanor assault charges. The third also is expected to face a similar charge, Heater said.

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\$6.3 million grant to boost engineering program

Churchill High School's engineering program just became \$6.3 million richer. Unigraphics Solutions Corp. in Livonia recently awarded a grant to teacher Jeff Hatley's industrial education and engineering classes, to cover the cost of 15 licenses for NX aca-

demio software.
"This state-of-the-art program is currently used by the Big Three automakers," said Jay Young, director of community services for Livonia Public Schools. "It puts our hands the foremost, cutting edge technology."

Hatley said he was introduced to the software last summer and applied for the grant. "Livonia is an integral part of automation ally," said Hatley. "Many designers use UGNX software."
Trustee Rob Freeman said he wished he had access to

such software when he was a high school student.
Trustee Cynthia Markarian was also pleased to hear students will have access to this technology. "They'll probably come up with things we never dreamed imaginable."
by Stephanie A. Casola

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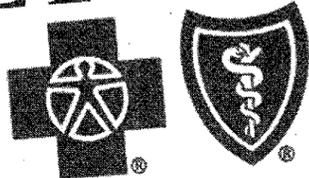
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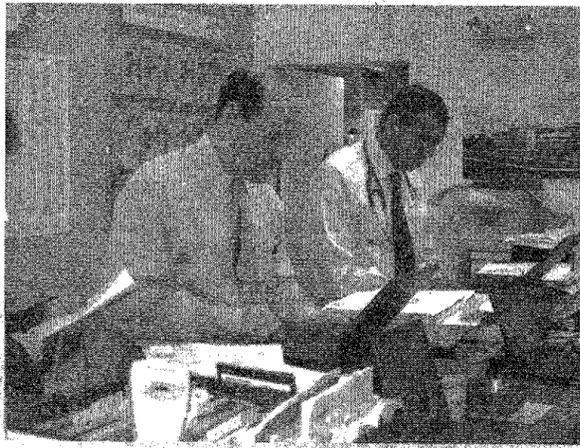
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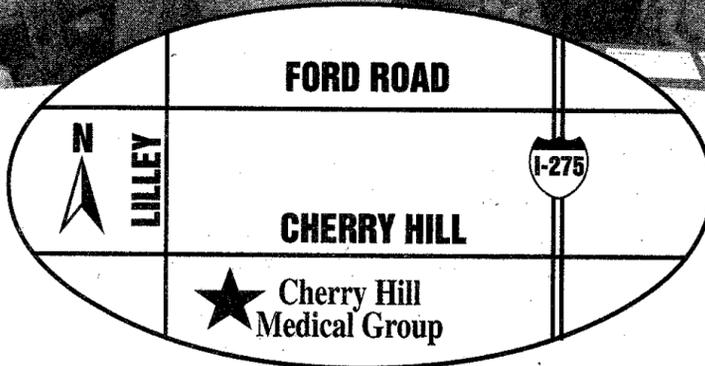
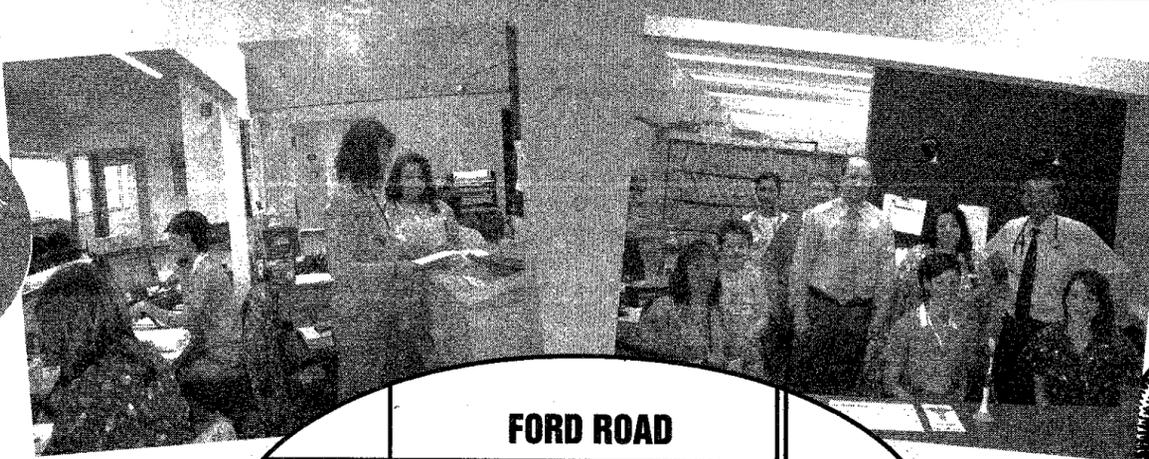


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Shared Time director earns district's Golden Apple Award

Ten years after Mary Combs spearheaded the Shared Time program in Livonia Public Schools, she was recognized with the district's Golden Apple Award.

The Shared Time program matches teachers skilled in art, music, physical education and computers with students from area parochial schools interested in taking courses that would otherwise not be available to them. The program has grown from serving six schools to serving 13, and brings in \$1.5 million of revenue annually to the school district.

As director of the Shared Time program, Combs was recognized for her "outstanding contribution of time, talent and effort in support of the students, parents and staff of the Livonia Public Schools."

She was called "the amazing leader" by Jerri Mullin, who nominated Combs for the award. Mullin, a Shared Time supervisor, said Combs is organized and knowledgeable, and has a highly-motivated group of employees.

"Mary is an outstanding administrator, problem-solver, communicator and ambassador of the school district," said Jay Young, director of the Community Education Department. "It is largely because of her outstanding skills and work ethic that the program has grown to be one of the largest, and universally recognized as one of the best run programs of its kind in the state."

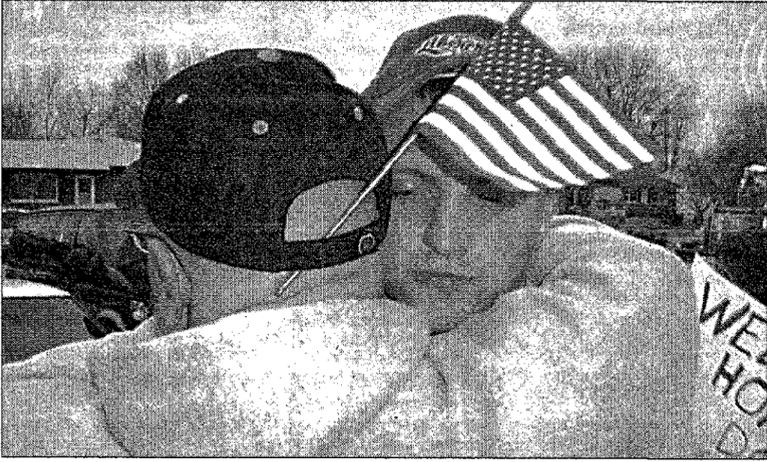


Mary Combs, director of the Shared Time program in Livonia Public Schools, earned a Golden Apple Award and district recognition.

Young said he has been proud to have Combs as a colleague for the past 10 years.

Combs thanked the board, her staff and Young as she accepted the award. "Without them," she said, "there wouldn't be Shared Time. I'm overwhelmed."

By Stephanie A. Casola



Home at last!

U.S. Marine David Somerville hugs his father, Bud, upon arriving home in Westland on Saturday for a visit after spending eight months in Iraq. In another hug, David is greeted by his aunt, Kelly Somerville. More than 100 people greeted the Marine, who is part of the 3rd Battalion, 6th Marines, and who has been involved in delivering supplies along dangerous routes in Iraq. After a 26-day visit at home on Avondale, David will return to Camp Lejeune, N.C., but he is expected to return to Iraq toward the end of the year, his father said. Bud Somerville, known for his involvement with John Glenn High School football boosters and the Westland Youth Athletic Association, has done a yeoman's job of keeping friends up to date by e-mail on David's status.



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Gardening seminar

The Village of Westland, a senior citizen residential community, will host a free gardening seminar open house at 12:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 19.

The featured speaker will be Janet Macunovich, master gardener and co-founder of the Michigan School of Gardening. She will give a lecture on "More Than a Garden: Balm for the Soul, Glue for the Family."

Refreshments will be served. For reservations, call (734) 762-8926.

The Village of Westland is at 32001 Cherry Hill Road, between Merriman and Venoy.

Senior volleyball

The Westland senior citizen Friendship Center hopes to start a co-ed volleyball team to compete in Wayne County's 2006 Senior Olympics.

If interested, call Mel Tockstein at (734) 722-0159.

That's entertainment

The Westland Friendship Center will feature impersonators of Frank Sinatra, Neil Diamond and other performers during a variety show 1-3 p.m. Friday, May 5, at the center, 1119 N. Newburgh.

Michael Carluccio as Frank

Sinatra and former Westland City Councilman David James as Neil Diamond will be among the performers, according to senior center Director Peggy Ellenwood.

Tickets are \$6, and proceeds will go to the Westland Relay for Life - a benefit in June to help the American Cancer Society. The show is being sponsored by the Westland Jaycees.

For more information, call the senior center at (734) 722-7628.

Spring Bazaar

Edison Elementary is holding a Spring Bazaar and Art Show 6-9 p.m. today, April 6. There will be 25 vendors, a bake sale with eating area, baby-sitting with crafts for the kids and an art show featuring students' artwork throughout the halls.

Garage sale time

Hayes Elementary fourth-graders are working to raise money to pay for a trip to Lansing. To do so, the students are hosting a garage sale from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 8, at the school, 30600 Louise, in Westland. All are welcome.

Fish fry

The Men's Fellowship Group of the Salvation Army's Wayne-

Westland Corps will host a fish fry and bake sale 5-8 p.m. Friday, April 7, at the corps' Community Center, 2300 Venoy Road, Westland.

The cost is a minimum donation of \$6 and the proceeds will go to buy new kitchen equipment for the center's feeding program.

Senior Dinner Dances

The Wayne Ford Civic League is hosting a Senior Dinner and Dance Sunday, April 23, at the hall, 1645 N. Wayne Road in Westland. The dinners and dances start at noon and feature a full buffet dinner, beer, wine, coffee and pop with dancing to the live entertainers. Tickets are \$8 for members and \$10 for non-members of the league. Memberships are on sale year round and are only \$5 for seniors. Tickets are available at the door. Call (734) 728-5010 for more information. Participants must be 60 years of age and older to attend.

Healthy Living

Oakwood Annapolis Hospital in Wayne is in line to host an Oakwood Healthcare System Project Healthy Living next month.

Project Healthy Living offers

a wide array of helpful and practical health-related activities and provides a variety of screenings to adults 18 years and older.

Oakwood Annapolis Hospital event will be 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday-Friday, April 26-28, at Westland Shopping Center, 35000 W. Warren at Wayne Road.

Many of the health screening tests and services are offered free of charge. There is a nominal cost for some screenings and all tests are administered by healthcare professionals.

For more information, call (800) 543-WELL.

Ecological Gardening

Are you interested in learning how to create beautiful gardens that also have an ecological function, such as rain gardens, habitat and riparian buffers?

The consider the Ecological Gardening course with an extra component offered to those who want to become Master Composters. The series includes lectures by professionals in the field, hands-on activities, field trips and a design project.

Participants will also be given the opportunity to apply the concepts learned in this class to Wayne County Department of Environment Grow Zone installation projects in Hines Drive Park.

This course will be held 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, April 12-May 31, at Wayne County Department of Environment, 3600 Commerce Court, Wayne. Registration fee of \$120 includes book and all class materials. For more information, call Mary Vangieson at (734) 326-3936.

Open House

St. Damian Catholic School will be having a preschool and kindergarten open house 6:30-8 p.m. Tuesday, April 25. The school has preschool programs for three-four-year-olds and full-day kindergarten, both with three- and five-day options. Registration will be accepted at the open house. St. Damian is at 29891 Joy, Westland. Call (734) 427-1680 for information.

Texas Hold 'Em

St. Theodore Men's Club is sponsoring a Texas Hold 'Em Tournament 7-11:30 p.m. Friday, April 21, in the Social Hall, 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland.

The cost is \$40 to buy in and only 110 advance tickets will be sold. No tickets will be sold at the door which opens at 6 p.m. Top prize will be \$500. Players must be at least age 18 and age 21 to drink.

For tickets, contact Mary at

the parish office at (734) 425-4421. For more information, call Ken at (734) 564-4475

The Westland Jaycees will hold a Texas Hold 'Em Tournament and Vegas Night Saturday, April 22, at the Bailey Recreation Center, 36551 Ford Road.

The poker tournament will run 6 p.m. to midnight, and here will be no rebuy into the tournament. Pre-registration is \$40 before April 8 and \$50 at the door. Registration begins at 5 p.m. that evening.

The Vegas Night will be 7 p.m. to midnight. It will offer games of black jack, Hold 'Em, Let It Ride and seven-card poker. Food, pop and beer also will be available for purchase.

For more information, call (734) 226-6400 and leave a message.

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.

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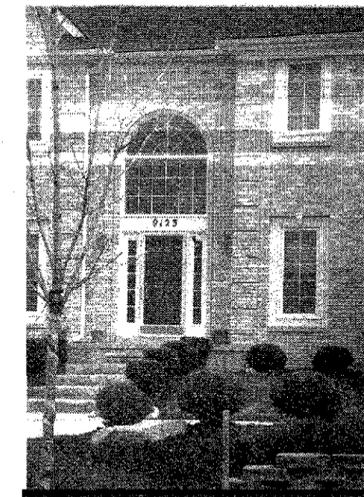
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State House set to take on illegal immigrants

BY ALEX LUNDBERG, CAROL MARSHALL
AND DAN WEST
STAFF WRITERS



Gosselin



Pastor

Getting a handle on how many illegal immigrants live and work in Michigan is tough. Getting an estimate on their impact on the economy and the state's social programs is even tougher. A package of bills crafted to keep illegal immigrants from receiving help from some state programs will be up for discussion by the Michigan House later this month.

"I've heard estimates of 150,000 illegal immigrants in Michigan, but I don't know for sure how many there are," said Rep. Robert Gosselin, R-Troy, who drafted the 11-bill package and presented it to the state Veterans Affairs and Homeland Security Committee. The bill was unanimously passed out of committee, and will now go to the House floor. The package is titled, "Michigan Citizens First," and it seeks to create residency and citizenship requirements for certain financial assistance, particularly scholarships and education grants, and state-funded mortgage programs.

'TAKE CARE OF THEM'

"There are 12 million immigrants in this country, and we're not going to get rid of them all, so we'll take care of them. We just want to be fair and make sure they follow the rules," said Rep. John Pastor, R-Livonia. Pastor sponsored one of the bills, which would require state residents - including legal residents - to be American citizens in order to qualify for state scholarships.

Though the timing of the bills seems to mirror recent immigration reform proposals in Washington, Pastor said the bills were actually proposed several months ago.

Illegal immigration, and the cost to taxpayers, should be a concern for everyone, according to Pastor.

"Money is so tight right now that there is not enough to go around without giving it to people who don't pay their fair share of taxes," Pastor said.

But Gosselin, who wrote the bills and asked his colleagues to sponsor them, isn't sure of the cost - or the possible positive impact that immigrants have on the state economy.

"I don't know what it would mean in terms of economics if we clamped down on illegal immigration. But I do know that it's costing us right now. We pay for it through our hospitals and our schools. Our systems are being overtaxed and drained dry," Gosselin said. He added that the package of bills is intended to be a preventative measure to ensure that the

Recumbent bike club holds ride

The Wolver-Bents Recumbent Cyclists will hold a self-paced bicycle ride, 9 a.m. Saturdays, April 8 and 22, at the Willow Metropark pool shelter, off exit 11 of I-275.

The ride is open to all cyclists, especially those interested in recumbents.

For more information, visit www.wolverbents.org or call (734) 487-9085.

timement goes against the democratic ideals this country was founded on. We are a nation of immigrants."

She said the bills, if passed, will do little if anything to curb illegal immigration. The nation's vast borders and equally vast numbers of employers looking for low-cost labor make even the most stringent laws hard to enforce.

ECONOMIC FACTORS

She said there are side effects the anti-immigration proponents are not considering.

"There are all kinds of adverse economic effects to

this," Moss said. "Good or bad, the economy relies on people who work for low wages."

Gosselin sidestepped the issue of the effect a crackdown on all illegal immigration would have on the farming industry, which provides low-cost produce partly because it hires illegal immigrants to work for less than the minimum wage. He said in the end, taxpayers lose much more to illegal immigration than they would have to pay if farm labor costs were to increase, though he didn't know how much more the average consumer would have to pay for goods, or how many immigrants are not

paying taxes.

The intent of the package is to be sure the state complies with federal laws regarding financial assistance, according to Rep. Phil LaJoy, R-Canton.

"Basically we want to be sure that all who are receiving aid from these packages are legally registered to be here," he said.

LaJoy sponsored a bill that deals with Michigan Educational Opportunity Grants, state supplements to Pell Grant - college tuition grants typically used by low-income students.

"Basically my part of the package ensures that if you're eligible for federal grants,

you're eligible for state grants," he said.

Gosselin said that illegal immigration costs Michigan more than just money. It also costs power in Washington.

"You have to remember that Michigan lost a congressman and California gained one because California's population grew so much," he said. "The number of representatives is based on the number of people, not citizens. So we lost a representative because of a population of people who can't even vote here."

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OUR VIEWS

Awards honor community work

If it's April, it must be time to make a few nominations. No need to call for a star-studded convention in some exotic location. No need for scads of delegates, milling around and carrying signs for the candidate of their choice.

Forget all that political hoopla. A pen and paper and your kitchen table will do. After all, there's nothing political about helping us find Westland's First Citizen, sponsored by the *Westland Observer* and the Westland Chamber of Commerce.

And if you're a chamber member, don't be shy in voting for your favorite Business Person of the Year.

Those two individuals will be honored April 21 at the Westland Chamber of Commerce and Westland Community Foundation sponsored "Run for the Roses" at the Hellenic Cultural Center.

You need only look around to find someone who meets the criteria, and by nominating them you let them know you appreciate what they do.

Each of the awards in its own way honors people who go above and beyond for their community. They recognize individuals who give selflessly of their time to make Westland a better place to live in or who go the extra mile to foster a better business community.

They don't do what they do for recognition, they do it because they care. And you can show you care about what they do, give them a well-deserved attabooy, by nominating for one of the honors.

We encourage residents to cast their vote, so to speak, by nominating individuals for an award. You need only look around to find someone who meets the criteria, and by nominating them you let them know you appreciate what they do.

Don't hesitate to nominate. The deadline is 4 p.m. Monday, April 10, for both awards and, as we see it, the more nominations, the better.

Nominations for First Citizen and the Business Person of the Year Award can be sent to the Westland Chamber of Commerce, 36900 Ford Road, Westland, MI 48185. They also can be submitted by fax at (734) 326-6040.

For more information about First Citizen, call *Observer* Editor Sue Mason at (734) 953-2112; for Business Person of the Year, call the chamber at (734) 326-7222.

Governor's vetoes are risky, but right

The political games are in full swing.

The Republican-dominated state Legislature has been throwing spitballs at Gov. Jennifer Granholm that they believe can make for good soundbites during the upcoming gubernatorial election between Granholm and Grand Rapids businessman Dick DeVos.

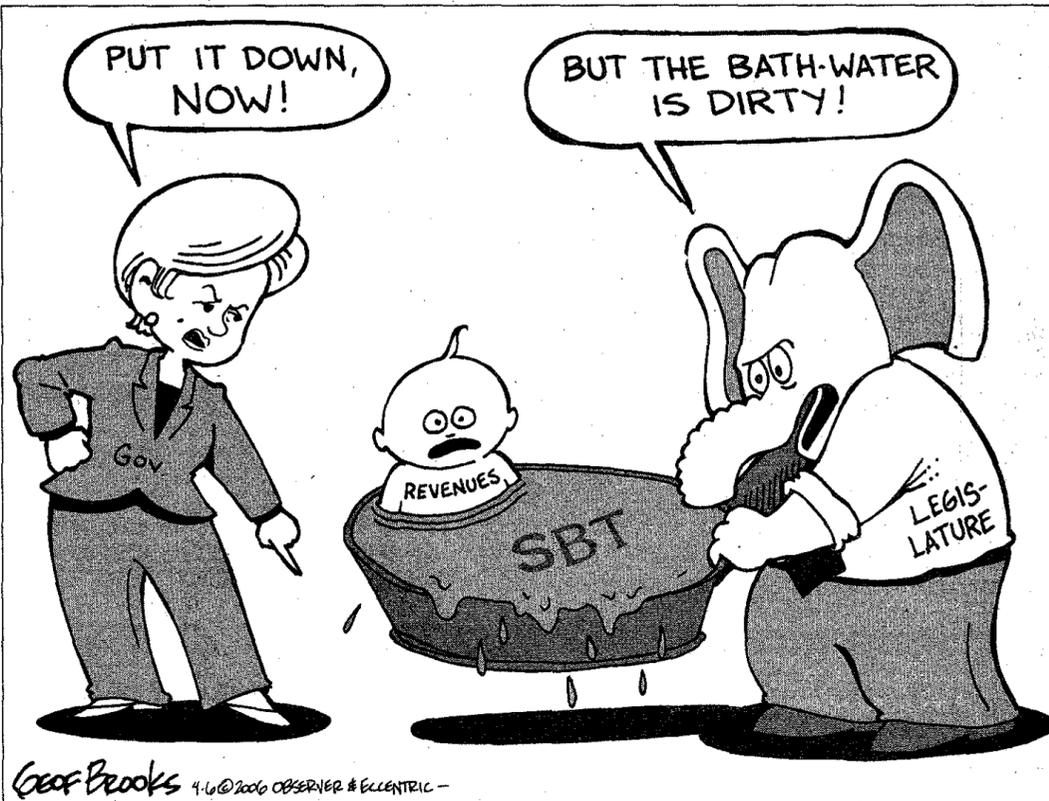
Unfortunately, the political games are a substitute for substantive legislation at a time when the state desperately needs thoughtful leadership.

Granholm recently vetoed two pieces of legislation that were clearly intended to create a negative view of the governor for suburban voters. But in both cases, she made the right — if risky — decision.

Granholm vetoed the elimination of the Single Business Tax in 2007, two years before a scheduled expiration, arguing that the Legislature had not provided an alternative revenue source for the nearly \$2 billion that would be lost. Republicans argue that there is time to develop an alternative for restoring some of the lost revenue, but past time for the tax to go.

Granholm has also vetoed a bill sponsored by Sen. Laura Toy, R-Livonia, that would have created an oversight board for the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department. This is the second time Granholm has vetoed Toy-sponsored legislation on this issue. Toy argues that suburban customers of the DWSD are angry about rate hikes and what she calls questionable contracting practices.

Sometimes the governor and Legislature can work together as in the recent passage of strong graduation requirements. The state Board of Education approved standards developed by the Education Department, legislators held meetings around the state, made necessary adjustments to create a bill that answered most complaints and the governor signed the legislation. It was so smooth you wouldn't even know it was an election year.



Geoff Brooks 4.6.06 © 2006 OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC

LETTERS

Republicans' new slogan

The Senate Judicial Committee has recently reviewed the conduct of the executive branch of our government for secret spying of Americans. What should have been a demonstration of democracy at work and an exercise of the balance of power between the branches of government turned into an endorsement for ever expanding tolerance of the current administration.

The chief of the judicial committee, Sen. Arlene Specter, refused to swear in Alberto Gonzalez, the attorney general, even after several other members of the committee requested the swearing-in. When appearing before court or any other official government fact finding mission, citizens are sworn in to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth. Apparently, Sen. Specter did not require the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth when questioning Mr. Gonzalez.

The administration was called before the judicial committee because they had gone around the secret court to spy and listen in on Americans. There is only one reason the administration would bypass secret court and that would be to hide something, probably illegal.

The frightening part of the whole debacle of the judicial committee is the lack of leadership on the committee. Congress is a branch of government which is part of the balance of power, and currently there is no balance. In fact, what has been revealed during the hearings is that the Republican senators are cooperating with criminal behavior, acknowledging and consenting with criminals.

This may be extreme, but if a Democratic president had conducted this activity, this Republican-led committee would have subpoenaed all records, shut down this operation and had the FBI director terminated as well as the attorney general for permitting this illegal activity and putting the original terrorist prevention activity of the secret review court at risk. If the NSA had followed the law and allowed democracy to work, then this spying could continue in secret and maybe catch a few terrorists.

The latest spin from the right wing propaganda network is that the Republicans are tough on terrorism and Democrats are soft on terror because Democrats are calling for an end to the illegal and un-American spying. The truth is Republicans are cooperating with criminals and are well-connected with criminals. **REPUBLICANS ARE SOFT ON CRIME.**

Arlene Specter showed how the Republican Party deals with crime within its own party. Aid, assist and turn the other way. The new party slogan is "Republican, the pro-crime party."

Alan Biber
Westland

Lawmakers must fix problem

Fiscal crisis ... coming soon to a school

district near you. I am glad that "Support Livonia" parents remember this warning issued last spring throughout Michigan. Three straight years of diminishing state funding was the reason thousands of parents and educators descended upon the Capitol last June. We needed to tell the Michigan Legislature that our students deserve better.

Unfortunately, fiscal crisis has come to Livonia. State funding continues to decline and districts everywhere are cutting programs and laying off staff. Yet, many residents still do not understand that their school tax dollars go straight to Lansing where, not their local school board, but the state Legislature decides how to distribute them.

Fiscal crisis has come to dozens of the 83 school districts in the tri-county area. Within three years, at the most, all 83 will not look like the same places they were only a few years ago. The only responsible thing to do that significantly reduces Livonia's expenditures is to reduce the number of schools it operates. District citizens need to work with their board and administration to get this problem fixed by those who control it: the Michigan Legislature.

E. Kathleen Booher
executive director
Tri-County Alliance for Public Education

Think of all Livonia's kids

I don't understand how the Citizens supposedly for Livonia's Future can keep representing themselves as supporting the kids of Livonia and "saving" our schools. The reality is our district along with many others in Michigan must reorganize to save money and after studying the issue, Legacy is the plan that they have adopted. Is it perfect for everyone? Of course not.

No plan can please everybody. What the Legacy Initiative does is save the programs our children now enjoy; maintain the quality of education that is a standard for our schools; and even add some new programs.

Perhaps we should rename this group the Citizens for only their kids' Future. Why would they be acting as they are if they truly cared about the entire district? They want to recall five of the school board members, the same members that for years have made decisions that have maintained Livonia schools as one of the most respected districts in the state.

Who do they propose to replace them with? Do we have five school board members waiting in Livonia's wings that have the experience and dedication that these members have shown? Whose future are they concerned with, obviously not all of the kids of Livonia. What plan have they presented to correct the budget?

The court has spoken twice, now it is time for the majority of Livonia to speak. Do not listen to the bull that this group spreads. Support all of the great kids of Livonia; work with our schools and not

against them. Think of all of the kids' futures, not just a few.

Greg Carpenter
Livonia

Facing reality of the times

It breaks my heart that McKinley Elementary will be closing this fall. My first child entered kindergarten there in 1989 and my experience continues as the parent of a first-grader.

Having said that, let me say this: it is NOT 1989. We no longer have the choice to raise our property taxes to avoid school closures. Our school board has been faced for years with the reality of the times. School-related costs are exceeding the increase in state funding. They have made millions of dollars of cuts already, with the least amount of impact on the classroom. I applaud the board for taking a broad, although personally risky, approach to our funding crisis.

It would have been easier to just close one or two schools to put a Band-Aid on today's problem. Instead, they had the courage to look down the road at what the future holds and face it head on in hope of keeping us from revisiting the same issues every few years.

Like most people, I chose to make my home in Livonia in large part because of its excellent schools. I have not seen that change over two decades and I don't believe for a minute the quality of my son's education will suffer because he rides a bus to a different school, or to four different schools. After all, most of us parents survived the downsizing of school districts in the late '70s, early '80s as students ourselves. Taking a bus to school did not seriously impact our ability to participate in extracurricular activities or to just be kids.

Our parents had to make adjustments, just as we will have to. It's time for us all to work together and send a POSITIVE message to the kids!

Cathy Brackett
Livonia

SHARE YOUR OPINIONS

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

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

New graduation standards are only start of new battle

Now some good news, for a change: The Michigan Legislature and Gov. Jennifer Granholm have actually cooperated in taking a significant step toward promoting a better educated work force and a brighter economic future for us all. Last week, the Legislature adopted much tougher high school graduation standards and the governor promptly signed them into law. This all came with relatively little of the watering-down and endless delaying tactics that were feared and widely expected.

Lots of people deserve plenty of credit for this one: State Supt. of Instruction Mike Flanagan, who designed and pushed the new curriculum. Granholm deserves praise for convening the Cherry Commission two years ago, which called for improving higher education in the state — and raising standards for the public school standards to be raised. Republican-led lawmakers get applause for realizing how important it is that new high school graduates have the education they'll need to compete in the modern world.

Until now, we have only required our graduates to have one semester of civics. But starting with the high school graduating class of 2011, students will need to complete at least three and a half years of math, four years of English, three years of science and social studies and two years of a foreign language to graduate.

The new high school diploma actually now will be a document demonstrating educational attainment. There is also talk that the Legislature may finally take the sensible next step and raise the age when students are allowed to legally drop out of school from 16 to 18.

But raising the standards themselves is a terrific accomplishment. It even gives us a sliver of hope that our long-gridlocked political system may just be capable of doing something meaningful in the face of our present economic crisis.

Yet amid all the backslapping, here's a note of caution.

Talk to most high school graduates about what remains in their heads from the required civics course. You'll find the answer is basically ... nothing. Separation of powers? "What's to separate?" The Bill of Rights? "I know my rights. I gotta pay a bill for them?" Judicial review? "Sounds like the review session I took to pass civics." I exaggerate, of course, but not much.

And you get the idea. The sorry fact — well-known to any civics teacher and to many anguished parents, not to mention many employers — is that in order to get little Johnny through the required civics class and on to his high school diploma, the content, over the years, has been watered down to the

point where Ben Franklin would blush.

How did that happen? Easy. When little Johnny failed civics the first time, his parents went tearing in to the principal's office whining about how tough the course was and about how unfair it was to require their little darling to learn the material. When little Johnny failed the second time, his parents screamed off to the local school board meeting and raised holy hell.

How could they impose such a difficult course on their little darling, who needed desperately to graduate so he could get on to a relatively mindless career in automobile manufacturing?

And if little Johnny was a minority, charges of racism were thrown in for good measure. What does the education system do when confronted by hordes of angry parents? Cave in, of course. The required civics course was gradually watered down so much even little Johnny could be assured of passing.

That's the downside of local control of our schools, folks. So beware! Now we have not only civics, but math, English, science, even foreign languages. All of which are prime targets for legions of little Johnny's and little Sally's parents. If you think civics was watered down, just wait 'til you see the pressure on teachers, principals and school boards when the curriculum is actually tough.

But when I talked with Flanagan, he seemed reasonably confident that this time, the curriculum won't be watered down.

"First of all," he said, "every required course will have a detailed set of course expectations up front. We'll have that ready by August, and every school — and every parent who wants to find out — will have a clear and detailed road map of what's expected from the required courses."

"Second," Flanagan said, "each required course will have a required end-of-course exam. If the kid doesn't pass the exam, he or she will have to take the course again or some acceptable variation. If the kid fails algebra, for example, he'll have to master the same material, but perhaps in a vocational education setting."

So what's the education system going to do with parents who come in yelling their heads off about how unfair you're being to little Johnny? "Simple," Flanagan said, "cite the law."

I admire Flanagan's cool toughness. But all I can say is that I sure hope the school system is as determined and tough in standing up to the intense pressure that is sure to come.

Pressure, that is, to water the new standards down. This, after a rare moment of lucidity in which the political class realized that without stern standards, Michigan may never be able to compete.

For in a sense, what has just been done was easy. The tough part is about to begin.

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



Phil Power

Board can only rebuild trust by revising an unproven plan

Trust is the key to any successful relationship. As a father of four children, my wife and I value trust as the basis of our family's happiness. As a Livonia business owner, the trust I've established with my clients is what makes my company thrive.

Unfortunately, the culture of trust within the Livonia Public School system has rapidly eroded in the last seven months. Due to a fast-growing culture of mistrust, Livonia has spiraled into a divided community of blue



Steve Futrell

signs and red signs. It makes me sad and frustrated because the Board of Education could have prevented this insidious culture of mistrust.

Parents know that there is a statewide educational budget problem. We recognize that schools must close. What we do not want is the K-4, 5-6 model which is unproven in a district the size of Livonia. We are in favor of consolidating our schools, retaining the current K-6 structure or further discussing the K-5, 6-8 model.

In 2004, two-thirds of the citizens who were surveyed said no, Livonia should not consider different ways to organize the grade levels. People do not trust a BOE that knew this information but chose to ignore its own survey results. Why is the BOE now surprised that so many citizens oppose the Legacy Initiative?

People do not trust a BOE that ignores community feedback. Countless people have publicly spoken out against the Legacy Initiative and signed recall petitions, and yet the BOE remains stone-faced. One board member claimed it is illegal to respond to our concerns during the public communication part of a board meeting (this is not true). Another board member did speak out to say he doesn't care if he is recalled, that he can fill his Monday nights with other activities.

People do not trust a BOE that agrees to allow five of its members to serve on the same committee. Why would responsible and reasonable elected officials jeopardize the spirit and intent of the Open Meetings Act from the get-go? A quorum violation only takes four board members to be in attendance at the same meeting. Why take the chance?

People don't trust a board that approved the first plan presented to them, which only saves 1 percent of the operating budget! Board members did not ask for alternative plans to consider when making this hallmark change in LPS. They approved it without ask-

ing or knowing about the financial details required to support it. In fact, all of the implementation costs are still unknown. Every day we read of hundreds of thousands of dollars required for infrastructure, roads, buses, etc.

It is not fiscally responsible to adopt a plan without knowing the bottom line, particularly in times of financial crisis. If LPS loses more than 180 students to other districts or private schools, there is no savings. To date, more than 125 students are slated to leave LPS in the fall, taking with them more than \$1 million in funding.

People do not trust a system that works against built-in checks and balances. The demographics committee was a closed committee from the start, consisting of members with ties to LPS; nearly all were current or former employees, board members, or PTA officers.

Members of the board say that one priority is to adhere to board policies and procedures. Yet, under the BOE's own by-laws, advisory committees need to be publicly commissioned. There is no mention of the formation of the Demographics Committee in the BOE minutes. It should not have required a FOIA to get information about the Demographics Committee, but it did.

People do not trust a BOE that ignores current research that states wider grade spans and smaller schools lead to higher academic achievement. Like Mr. Whitehead stated in his article, we believe the focus should remain on student learning. Unlike Mr. Whitehead, we believe in proven, researched-based results, not just being innovative for innovation's sake. Our children are too precious to us.

This culture of mistrust is tearing the LPS community apart. It is small wonder why the recall effort is so strong. Clearly it is time for the BOE to come to the table for dialogue and to begin rebuilding trust in the community.

Steve Futrell is a father of four and the president of Citizens For Livonia's Future.

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Governor recognizes Last Call program

The Wayne County Sheriff's Office's Last Call unit has received recognition from Gov. Jennifer Granholm for its work keeping drunken drivers accountable for their actions and helping to make local roadways safer for the public.

The team of deputies was recognized recently at the governor's Traffic Safety Advisory Commission luncheon for its outstanding contribution to traffic safety in Michigan.

Sheriff Warren Evans created the five-officer unit in October of 2003 using a state grant from the Byrne Memorial Fund and charged the officers with finding and arresting drunken drivers who either have failed to show up for their court dates or have violated their probation. To establish the need for such a unit, Evans' staff had contacted local district courts and discovered that at that time there were more than 7,000 such people in Wayne County alone, many of them repeat offenders.

"It was an epidemic that no one was paying attention to," Evans said. "From experience we know that these individuals are a very high risk to drink and drive again and to kill or seriously injure someone. The reason they were allowed to do this was because the system had no one holding them accountable. Now we have the Last Call unit."

Since the unit's inception, this small team of deputies has arrested more than 1,400 offenders and brought them before a judge. Many of them, Evans said, are getting more serious jail time and being forced into the kinds of treat-

ment programs that can help them with their drinking problems.

The direct effect this approach has on drunken driving statistics will be hard to measure, Evans said, but feedback from local communities has been positive. "We're hearing from many of the district courts that the number of no-shows in drunken driving cases has gone down significantly," Evans said. "The reason is that

just as people had been conditioned to know they could skip court and not get caught, they are now being conditioned to understand there will be serious consequences if they don't stand accountable for their actions."

Evans said his is gratified that his officer's efforts have been recognized by Granholm. "This is the only unit anywhere doing this kind of work and I think the officers are having a

tremendous impact. I hope that once the grant expires that the continuation of this unit will be a priority in the county's budget," Evans said.

Wayne County Sheriff's Deputies Lamar Nelson (left) and Cpl. Brian Ferris review district court files of drunken drivers who have failed to show for court or have violated their probation.



Sheriff offers CCW classes

The Wayne County Sheriff's Office has scheduled three gun safety classes for individuals interested in carrying a concealed weapon. The training is mandatory for obtaining a CCW permit in the state of Michigan.

The one-day class costs \$100 and includes of hours of class instruction and approximately five hours at the sheriff's indoor firing range. The Sheriff's Office will provide participants with all firearms and ammunition necessary. Participants, however, must bring their own eye and ear protection.

Upcoming dates are April 29 and May 6. Each class runs from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

For more information, call (734) 699-6009.

Museum revisits the 1970s era

The Detroit Historical Museum brings back the 1970s Saturday-Sunday, April 22-23. The first evening is for adults 21 and older only and features an Atlantic City theme. The fun begins at 7 p.m. and continues to midnight with a cash bar and a DJ spinning disco, pop and rock music in the 1970s Lounge.

Partyygoers are encouraged to dress in the spirit of the 70s.

Tickets are \$25 for society members, \$30 nonmembers and available by calling (313) 833-7935 or online at www.detroithistorical.org.

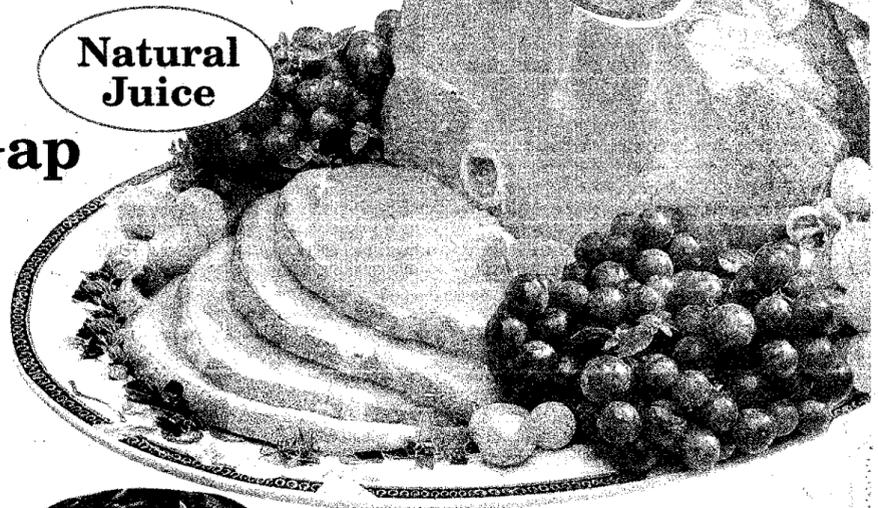
On Sunday, April 23, the entire family can enjoy a blast from the past by playing popular children's games like Twister and Family Feud from noon to 4 p.m. Come dressed as a favorite 1970s television, movie or game show personality, and have your photograph taken. Admission is free.

The museum is located at 5401 Woodward at Kirby across from the Detroit Institute of Arts.



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Friends of Rouge fight for future

BY KURT KUBAN
STAFF WRITER

For months, the nine employees of Friends of the Rouge have been busy planning the 20th anniversary of Rouge Rescue, by all means a major milestone in the restoration of the Rouge River.

About two weeks ago, the FOTR team met with volunteers from many of the 48 communities in the Rouge watershed to discuss project ideas for Rouge Rescue, the annual volunteer effort to clean up the river, which is scheduled to take place this year June 3. FOTR officials were thrilled with the turnout.

But the best news of the day for the organization, which dates back to 1985, actually came a couple of hours before the meeting, when it was announced that the state's congressional delegation was successful in freeing up a \$7.5 million federal grant through the Rouge River National Wet Weather Demonstration Project. The grant, which had been frozen by the Environmental Protection Agency, provides more than 60 percent of the FOTR budget.

According to FOTR Executive Director Carolyne McCaughey, last year's grant was set to run out Aug. 31, which means the organization was facing some tough decisions by summer's end if the new grant didn't come through. She said the staff certainly would've been cut, as well as many of the programs the group provides to local communities all over the watershed, which includes portions of Wayne, Oakland and Washtenaw counties.

Since FOTR was founded in December 1985, it has organized the annual Rouge Rescue event; coordinated the Rouge



The Rouge Education Project, which Friends of the Rouge started about 20 years ago, has taught students to take ownership of the Rouge River. Here a student checks the chemical makeup of the river.

Education Project, in which thousands of students from around the watershed have monitored the quality of the Rouge; started a frog and toad survey; and helped with a number of streambank stabilization and wildlife habitat improvement projects.

Fortunately for the organization, several members of Congress, including Rep. John Dingell, Rep. Thaddeus McCotter and Sens. Carl Levin and Debbie Stabenow, were able to get the EPA to free up the Rouge River Wet Weather Demonstration Project grant that had already been approved by Congress. Now the federal funding is guaranteed through November 2007.

Kurt Heise, the director of Wayne County's Department of Environment, said the grant is not only important for FOTR, but also for all the communities

in the Rouge watershed.

"We were all sweating bullets the last few months. The EPA had frozen our incoming funding. That impacted everything from the Friends of the Rouge to the major CSO (combined sewer overflow) project in Dearborn," he said.

Heise praised the work the FOTR team does in the watershed, including providing public education, which is a required component of the stormwater management plans of most Rouge communities. He said the group is no longer solely tied to the annual Rouge Rescue event.

"They've gone from a once-a-year operation to one of the best watershed resource education groups in the state," Heise said.

Still, the snafu with the federal grant has made McCaughey realize FOTR needs to start looking into other sources of funding. That includes everything from expanding membership — it currently has about 400 members — to finding other grants and even corporate sponsors.

To that end, about a year ago the organization hired a development coordinator, Kathy

Milberg, to find alternative sources of funding. She said everything is on the table. They have been trying to cement ties with local businesses, such as getting them to sponsor Rouge Rescue activities. She said they are also trying to get their many volunteers to support the group with donations, and possibly even solicit funding from the many communities they provide services to.

But Milberg understands these aren't necessarily the best times to raise funds.

"Money is so tight and so competitive these days. There was Katrina and the state's economy is in the toilet. There are all these basic needs people are giving to, which is understandable. It's hard to compete with that," she said.

McCaughey is optimistic, however. She feels the organization has become an integral part of the Rouge River restoration efforts, and that the FOTR team is up to the challenge of finding the necessary funding to survive into the future.

"I really feel Friends of the Rouge is more stable than we've ever been," McCaughey said.



Friends of the Rouge have been instrumental in a number of streambank stabilization projects, including this effort on a Rouge tributary in Birmingham last year.

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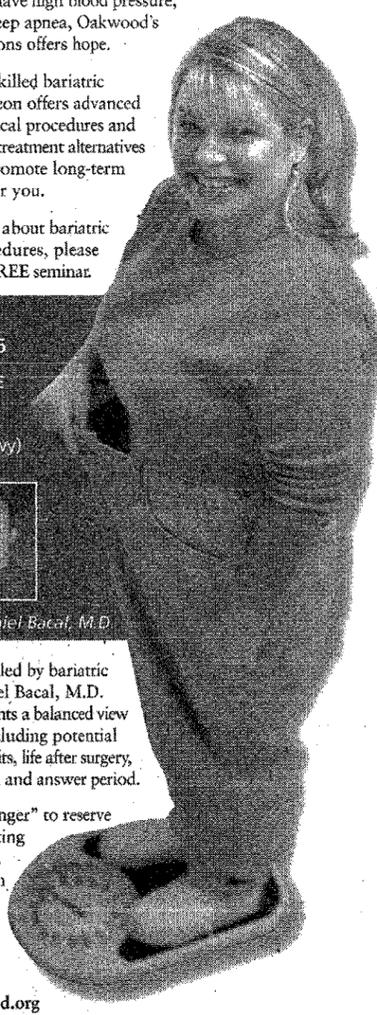
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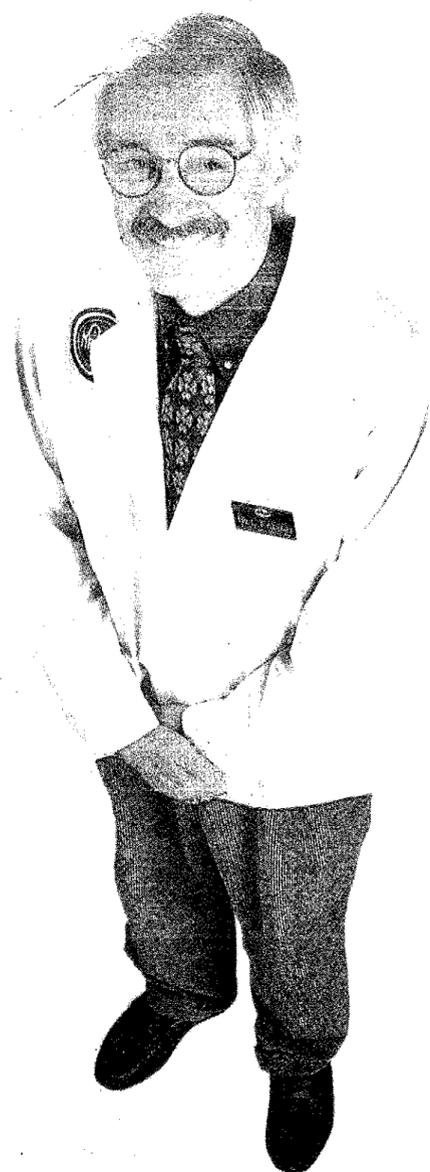
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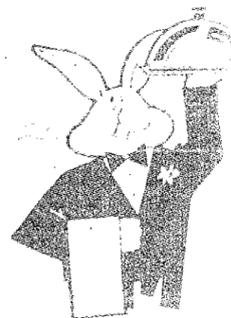
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Quick reaction: Bikers band together to protect funeral services

BY ALEX LUNDBERG
STAFF WRITER

In response to a church that has crusaded around the country protesting soldiers' funerals, veteran and civilian motorcycle groups are now riding out to block the protests and give grieving families some space.

The Patriot Guard Riders are a nationwide group of motorcycle enthusiasts dedicated to showing respect for fallen soldiers and their families and shielding those families from protesters.

Westboro Baptist Church, based in Kansas, has made a name for itself in recent years by staging anti-government protests near soldiers' funerals nationwide. They believe that soldiers' deaths are the consequence of the nation's tolerance for homosexuals and carry signs like "God hates fags" and "Thank God for IEDs."

The rider's group is apolitical and is open to non-veterans, riders of any kind of motorcycle and even to non-riders. They were created as a response to the Westboro group and have appeared at recent soldiers' funerals in Flushing and Grand Ledge.

Bill Kaledas, former Garden City Mayor and captain of the Michigan chapter of the Patriot Guard Riders, said there's a set of rules to be followed once the membership finds out the date of a service funeral before anyone heads out.

"We find out about the funerals through the Department of Defense and we coordinate through the funeral director," Kaledas said. "We get the family's permission and

contact local law enforcement to find out if someone has filed for a permit to protest."

He said it's important to note that the Patriot Guard Riders do not hold counter protests at the funerals. They also do not address, confront or debate funeral protesters, theirs is not a speaking part.

"We turn our backs to the protesters, hold our flags high and encourage others to do the same," Kaledas said.

"Hopefully we can shield the families from the protest."

When the group rode to Flushing earlier this month, organizers made it clear that the job was not to react to the Westboro Baptist Church's members at all.

Kaledas said a little prevention turned out to be a very good thing.

"We arrived in a large group, there was already a lot of people there and they were getting

hot," he said. "We told the people to ignore them and they'd go away. Otherwise, that could have got ugly."

Andy Russell of Milford is the director of the American Legion Post 216 Riders and got involved with the Patriot Guard Riders shortly after hearing about the Westboro protests.

"We put out the word on the Guard and got people to help out," he said. "You rarely find

someone not in support of the troops or their families."

State and national lawmakers are moving to regulate the way protests outside soldiers' funerals are being conducted. Rep. Mike Rogers (R-8) has drafted legislation to keep protesters 500 feet away and an hour before or after a funeral.

Legal representatives of the church have said the restrictions are a violation of First Amendment protections of

speech and assembly. Rogers has said the Supreme Court has condoned legislation regulating time and place that doesn't preclude speech.

The legality of the legislation may be moot.

"Crowds coming out with the Guard are going to get larger and larger," Russell said. "There's no telling what it's going to be like when the weather gets better and more bikes come out of storage."

Task force formed on Pinnacle

The Wayne County Commission has formed a Pinnacle Aeropark Task Force to investigate the long-delayed development of land just south of Detroit Wayne County Metro Airport.

The Pinnacle Aeropark Project was first introduced in 1999. Its purpose was to develop approximately 1200 acres of land acquired in Huron Township and the city of Romulus for a multimillion dollar mixed use business park. The park was to include light manufacturing and research and development facilities. There were also plans to include property within the Detroit Metro facilities.

Jewel Ware, chairwoman of the Wayne County Commission, said developing the project has taken on a new urgency.

"Although the concept of Pinnacle is an often recurring theme," Ware said in a press statement, "we've not seen sufficient movement to give us a firm indication of what, if any, direction it's taking."

Chairing the Pinnacle Aeropark Task Force will be commission Pro-Tem Edward A. Boike, D-Taylor.

"We plan to look at what finances have gone into the project and what kind of budgeting may be needed to get it off the ground," Boike said. "We'll also look at property ownership issues, including what parcels are in the hands of both the airport and county government; property values and potential impediments to property use. It is an imperative that we conduct a comprehensive inquiry into these and other issues."

In addition to Boike, the committee will also include Commissioners Joseph Palamara, D-Grosse Ile, Bernard Parker, D-Detroit, Gary Woronchak, D-Dearborn, and Keith Williams, D-Detroit.

No date has been scheduled for the first meeting of the task force, however, Boike said he anticipates convening by the third week of April.

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WOMEN SEEKING MEN

SEXY REDHEAD/GREAT LEGS

DWF, 54, 142lbs, 5'6", enjoys blues, animals, gardening, homeowner, no kids. Seeking SM, 5'10"+, N/S, social drinker for LTR. ☎548938

JERSEY TRANSPLANT

SWF, 50, slender, blonde, Virgo, N/S, enjoys foreign travel, wine tasting, and working out. Seeking WM, 40-53, N/S, for LTR. ☎885454

PETITE & SEXY...

SBF, sensitive, affectionate, loving, 51, looks 35, 5'1", 105lbs, NS. Seeking healthy SBM, 5'10"-6'1", to work out with. ☎912553

SPRING IS HERE

Spring is here, summer near. So much to see, so much to do. Would like to do them together with you. Just 80. ☎962340

PRETTY AND FRIENDLY

Separated WF, 34, 5'9", 180lbs, romantic, short blonde/blue, likes to work out, laughter, movies, dining out. Seeking tall man, 32-43, race unimportant, great SOH, outgoing, motivated, for friendship maybe more. ☎779775

CALLING ALL CYCLISTS

SF, a young 44, nice-looking, in great shape, seeks athletic man, 25-55, for cycling, hiking, outdoor activities. ☎945242

ISO GOOD FRIEND?

Possible relationship? Read on. SWF, 47, N/S, enjoys cooking, dining out, art museums, plays, reading, and traveling. Seeking honest WM, 42-57, N/S. ☎857253

TRY ME!

Attractive SWF, 49, I enjoy movies, dining, skiing and skating. Seeking an attractive SWM, 45-55, who enjoys most activities. ☎869847

SEEKING COMPANIONSHIP

Loving, attractive SWCF, 74, trim, fun, N/D, N/S, homebody type, seeks lasting friendship and happiness with a quality gentleman in his 70s. Let's talk! ☎794040

SEEKING COMPANION

SWF, 42, queen-sized, outgoing, enjoys walks, music, life, open to new ideas. Looking for SM who wants to do things together. Must be employed and like pets. ☎909140

I'M A...

sexy SBF, 40, 5'4", 187lbs, Sagittarius, smoker, works out. Seeking honest, hard-working, tall BM, 30-50, smoker, for friendship, possibly more. ☎938706

LOOKING FOR ME?

SWF, 5'6", 130lbs, 64, great SOH, N/S, enjoys life, dining, dancing, holding hands, music, boating, quiet times, etc. Seeking a SW/HM, N/S, sincere and humorous. ☎901378

MARRIAGE MINDED...

Nice-looking, warm-hearted, sincere, 37, employed. Looking for the same qualities in a single male, 35-43. ☎940077

SOULMATE SEARCH

Attractive 42-year-old, looking for soulmate, sincere, great SOH. Seeking gentleman, 35-50, no game players. ☎930545

FRIENDS FIRST

SBF, 37, 5'6", black/brown, easygoing, Aries, N/S, enjoys bike riding, long walks, travel, and cooking. Seeking WM, 30-50, N/S, for fun. ☎933970

COULD YOU BE THE ONE?

SBF, 39, mother of 2, enjoys bowling, bingo. Looking for down-to-earth, child-friendly SM, with strong morals/values, D/D-free, employed, independent, self-sufficient, who knows what he wants in life. ☎930465

LOOKING FOR LOVE

SBF, 45, vivacious, N/S, loves dancing, fitness, theater, dining out, quiet romantic evenings. Seeking a loving, good-hearted man who appreciates the same. ☎934797

A GOOD & TRUE FRIEND

Share with this DBCF, 65, N/S, honest, fun, enjoy outings, breakfast, lunch, dinners? conversation, good, old-school, down-to-earth friendship, sincerity. ☎905535

ASIAN MAN WANTED

Pretty, blue-eyed blonde, 55, plus-sized, warm and bright, seeks intelligent, handsome man for dating. Troy area. ☎827007

GOOD LOOKER

Positive, caring, easygoing SBPF, 53 (looks younger), N/S, not into bars, enjoys jazz, old-school music, and fun times. Seeking special, secure man, 48-60, N/S, for laughter, good times and LTR. ☎725001

SEEKING A GOOD MAN

SBF, 41, 140lbs, 5'4", independent, homeowner, honest, kind-hearted, devoted, loves God, enjoys walks, working out, music. ISO honest, like-minded man to share a friends first relationship. ☎930971

REALISTIC

SBF, 26, 4'11", average build, Virgo, smoker, seeks drama-free, fun BM, 22-29, smoker, for friendship, possible romance. ☎939308

BROWN SUGAR AND SPICE

SF, 47 years young, 5'5", very outgoing, loves family, fun, life. Would like to spend time with someone, 40-60, who loves jazz, concerts, movies, dinners, weekend getaways. ☎208051

COULD YOU BE MR. RIGHT?

Are you a big, tall, handsome man? DWF, 47, very attractive, loving, fun, seeks SWM to share life together. ☎443339

NATURAL BBW

SBF, 32, 5'5", 240lbs, N/S, N/D, N/kids, employed. Seeking a SM, 18-60, who is open-minded, N/S, N/kids and can appreciate a strong woman. ☎924352

SOULMATE SEARCH

Slim, attractive, 57-yr-old JF looking for her soulmate, any sincere, successful JM, between the ages of 54-64, please respond. ☎589875

ARE YOU ROMANTIC?

SWF, 61, N/S, is looking for chemistry and compatibility with secure, emotionally available WM, 48-60, N/S, who can dance (or will learn how to). ☎898106

ARE YOU THE ONE?

SF, 24, mother, brown/brown, 5'4", likes skating, skiing, dancing, dining out, good talks, life's simple pleasures. Seeking compatible, caring, SM, to enjoy the good times, friendship and possible LTR. ☎920771

FORMER MODEL

SWF, 50, 5'6", slender, intelligence, creativity, passion for music and dancing. Seeks partner 38-50, who is attractive and fit, to share this interests and more. ☎600106

SOMEONE SPECIAL

Fun-loving, attractive SWF, 70, 5'5", 135lbs, blonde, retired, N/S, seeks well-groomed WM, 65-72, N/S, to share life, romance, and possible relationship. ☎891247

HAPPY & SECURE

DCF, 68, 5'2", long dark brown/ brown, N/S, N/D, with positive attitude, enjoys leisurely drives, movies, and dining out. Seeking man, 58-75, for LTR. ☎669606

KIND HEART

Full-figured SF, 55, enjoys dancing and all types of music, likes working with animals, seeks good-natured single man, 44-60. ☎742466

LOVING LEO

Widowed WPF, 53, 5'9", brown/ brown, N/S, nursing home activities coordinator, enjoys boating, swimming, and Michigan State football games. Seeking WM, 50-62, with similar interests. ☎759316

GREAT COMPANION

SF, 65, looks 55, 5'2", unique, bright, w/many talents and interests. I'm well-traveled, very attractive, health-conscious. How about you? Seeking non-smoking counterpart, 62-70. ☎633527

LET'S LAUGH TOGETHER

SWF, 68, 5'5", full-figured, brown/ brown, romantic, lovable, humorous, likes entertaining, traveling, family time. Seeking SM, 40-56, N/S, social drinker ok, who puts God first in his life, for possible LTR. ☎861408

SHALL WE DANCE?

I am a SBF, 58, 5'3", 170lbs, attractive, intelligent, creative, articulate, seeks SWM, 57-73, who is kind-hearted, articulate, who enjoys dancing, walking, traveling, movies, dining out. ☎812098

ENJOYS THE SIMPLE THINGS

Attractive DBF, early 60s, feels much younger, N/S, loves music and dancing, stays physically active, would like to hear from friendly, honest man, 56-68, N/S. ☎672174

VERY ATTRACTIVE

Classy, slim, young-looking, SWF, 57, with good personality and values, financially/emotionally stable, ISO SWM, 53-64, with same qualities for serious relationship. ☎867073

59 YEARS OLD ENTREPRENEUR

Pretty, charming SWF, successful, kind, compassionate, lots of fun, looking for her knight in shining armor. Any sincere, caucasian gentlemen, 55-80, please respond. Hopefully we'll be each others soul mates. ☎592074

REFINED AND FULL OF LIFE

Very attractive blonde, fit, energetic and happy, professionally employed, very youthful 60s, 5'3", trim and shapely, enjoys dining, travel, dancing, theater, family and friends. Seeking honest, handsome, fit, 55+, college grad, N/S, with youthful passion for life. Serious replies only. ☎652360

A GOOD FRIEND

SWF, 57, full-figured, 5'4", likes movies, dancing, good company. Seeking a nice guy to enjoys a friends first relationship. ☎916193

ISO MR. RIGHT

SBF, 25, 5'3", mother of one, open-minded and fun to be around. Seeking a single male, 28-36, who is ready to settle down and enjoy life. ☎932247

COME DANCE WITH ME

Lovely, trim, warm, intelligent, affectionate, retired JPF, N/S, good SOH. Seeking tall, attractive, educated, romantic, dance partner, who enjoys classical music, theater, movies, books, long walks, and dining out, (70-76). ☎506895

CHEER ON THE HOME TEAM

Widowed WJF, 56, N/S, loves life, cruising, walking, reading, concerts, football, baseball, and basketball. Seeking adventurous WM, 55-66, N/S. ☎938734

I LISTEN WITH MY HEART

Attractive DWF, late 40s, Cancer, N/S, seeks special, no games WM, 45+, N/S, for caring, quality committed relationship. Let's create sparks and watch them fly. ☎639272

MEN SEEKING WOMEN

HAPPY DAD

Single father of three, 37, loves family, outdoors, biking, barbecues, cooking and more. Looking for a lovely WF, 30-45, to share happiness and life with. ☎715711

GOT WIT?

DBM, late 40s, homeowner, N/S, loves traveling, taking part in community events, jazz and comedy clubs. Seeking WF, 42-52, smoker, responsible drinker ok, not afraid to take a chance. ☎83266

STRAIGHT UP, LOW-KEY

Easygoing, cute SWM, 40s, not into loud noise and big crowds, enjoys art, wine tastings, charity, seeks similar-minded lady for friendship, maybe more. ☎548455

EASY ON THE EYES

Well-maintained SWM, 56, who enjoys keeping in touch with current events, heart-to-heart talks and silly conversations. Let's meet over coffee and see what develops. ☎259844

NICE GUY

SWM, 66, 5'6", 150lbs, manufacturers' representative, Libra, N/S, works out, enjoys movies, restaurants, and summer festivals. Seeking SWF, 50-65, N/S, Shirley, please call back. ☎708126

HELLO OUT THERE

SBM, 32, 5'9", light complexion, honest, affectionate seeks attractive woman, to share good times, good talks, day trips and simple fun. Friendship first. ☎934910

HOPE TO HEAR FROM YOU

Independent, self-sufficient DWM, 45, sturdy build, carpenter, sociable, affectionate likes boating, walks, drives, cycling, cooking. Seeking a special lady to share the good things in life. ☎855207

THE MEANING OF LIFE

Attractive, multiracial (British and Indian) SPM, 37, 165lbs, fit, N/S, world traveler, enjoys sports, theater. Seeking intelligent, witty woman, 19-35, fit, slim, race open. ☎941160

NO DRAMA HERE

SWM, 41, 6'2", 230lbs, with daughter (17), occasional smoker, loves grilled-cooked dishes, camping, and listening to Rush. Seeking WF, 33-45, smoker, for LTR. ☎941236

MY 411

Sexy SBM, 39, 6'3", 230lbs, very attractive, Scorpio, N/S, truck driver, seeks a beautiful woman, 21-40, N/S. ☎939685

ALONE TOO LONG?

Me, too. Male, 38, 5'9", 160lbs, Virgo, N/S, enjoys music, movies, sports. Seeking AF, 30-45, N/S, who enjoys movies, music, and sports. ☎940640

ATTRACTIVE MALE

WM, 6'4", 195lbs, enjoys scuba diving, travel, family, more. Looking for an honest WF, 25-38, who is mature, confident, affectionate, outgoing and easy to talk to. ☎942547

AGE IS JUST A NUMBER

Mature, attractive lady sought by handsome WM, 42, brown/blue, active, homeowner. Interested range from outdoors to movies, to dining and dancing. ☎683230

LIFE'S A CABARET

Classy, romantic, intelligent SWM, 50, well-traveled, with good taste, seeks a special, caring, friendly lady, 36-55. Let's share life, romance, and laughter. ☎480718

OUTDOORSY KINDA GUY

DWM, 64, 5'11", 190lbs, self-employed, N/S, socially drinker, great SOH. I am looking for the right lady to spend time with, get to know and maybe develop a lasting relationship. ☎891796

HOW ABOUT ME?

Caring SWM, 35, looking for a nice woman with a big heart and warm smile to share the special moments in life. ☎938379

SHARE LIFE WITH ME

affectionate, sincere SBM, 45, chef by trade, seeks spiritual, down-to-earth lady who enjoys attending church, bowling and life's simple pleasures, to snare companionship, happiness, maybe love. ☎933984

HERE I AM

Good-looking SM, 36, N/S, N/D, good-humored, likes romance, music, movies, biking. Seeking fit, fun, honest SF, 24-42, for friendship, possible LTR. ☎937190

LET'S GO OUT

SWM, 24, 5'5", medium build, hazel eyes, Gemini, smoker, self-sufficient, works at a steel factory, loves camping. Seeking WF, 18-30, smoker. ☎940524

ROMANTIC

SBPM, 50, 6', athletic build, salt-pepper hair and mustache, Libra, N/S, loves cooking, arts and crafts, and museums. Seeking classy, trustworthy, humorous BF, 40-61, N/S. ☎939188

WORTH THE CHANCE

Attractive DWM, 31, 6', light brown/green, lean build, independent, enjoys outdoors, nights out, or just cuddling on the couch. Seeking a good friend to possibly develop a relationship with. 20-35. ☎942424

POSITIVE PERSONALITY

Attractive, romantic engineer, Asian American male, light complexion, 54, 5'8", 148lbs, fit, financially secure, caring, fun-loving, seeks WH/A/F, 40-55, for friendship maybe more. ☎514300

TRY ME

Honest and up front SBM, 39, 5'8", 165lbs, open-minded and kind-hearted enjoys movies, theater, jazz concerts, romance. Seeking a beautiful, fun-loving, honest lady to share the good times in life. ☎933866

ONE-ON-ONE TIME

DWM, medium build, Oakland County, enjoys comedies, walks, quiet times. Seeking medium to full-figured woman, 30-50, affectionate, romantic, casual dresser. ☎278513

LIFE IS TOO SHORT...

not to share it with someone. SWM, 50, Italian descent, Scorpio, N/S, no children, seeks WF, 46-55, to connect with. ☎935694

ROMANTIC BUT REALISTIC

Youthful, easygoing SWM, 46, likes movies, concerts, boating. Seeking attractive SWF, 40s-50s, with a lively spirit, good sense of humor, friendly, positive outlook. ☎642092

COULD IT BE YOU?

SWM, 40s, 6', 175lbs, N/S, homeowner, auto worker, easygoing, honest and secure, enjoys hunting, Harleys and the outdoors. Seeking attractive slim/fit woman, 30-50, N/S, D/D-free, comfortable in high heels-tennis shoes ☎798519

MUSCULAR AND ATHLETIC

SWM, 46, 6'2", 209lbs, brown/blue, degreed, outgoing personality, enjoys outdoors, workout, new activities, seeks friendly SF, age/location open. ☎531308

LET'S BE FREE TOGETHER

SBM, 6', 220lbs, physically fit, retired, well-educated. I would like to meet a single female 52-62, who is understanding, loving and caring, for a LTR. ☎869189

TRUE GENTLEMAN

SBM, 52, 5'8", 185lbs, looking for a medium to full-figured SBF, 46-54. Someone who is worldly, nice, loves to laugh and just enjoying life to the fullest. ☎912726

SERIOUS WOMAN WANTED

SBM, 46, looking for that special persona for LTR, someone who enjoys walks, movies, sporting events, cuddling at home. Please be shapely, independent and know what you want in life. ☎692418

WHAT'S IN YOUR HEART?

SBM, Native American, never married, 40, 5'8", 170lbs, enjoys cooking, soft music, and stormy, rainy nights. Seeking nice, full-figured, SF, 30-40, with similar interests. Honest and N/S. Enjoys evening walks. ☎854016

BIG THREE ENGINEER

Attractive SBM, 6', 220lbs, N/S, occasional drinker, 40-ish, very laid-back, family-oriented, likes dinner, movies, and going to the gym. Seeking SF, 20-45, race open, H/W proportionate, for friendship, possible LTR. ☎822912

TRY ME

SBM, 32, 5'11", 200lbs, attractive fun, seeks goal-oriented and sincere, who knows how to enjoy life. ☎934603

INTERESTED

SBM, 20, 5'5", dark complexion, likes hanging with friends, the outdoors, movies and more. Looking for a level-headed, fun SF, not into games, to share good times friends. ☎936039

TAKE A CHANCE

SM, 25, college-graduate, employed, active, looking for a nice girl, to share good times, talks, friendship and fun. ☎9

Listings for the Community Calendar should be submitted in writing. They can be mailed to Sue Mason at 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150, by fax at (734) 591-7279 or by e-mail at smason@oe.homecomm.net. For more information, call (734) 953-2112.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Telephone retirees

Telephone Retirees from SBC, Ameritech and Michigan Bell are invited to the group's monthly luncheon at 11:30 a.m. Monday, April 10, at Archies Fine Dining, 30471 Plymouth Road between Middlebelt and Merriman Roads (586) 268-1613.

Prevention dinner

Oakwood Healthcare System will host an Arab American Cancer Prevention Dinner from 4-8 p.m. Thursday, April 13, at the Bint Jebail Cultural Center, 6220 Miller Road, in Dearborn. The free event will feature bilingual Arab American physicians discussing cancer prevention and the state-of-the-art treatments offered at OHS. Additionally, men and women from the community will share their inspiring cancer survival stories. Participants will have the opportunity to have questions answered by Oakwood physicians and cancer care specialists. Everyone attending will enjoy a complimentary Halal meal and receive free blood pressure and glucose monitoring. Register for this event by Thursday, April 6, at www.oakwood.org or call (800) 543-WELL.

Flea Market

Historic Fort Wayne will be the site of a flea market, sponsored by the Detroit Historical Society Guild 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, April 8-9. The flea market will feature antiques, crafts, collectibles, one-of-a-kind and flea market items. Snacks also will be available. Parking is \$2 per car. The building is wheelchair accessible. There also will be Civil War reenactments in the Star Fort. Historic Fort Wayne is at 6325 W. Jefferson at the foot of Livernois in Detroit. For more information, call (586) 498-9298 or (586) 415-5581 or by e-mail at map5711@aol.com.

Ladies Literary Club

The Ladies Literary Club will hold its annual scholarship fund-raiser 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, April 8, at the First Congregational Church, 2 Towne Square in downtown Wayne (Wayne Road between eastbound and westbound Michigan Avenue). The club will have a "second time around sale" and bake sale, featuring lots of good and

"gently" used household items for sale. Baked goods will also be for sale. All proceeds from this sale go to the Frances Blain Hills Scholarship Fund. The club awards two scholarships each year for higher education. Typically, one student from John Glenn and one student from Wayne Memorial receive scholarships. For more information about donating contact Sue at (734) 641-9188, or Carol at (734) 728-7343.

FOR YOUR HEALTH

Eating Disorders

Get help, get real information and real expectations, at an eating disorder support group which meets 7-8:30 p.m. Wednesday in the auditorium of Garden City Hospital, 6245 Inkster Road, Garden City. All meetings are closed - for people of all ages with eating disorders and are free of charge. Family and friends support is on the second Wednesday of the month while parents support is on the fourth Wednesday of the month. For more information, call Darlene at (734) 324-3089.

Advocacy group

The Wayne-Westland Alliance for the Mentally Ill, a self-help and advocacy group, meets at 7 p.m. the first and third Thursday of the month at St. John's Episcopal Church, 555 S. Wayne Road, at Bayview, Westland. For more information, call (734) 362-8825.

TOPS

TOPS (Taking Off Pounds Sensibly) meets every Wednesday at St. John's Episcopal Church, 555 S. Wayne Road, Westland. Weigh-in is 6:30-7:15 p.m., with the meeting 7:30-8:30 p.m. For more information, call Rosalie at (734) 728-0299.

Menopause & More

A Menopause & More support group for women meets 7-9 p.m. the first Wednesday of the month in Classroom 2 of the west addition of the Marian Women Center of St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile, Livonia. No registration is necessary, and the group is free of charge. For more information, call (734) 655-1100.

Support group

A support group for people with chronic illness meets on Fridays every other week, at the Westside Mental Health Services, 32932 W. Warren, Suite 103, Westland. The support group is a service of Awareness Counseling Services. There is a \$10 for each meeting which will be facilitated by a professional. For more information, call (734) 513-8295 or (313) 562-2800.

AIM

Anxiety or panic attacks? AIM (Agoraphobics in Motion) meets at 7:30 p.m. Thursdays at Faith Lutheran Church, 30000 Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Merriman in Livonia. AIM is a support group for those working on recovery from anxiety disorder or phobias. Call (248) 547-0400.

Angela Hospice

As part of its service to the community, Angela Hospice offers a variety of grief support groups free-of-charge to community residents. The groups are held at the Angela Hospice Care Center at 14100 Newburgh Road, Livonia, and are led by bereavement professionals and trained volunteers who aim to provide useful coping strategies and tools to facilitate the healing process.

■ General Grief Support Group - Open to all losses. Meets at 1 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. the second and fourth Tuesday of each month.

■ Loss of a Spouse Support Group - Meets 6:30-8 p.m. the first Tuesday of each month, beginning in February.

■ Women's Grief Support Group - Held each Spring and Fall. Call (734)953-6012 for dates and times.

■ Heartstrings: Parents Who Have Lost a Child - Meets 6:30-8 p.m. the first Thursday of each month. Call to register at (734) 464-2683.

■ Grief Support Quilter's Group - A new Grief Support Quilter's Group is looking for community members interested in making a quilt in memory of a loved one. No quilting or sewing experience is necessary. Dates and times to be determined. Call (734) 953-6012 for more information.

Groups by Appointment - Loss of an Adult Child, Men In Grief. Call (734) 953-6012 for more information.

Programs for Children - Reservations required for all children's programs. Register by calling (734) 464-2683.

■ Children's Grief Support Group - For ages 6-8 and 9-12. Meets winter, spring and fall 5-6 p.m. Thursdays for eight consecutive (April 6-June 1, Sept. 14-Nov. 2).

■ Children's Spring Workshop - 5-7 p.m. Thursday, May 4.

Angela Hospice also provides one-on-one grief support. For more information or to register for a group, call Joan Lee at (734) 953-6012.

Childbirth classes

Garden City Hospital, on Inkster Road at Maplewood, is sponsoring classes for parents of newborns, weekend childbirth instruction, a refresher childbirth education course and a new support group for expectant teens. For information on programs, call (734) 458-4330.

Childbirth Association

Classes for childbirth preparation are offered at several Wayne County locations. Morning and evening classes are available. Registering new classes every month. Newborn care classes and Cesarean birth preparation are also offered. Call (734) 459-7477.

Fibromyalgia

The Garden City area chapter of the Great Lakes Fibromyalgia and CFS Association Support Group meets 1-3 p.m. the first Thursday of each month at Merriman Road Baptist Church on Merriman south of Ford. There are guest speakers and discussion on a variety of topics. There is no membership fee, however a small donation is greatly appreciated. Call Tina Wing at (734) 338-2226 or Lucy Rowley at (734) 462-1768.

HISTORIC

Pioneer trek

The Nankin Township Pioneer Trek has been designed to introduce travelers to the history of the area. Travelers will visit sites that affected the development of Westland as a community. Those who complete the trek will receive an embroidered patch. To start the trek, first visit the Westland Historical Museum and pick up a packet. The museum is at 857 N. Wayne Road and is open 1-4 p.m. Saturdays, except before a holiday. The trek is sponsored by the Westland Historical Commission and the Friends of the Westland Museum. For information, call (734) 326-1110.

Friends of Eloise

The Friends of Eloise group meets 7 p.m. the third Tuesday of the month in the dining room of the Kay Beard Building, on Michigan between Middlebelt and Merriman. All are welcome. For information, call Jo Johnson, (734) 522-3918.

Friends of Museum

Friends of the Westland Historical

Museum meet at 7 p.m. each month except December at the Collins House, located at the museum complex, 857 N. Wayne Road. Call Jim Franklin at (734) 595-8119. Everyone is welcome.

BINGO

VFW Bingo

Veterans of Foreign Wars 3323 Auxiliary has bingo 6:30 p.m. every Thursday at 1055 S. Wayne Road, Westland. There is a snack bar. The post has bingo at 1 p.m. every Sunday at the same place. Call (734) 326-3323.

St. Mel Church

Bingo begins at 6:45 p.m. Fridays in St. Mel Church activities building, on Inkster Road north of Warren. Doors open at 4 p.m. Food is available.

Shamrock Bingo

Bingo begins at 11 a.m. Wednesdays at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 35100 Van Born, east of Wayne Road in Wayne. Doors open at 9 a.m. Food is available. Proceeds go to charity. Call (734) 728-3020.

K of C Bingo

Pope John XXIII Assembly of the Knights of Columbus Council 1536 hosts bingo games at 6:45 p.m. Thursdays. The games are in the Livonia Elks Lodge, 31117 Plymouth Road, one block east of Merriman in Livonia. Call (734) 425-2246.

FOR SENIORS

Friendship Center

The Senior Resources Department (Friendship Center), 1119 N. Newburgh, Westland, offers a variety of programs for older adults. The Web site www.ci.westland.mi.us offers more information. Call (734) 722-7632.

Senior dinners

The Wayne Ford Civic League hosts Senior Dinner Dances with live entertainment several times each month for couples and singles 50 years and older. The cost is \$8 donation for members of the league and \$10 donation for non-members. All dances start at noon and run until 3-3:30 p.m. Meals include beer, wine, and fountain pop. For information and schedules, call (734) 728-5010.

Crochet & Knit

A crochet and knit group meets 9:30

a.m. every Thursday at the Friendship Center on Newburgh near Marquette. Beverly Kaminski is the instructor. Participants should bring a type "G" crochet hook. Those interested can sign up at the center's front desk or call (734) 722-7632.

Visually Impaired

The Visually Impaired Persons (VIPs) support group meets 12:30 p.m. every Friday at the Friendship Center, 1119 N. Newburgh, Westland. Participants share information and meet others. Those interested in joining can be scheduled on a bus route for transportation. For information, call (734) 722-7632.

Choir

The Senior Choir, under the leadership of Robert Cassidy, is open to those who like to sing. It meets 9:30 a.m. Thursday. For information, call the Friendship Center, (734) 722-7632.

Hearing checks

Every third Tuesday of each month, a representative from Personalized Hearing Care of Westland will check and clean hearing aids free, 2-3 p.m. by appointment only. Call (734) 722-7632 for more information.

Exercise

Simply Jazzercise is designed for exercisers older than 40. The program provides a low to moderate workout. The exercise improves strength, flexibility, balance, posture, coordination and cardiovascular endurance. It incorporates simple dance routines with walking or jogging patterns and resistance exercises. Wear loose-fitting clothing and comfortable shoes. Light weights and an exercise mat are suggested. Classes are 10:15 a.m. Monday, 5 p.m. Wednesday, 10:15 a.m. Friday, at \$3 per person per class. Sign up at the front desk at the Westland Friendship Center or call (734) 722-7632.

Travel Group

The Friendship Travel Group meets 1 p.m. the second Friday of each month (unless a large event is scheduled) in the Westland Friendship Center, 1119 N. Newburgh. Programs include celebration of birthdays, door prizes, description of new classes or programs, speakers from tour companies, overview of day/overnight trips and refreshments. Call (734) 722-7632.

GARDEN CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT 6000 MIDDLEBELT GARDEN CITY, MI 48135

The following vehicles have been deemed abandoned and will be sold at public auction on Tuesday, April 11, 2006 at 9:00 A.M. The auction is to be held at Westland Car Care Towing, 6375 Hix Rd., Westland, MI 48185.

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

YEAR & MAKE	STYLE	VIN#
1988 DODGE DAKOTA	PU	1B7FN14X1JS732619
2000 FORD FOCUS	4 DR	1FAFP34P7YW152435
1993 PLYMOUTH	4 DR	1P3XA4631PP651908
1995 PONTIAC	4 DR	1G2HX52K0S4227280
1987 VOLVO 760	4 DR	YV1GA6948H1036748
2003 SUZUKI	MC	JS1GN7BA432109594

Publish: April 6, 2006

CE09426042

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS CITY OF WESTLAND

Sealed proposals for the City of Westland, Bailey Center Emergency Generator Project, will be received by the City of Westland, at the office of the Purchasing Agent, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, MI until 10:30 a.m., local time on April 13, 2006 (No exceptions will be made) at which time and place all bids will be publicly opened and read.

Description of Work:

The approximate quantities of major items of work involved in the project are as follows:

One pad mounted Emergency Generator, complete with automatic transfer switch, modification of the existing power system, installation and connections with operators manual and training.

Contract Documents on File

Contract Documents may be examined at the City of Westland Engineering Division Offices, 37095 Marquette, Westland, MI 48186; F.W. Dodge Reports, 21415 Civic Center Drive, Suite 115, Southfield, MI 48076 and the Construction Association of Michigan Plan Room at 43636 Woodward Avenue, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302.

Contract Documents may be obtained at the City of Westland Engineering Division Offices. A non-refundable charge of Twenty Dollars (\$20.00), check only, payable to the City of Westland will be required for each set of Contract documents. Contract Documents will be available beginning April 3, 2006.

Each proposal shall be enclosed in a sealed envelope marked with the Name of Bidder and shall be plainly marked on the lower front left hand corner "City of Westland Bailey Center Emergency Generator Project". Proposals must be addressed to the Purchasing Agent of the City of Westland and delivered to the Purchasing Agent's office on or before the time specified above. No exceptions will be made.

Each proposal must be accompanied by a certified check, cashier's check or bid bond in the amount of five percent (5%) of the Bid, payable without condition to the City of Westland, as security for acceptance of the Contract.

No Bid may be withdrawn for at least ninety (90) days after the scheduled closing time for receiving Bids.

The City of Westland reserves the right to reject any or all Bids, and to waive informalities in bidding, or to accept any Bid it may deem in the best interest of the City.

Bonding companies must be listed in the "Department of Treasury's Federal Register of Approved Sureties Listing".

Mr. Dwayne Harrigan
Purchasing Agent
City of Westland

Publish: April 6, 2006

CE09426043

DFCU Financial. Same us, only

BETTER!

DFCU Financial has worked hard for 56 years to meet your ever-expanding needs for personalized financial services. We recently mailed our members detailed information regarding a proposed change in legal structure that will better position us to serve members and the community for years to come. Members will still enjoy all of the same great products and services at our convenient branches. We understand that members may have questions and we want them to be as informed as possible. We invite members to contact us at 888-336-2700, visit the nearest branch, or speak directly with the President of DFCU with any questions.

Thank you for placing your trust and loyalty in DFCU Financial. We are looking forward to serving you for another 56 years.



RELIGION CALENDAR

If you want to submit an item for the religion calendar, fax it to (734) 591-7279 or write: Religion Calendar, Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150. The deadline for an announcement to

appear in the Thursday edition is noon Monday.

APRIL

Lenten dinners

Sacred Heart Byzantine Catholic Church on Six Mile east of Middlebelt in Livonia will host Lenten Fish Fry dinners 4-7 p.m. Fridays (except Good Friday) during Lent. Fish dinners are \$5 each, with proceeds benefiting the

church.

Fish fry dinners

4:30-7:30 p.m. Friday, April 7, 14 (dinner starts at 3:30 p.m. Good Friday, April 14), in addition to dinners of hand-battered fried and baked fish choices include salmon patty and pierogi, and \$5 macaroni and cheese, and pizza dinners, at St. Edith Church, 15089 Newburgh, Livonia. Cost is \$8. \$6 children. Carry out dinners available at same prices. For questions, call (734) 462-1222.

Lenten Easter concert

A Lenten Easter music concert takes place 7 p.m. Palm Sunday, April 9, with The Chancel Choir, Orchestra, Christian Company, Teen Choir, Handbells and two ensembles classics, gospel and spirituals, at Ward Presbyterian Church, Northville. Childcare provided through age 4. For more information, call (248) 374-7400.

Lenten Vespers

The Council of Orthodox Christian Churches of Metropolitan Detroit conducts a service April 9, Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt at St. Paul Macedonian-Bulgarian Orthodox Cathedral, 700 N. Beech Daly, Dearborn Heights, (313) 565-9863. For information, contact the Very Rev. Michael Matsko, Holy Transfiguration Church, Livonia, at (248) 476-3432 or mmatsko@wmi.rr.com.

Rummage sale

The sale, presented by the Congregational Church of Birmingham, UCC, opens Wednesday, April 5 with early admission at 4 p.m. for \$3 followed by free admission 5-8 p.m. at the church, 1000 Cranbrook on the southwest corner of Woodward, Bloomfield Hills. The sale continues 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday, April 6 with a 1/2 price sale (on most items) 1-4 p.m. and bag sale on most remaining items 5-7 p.m. No strollers due to limited space. All net proceeds benefit outreach/charitable programs of the church.

Luncheon series

Ecumenical Lenten series hosted by First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth for churches of Plymouth noon to 12:30 p.m. service, 12:30-1 p.m. soup and bread lunch Wednesday, April 5, at 701 Church Street. Donation to benefit Salvation Army.

Lent program

Wednesday April 5, 6 p.m. Taize prayer and song, 6:30 p.m. program with meal, service project and prayer, at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 39020 Five Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 464-0211.

Lenten schedule

Services 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 5 (nursery available), at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church, 30650 Six Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 427-1414 or visit <http://holycrosslivonia.org>. Holy Week services Palm Sunday April 9 at 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.; Maundy Thursday April 13 at 7:30 p.m.; Good Friday April 14 Reflections on the Passion 12:30-2 p.m., and Tenebrae Worship Service at 8 p.m.; Easter Vigil April 15 at 8 p.m., and Easter Sunday April 16 at 7 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.

Understanding Islam

An interfaith dialogue on the tenets of Islam, Jihad, Jesus in the Qur'an with speakers Dawud Walid, executive director of Council of Islamic Organizations of Michigan, and Imam Abdullah El Amin, executive director of Council of Islamic Organizations of Michigan, 6:30-9 p.m. Thursday, April 6, in room E205/206 at Hope United Methodist Church, 26275 Northwestern, near Lahser, Southfield. For information, call (248) 356-1020, ext. 137 or send e-mail to peacecenter@sbcglobal.net.

First Friday

With speaker David Edwards 7 p.m. April 7, in Knox Hall at Ward Presbyterian Church. No ticket/registration required. Child care provided. Call (248) 374-5920.

Musical program

Men of Grace release party for their new CD The Hymns Project: Volume 1, 7 p.m. Friday, April 7, at Calvary Baptist Church, 43065 Joy. No charge. Call (248) 335-1222.

Rummage sale

9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, April 7, and 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, April 8, in the fellowship hall at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 39020 Five Mile, between Newburgh and Haggerty, Livonia. \$2.00 bag sale on Saturday. One quarter of proceeds will be donated to Lutheran Social Services (for victims of Hurricane Katrina living in Michigan), Starfish Family Services and Ecumenical Theological Seminary Library. In addition, part of the profits will assist the church's youth group who will be traveling to Indiana on a mission project.

Teen rally

Ford Field Rally 7-10 p.m. Friday, April 7, and 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday, April 8, the BattleCry stadium event includes tens of thousands of teens, dynamic speakers, chart-topping musical artists and bands including TobyMac and KJ-52, and world-famous Groovalos Hip-Hop Dance Team. BattleCry is a national movement of teenagers who, fueled by their Christian faith, are taking a stand against pop-culture forces contributing to the unprecedented spread of STDs, drug and alcohol abuse, violence, and suicide among teenagers. Registration and coalition information

available at www.BattleCry.com.

Interfaith forum

Presented by Interfaith Partners for Political Action which consists of Christians, Hindus, Jews, Quakers, Taoists and those of Confucian philosophy along with Unitarians and others 10 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Saturday, April 8, at Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile, between Inkster and Middlebelt, Livonia. Call (734) 421-1760.

Acoustic coffee house

Features Larry Larson, a 12-string guitar player, playing Celtic folk and traditional folk music 7 p.m. Saturday, April 8, at Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile, between Inkster and Middlebelt, Livonia. Tickets \$10 and available at door. Call (734) 421-1760.

Gaither Homecoming concert

April 8, at The Palace of Auburn Hills, bus leaves Ward Church parking lot F in Northville at 4 p.m. Cost is \$30, includes concert ticket and bus transportation. Call (248) 374-5920.

Potluck dinner

6:30 p.m. Sunday, April 9, with the Cass Ambassadors, a group of previously homeless men who travel the area spreading their musical message of hope and salvation, at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 Six Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 422-6038. A free will offering will be taken. Dessert and coffee to follow program in Fellowship Hall.

Classic senior singles

Paul Clough speaks on Triumphant Survivors 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 11, at Ward Presbyterian Church, Northville. Call (248) 374-5920.

Seniors luncheon

Noon Thursday, April 13, at Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile, between Inkster and Middlebelt. If you can't bring a dish, a donation is just right. Jan Rapoport, R.N., will speak on healing touch and laughter as the basis for health and healing. Call (734) 421-1760.

Holy Week services

Maundy Thursday, April 13 joint worship with Good Shepherd Lutheran noon and 7 p.m. Holy Communion, foot-washing and stripping the altar in preparation for Good Friday; joint services at noon and 7 p.m. April 14, and Easter Sunday breakfast served in the fellowship hall 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. worship with special music at 10:30 a.m., at St. John's Lutheran Church, 13542 Mercedes, one block east of Inkster road, south of Schoolcraft, Redford. Call (313) 538-2660.

Maundy Thursday service

7 p.m. Thursday, April 13, at Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh, Livonia. Call (734) 464-0990. This is a time for the entire family. We will have a worship service, communion, and foot washing.

Holy week

Services 7 p.m. Maundy Thursday, April 13, at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 Six Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 422-6038; Ecumenical worship service noon April 14, Good Friday, at Church of the Savior Reformed Church, 38100 Five Mile, (734) 464-1062, and sunrise service 7 a.m. Easter Sunday, April 16, at Greenmead Chapel, and 10:30 a.m. Sunday, at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 Six Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 422-6038.

Holy week services

7:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday, April 13; 7:30 p.m. Good Friday Service of Shadows April 14; and 8:30 a.m., 9:50 a.m. and 11 a.m. Easter Sunday, April 16, at St. John Lutheran Church, ELCA, 23225 Gill Road, Farmington Hills. Call (248) 474-0584.

Last Supper re-enactment

7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 13, presented by Wayne Westland First United Methodist Church and First Congregational Church of Wayne, at Three Town Square, Wayne. Open to public. No charge, but a love offering will be taken. Call (734) 721-9300 or (734) 721-4801.

Maundy Thursday service

7:30 p.m. April 13, in the sanctuary at St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford. Call (313) 534-7730.

Crosstalk

With Paul Clough discussing current events and what the Bible has to say about how God wishes us to respond to them 7 p.m. Friday, April 14, at Ward Presbyterian Church, Northville. No charge. Free child care provided. Call (248) 374-5920.

Easter egg hunt

Noon Saturday, April 15, at Nativity United Church of Christ, 9435 Henry Ruff, Livonia. Call (734) 421-6406.

Easter Sunday

7:30 a.m. April 16, at Riverside Park Church of God, on northwest corner of Plymouth and Newburgh, Livonia. Immediately following this service a free hot breakfast will be served to those in attendance. At 9:30 a.m. regular Sunday school classes will be available for all ages. Our Family Worship service begins at 10:45 a.m. All children and youth in attendance will receive a special filled basket as a free gift from the church at the conclusion. To plan effectively we would like to know how many will attend breakfast. Please call to reserve your spot (734) 464-0990.

Mission accomplished

A Passion musical 10:30 a.m. Sunday, April 16, at 28440 Lyndon, north of I-

96, east of Middlebelt, Livonia. Child care provided. Call (734) 425-6215.

Easter services

8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Sunday, April 16, at the Church of the Holy Spirit, 9083 Newburgh, between Joy and Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia. Call (734) 591-0211.

Lenten Bible study

Pastor Herschel Eie leads a Lenten Bible Study 6:20-7:10 p.m. Wednesdays, at Garden City Presbyterian Church, 1841 Middlebelt, one block south of Ford. The church continues Sunday services with an adult Bible study at 8:30 a.m., traditional worship and children's Sunday School at 10 a.m., contemporary Mustard Seed service at 6 p.m. Tuesday adult Bible Study at 11 a.m. Call (734) 421-7620.

Lenten activities

10 a.m. Sundays through Lent and Easter Sunday, and 7:30 p.m. Holy Thursday, April 13 at Nardin Park United Methodist Church, 29887 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills. Call (248) 476-8860.

Garage sale

10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday, April 19-20, and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, April 21, at St. Alexander's Church, 27835 Shiawassee, between Middlebelt and Inkster, Farmington Hills. Call (248) 474-5748.

Just for kids

Looking for something for your kids to do during Spring Break? Kids from 5 to 18 years old are invited to make Candy Animal Crafts 1-3 p.m. Thursday, April 20, at Rivers Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh, Livonia. Please let us know if your child will attend by calling (734) 464-0990. You are welcome to drop off your child and return back at the end of the session because there will be adult supervision during the time.

Garage sale

9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, April 21, \$2 bag sale at 4 p.m., all large items go for \$2 at the bag sale, at SS Simon and Jude Church, 32500 Palmer, Westland. Call (734) 722-1343.

Concert

Dave and Barb Anderson with Keyboard artist Dale Pust perform a Concert of Praise and Encouragement 6 p.m. Sunday, April 23, at St. Michael Lutheran Church and School, Hannan at Glenwood, Wayne. Call (734) 728-1950.

Youth talent program

Starts 5:30-7 p.m. Tuesday, April 25, for ages 6-14, and continues Tuesdays until the Talent Show 6:30 p.m. Thursday, June 1, with Livonia Theater Arts Teacher Georgie Wilson and Unity youth director Lin Wilson, at Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile, between Inkster and Middlebelt. No charge. It is hoped that the program leads to the formation of a community theater group for children. Call (734) 421-1760.

Lecture

Life and Death: Joy and Reality by Sister Ann Stamm, doctorate of ministry, 7-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 26, at St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia. Sister Stamm is a religion professor at Madonna University. She's served as a police chaplain for more than 25 years. The presentation focus on life and death as gifts to be cherished.

Concert

BUILDING429 and TAIT perform music while showing segments of the reality TV series Travel the Road about two young missionaries 7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 27, at Faith Baptist Church, 3411 Airport Road, Waterford. Tickets \$24 reserved, \$18 general admission. Call (888) 627-5808.

Blood drive

8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Sunday, April 30, at St. Edith Catholic Church, 15089 Newburgh, Livonia. Walk-ins welcome. Call (734) 462-1222, ext. 309.

David Phelps concert

With Anthony Evans and newcomer Ana Laura with comedian Darren Streblow 7 p.m. Sunday, April 30, at Detroit 1st Church of Nazarene, 21260 Haggerty, Northville. Free to public, but pass required. Call (248) 348-7600

Leadership and self-deception

Lecture series with the Rev. Dennis Skiles began 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 5, and continues to May 31, at Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile, between Inkster and Middlebelt, Livonia. Call (734) 421-1760.

UPCOMING

Free spaghetti dinner

Redford Aldersgate United Methodist Church wishes to invite the community for a free spaghetti dinner 6 p.m. Wednesday, May 3, in the Fellowship Hall of the church at 10000 Beech Daly, between Plymouth and West Chicago roads. A short drama follows dinner. Call (313) 937-3170.

Prayer breakfast

7:15-9 a.m. Thursday, May 4, with guest speaker Lem Barney, former Detroit Lion, at Burton Manor, 27777 Schoolcraft, between Middlebelt and Inkster, Livonia. Tickets \$17 before April 7, \$20 beginning April 8, \$10 students, call (248) 476-9427. RSVP by Friday, April 21.

Crafters wanted

For the St. Thomas a Becket Church Christmas Craft Show to be held 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 2, at 555 S. Lilley Road, Canton. The church is now accepting applications for hand made crafts only. Call (734) 981-1333.

Passages

Obituaries, Memorials, Remembrances

1-800-579-7355 ♦ fax: 734-953-2232 e-mail: OEObits@oe.homecomm.net



CHARLES H. LEINENKUGEL

84, of Carlisle, PA and formerly of Birmingham, MI and Overland Park, KS died Sunday, April 2, 2006 at the Thornwald Home in Carlisle. He was born January 5, 1922, in Eau Claire, WI and was a son of the late Mathias J. and Clara A. (Pierce) Leinenkugel. Charles was widowed from Frances J. (Hockstad) Leinenkugel who died July 25, 2004. He was a high school graduate and had attended the University of Wisconsin. He served as a staff sergeant in the U. S. Army during WW II and was awarded the Bronze Star Medal and the E.A.M.E. Theater Ribbon with three Bronze Service Stars. Charles was a retired Corporate Director of Purchasing for Cooke Paint in Kansas City, and was a member of the Christ Church in Overland Park, KS. He was a past president of the Paint, Varnish and Lacquer Association and the Birmingham Athletic Club. He enjoyed his dachshunds. He was preceded in death by a sister, Mary Jane Lange. He is survived by his daughters, Janet P. Gockerman of Grand Rapids, MI and Jane M. Bellinger and her husband William of Carlisle, grandchildren, Scott Gockerman of Grand Rapids, MI, Drs. Gretchen Barnes and her husband Daniel of East Lansing, MI, Brian Bellinger and Lynne Bellinger both of Carlisle and a great grandson, Daniel Barnes of East Lansing, MI. Private services and burial will be held at the convenience of the family. Ewing Brothers Funeral Home, Carlisle is in charge of the arrangements. Memorial contributions may be made to Thornwald Home, 442 Walnut Bottom Rd., Carlisle, PA 17013.

FLORENCE M. HIRSCHMANN

Born December 24, 1917, in Brooklyn, NY, to George and Margaret Weise Hirschmann, died April 2, 2006 at Glacier Hills Nursing Center in Ann Arbor. She is preceded in death by her parents and her sister, Dorothy Osterwisch. Ms. Hirschmann is survived by her nephew, Fred Osterwisch of Ann Arbor, and his family, and her niece, Clare Osterwisch Adamick of Clemmons, NC, and her family, and a brother-in-law, Carl F. Osterwisch. Florence came to Ypsilanti in 1937, and was employed by the New York Central Railroad in Detroit, until retirement. During WWII, she served with distinction in the US Army as a member of the Women's Army Corps (WAC). Ms. Hirschmann was an avid bowler, golfer, and talented artist, winning many awards for her renditions in oils. She traveled over much of the world and shared her experiences through presentations of her many fine pictures. Immanuel Lutheran Church in Ypsilanti was her religious home until 1976, when she moved to Plymouth and became a member of Timothy Lutheran Church, Livonia. Funeral from Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 280 S. Main Street, Plymouth, Friday 10am. Visitation Thursday 7-9pm. Interment at Highland Cemetery, Ypsilanti. Memorials may be made to the American Parkinson's Disease Association, 1250 Hyland Blvd Suite 4B, Staten Island, NY 10305-1946 or Arbor Hospice, 2366 Oak Valley Drive, Ann Arbor, MI 48103. Flowers will also be accepted.



JOY ELAINE TSCHIRHART (nee Krohn)

Long-time Plymouth realtor, devoted wife and mother, died of intestinal cancer on April 3, 2006 with her family by her side. "Our mother was a very driven woman in business and family affairs-she really had the heart of a lioness," her son Mark said. "But she was also a kind, generous and religious woman. She didn't wear her faith on her sleeve, she lived it." She and her husband James were married for 50 years and enjoyed traveling throughout the U.S., Europe and the Caribbean. In addition to her husband, she also is survived by her children: James Tschirhart M.D. (Jill Tschirhart), Patricia Spangler (Thomas Spangler), Robert Tschirhart PhD (Jacalyn Green PhD); Mark Tschirhart, Philip Tschirhart, and John Tschirhart M.D. (Karen Wang M.D.). She is also survived by 11 grandchildren and her sister, Phyllis Tamblin of Elkton. She was preceded in death by her beloved brother Gary Krohn. Visitation Wednesday April 5, 2006 from 3-9 PM at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 46401 W Ann Arbor Road, (between Sheldon and Beck) Plymouth. In state Thursday 10 AM until funeral mass 10:30 AM at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church, Interment at Glen Eden Memorial Park, Livonia. Memorial contributions may be made to Angela Hospice, 14100 Newburgh Road, Livonia MI 48154. To leave a message of condolence, log on to www.vermeulenfuneralhome.com.



IN LOVING MEMORY MARY WEBER

Aug. 23, 1946 - April 6, 2001

Love never dies mom, your love and legacy lives on in your family and grandchildren. We love you and miss you dearly. Love, Jill, Dennis, Isabelle, Colin, Kenny and Mary.

L. DOREEN

(nee. FERGUSON) BLOCH

Died tranquilly at Beaumont Hospital's Cardiac Care Unit surrounded by her family; Alf, her husband of 56 years, son Jim, daughter Barb (Lonnice Gower) and daughter-in-law Rachelle Bonelli on April 4, 2006 Jim's 52nd birthday. She was born in Peterborough, Ontario on Sept. 16, 1926 and graduated from Pershing High School in Detroit. She loved magazines, perfume, especially Joy by Jean Patou, riding the swings at playgrounds, playing bridge with her friends, entertaining at her home, whipping around on the Tilt-a-Whirl and other carnival rides, flying shotgun with Alf in his Cessna, dancing to hard funk, reading author Victor Canning, her annual excursions to Traverse City with Barb, relaxing on the beach, taking road trips with Alf, spending 25 summers on Beaver Island, and drinking bourbon old-fashioneds without sugar. She was an accomplished cook with a passion for salads, salted nuts on ice cream and crunchy sliced vegetables accompanying imaginative sandwiches. She made the accomplishments of her family possible. Family will receive friends at A.J. Desmond & Sons (Vasu, Rodgers & Connell Chapel), 32515 Woodward (btwn 13-14 Mile) Sunday 1pm until funeral service 2pm. In lieu of flowers family suggests memorial tributes to the Salvation Army.

View obituary and share memories at www.DesmondFuneralHome.com



MITCHELL MALICKI

Grosse Pointe Woods resident, age 77, Saturday, April 1, 2006. Born January 10, 1929, in Hamtramck, to Frank and Maria Malicki. During the Great Depression, his family moved back to Warsaw, Poland. He was in the Polish Underground during the German occupation and was captured by the Germans and thrown in prison. He was later rescued by his Polish Underground friends and fled to the U.S. Embassy. He was 17 years old when he joined his brother's family in Detroit. He was very hard-working and had two full time jobs for many years to seek advancement and success in this vast "Land of Opportunity". In the U.S. Army during the Korean War, he served in Germany in Intelligence because of his knowledge of German tactics and the many languages he spoke - Polish, German, Russian, and English. Upon his return, he married Laura Kolasa on July 4, 1953. Mitchell began his career at F. Jos. Lamb Company. He was well-respected and trusted by all his peers and customers. He was promoted through the ranks where he achieved Vice President of Sales for Lamb Technicon with General Motors being his largest customer. He sought new business in 1986 with the Soviet Union, Poland, and Czechoslovakia as Eastern Europe's democracies bloomed. Mitchell retired from Lamb Technicon in October, 1996, after 40 years. Mr. Malicki was hard-working, intelligent, generous, loving, and kind. Most of all, Mitchell loved his family. He was a wonderful gentleman who always gave to others. Mitchell influenced the lives of all he met. He is survived by his beloved wife of 52 years, Laura, his daughters, Christina (Edward) Vermet and Linda (Matt) Abar; his five grandchildren, Mitchell, Jennifer, and Stephanie Vermet, and Matthew and Christa Abar; many nieces, nephews, grand-nieces and grand-nephews. Visitation Thursday, 2-9pm, at the A.H. Peters Funeral Home, 20705 Mack Ave. at Vernier Rd., Grosse Pointe Woods. Rosary Thursday, 7:30pm. In state Friday, 10:30am, until Mass, 11am, at Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church, 467 Fairford, Grosse Pointe Woods.



RICHARD L. HUBER, JR.,

A retired executive of General Motors Corporation died on Saturday, April 3, 2006, at 6:47 PM after a long battle with cancer. His death was announced by his wife Lesley. He was 66 years old. Dick retired from General Motors Corporation in May, 1998 following a 36 year career in the Corporation's Human Resource/Labor Relations activities. He joined General Motors in 1962 with the former Euclid Division in Hudson, Ohio. In 1966, he was appointed to the Corporate Personnel Staff at General Motors World Headquarters in Detroit, where he spent ten years leading work in human resource development, compensation, and benefits for the Corporation's salaried workforce. In 1976, Dick was appointed Assistant Divisional Personnel Director at the Cadillac Motor Car Division. In 1980 he became director of Personnel and Public Relations of the General Motors Packard Electric Division in Warren, Ohio. Four years later, in 1984, he was named Group Director of Personnel for the Chevrolet, Pontiac, General Motors of Canada Group. He became Executive Director of Human Resources Management for General Motors North American Operations in 1992. When he retired, Dick led the personnel function at the Corporations Worldwide Powertrain Group. Dick's career was marked by notable contributions in leading the development of processes for the selection and the development of people throughout General Motors global operations. On a personal level, his leadership style placed strong emphasis on the development and career growth of the people who worked with and for him. Many benefited from his mentoring and interest in their careers. Dick was born in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania on September 18, 1939. His academic achievements prepared him well for a life of accomplishment. Dick graduated Magna Cum Laude from Colgate University in 1962 with a BA Degree in Psychology. He was a member of Phi Beta Kappa and a recipient of both the Alfred P. Sloan and Austin Colgate scholarships. In 1971, he graduated from Michigan State University with an MBA, and became a member of the Beta Gamma Sigma Academic Honor Society. In 1988 Dick attended the Harvard Business School Advanced Management Program. Dick is survived by his wife, Lesley, daughter Lisa (Don) Ongart, Jennifer (Jamie) Shoemaker, Molly (Greg) Farrar, and Ashley Huber; grandchildren Samantha Shoemaker, Alec Shoemaker, Noah Ongart, and Lilly Farrar; his Mother Nancy Huber, and his sister Marcie (Jack) Harrington. A memorial service will be held on Friday, April 7, 2006 at 10 AM from the Orchard United Methodist Church, 30450 Farmington Rd., Farmington Hills, with Rev. Paul Blomquist officiating. A reception will follow at the church. Another Memorial Service will be held on Sunday, April 9, 2006 at 3PM from the Hope United Methodist Church, 5278 North Hope Road, Hope, MI 48628, with Rev. Patrick Ryan Poag officiating. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Hope United Methodist Church in memory of Mr. Huber. www.mcmcabfuneralhome.com

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

Deadlines

Friday 5 PM for Sunday Wednesday Noon for Thursday

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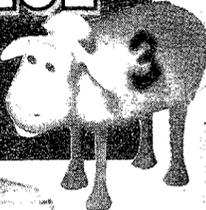
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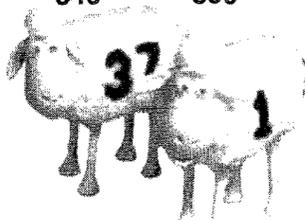
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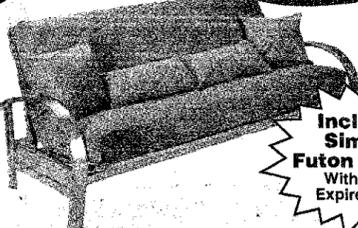
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