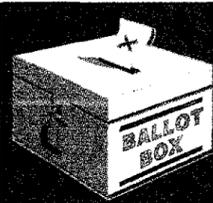




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WESTLAND Observer

THURSDAY
November 2, 2006

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Jury acquits teen in festival stabbing case

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

A 17-year-old Westland girl has been found not guilty of stabbing another teenager during a Fourth of July fireworks fracas that marred the city's summer festival.

Nicole Harrington was acquitted by a Wayne County Circuit Court jury that returned its verdict on Monday, following a weekend recess in deliberations that began Friday.

"We're very pleased with the jury's verdict finding that Nicole was not guilty of the charges against her," defense attorney Lawrence Bunting told the *Observer*. "I believe the jury carefully considered the evidence and decided that the prosecution did not prove its case beyond a reasonable doubt."

Harrington could have faced penalties ranging up to 10 years in prison if she had been convicted on charges of assault with intent to do great bodily harm (less than murder) and felonious

assault.

Harrington fared better than 20-year-old Livonia co-defendant Joleen Krueger, who received a three-month jail term in October. Krueger pleaded guilty to a reduced charge of attempted assault with intent to do great bodily harm (less than murder).

Harrington had been accused of stabbing 19-year-old Jennifer Nagle of Taylor in the head, back and left hand after Nagle accidentally bumped into Krueger and Harrington in the

fireworks crowd. Authorities said the incident led to an argument that erupted in violence.

Krueger, mother of a 5-year-old daughter, had been accused of tussling with Nagle before the stabbing occurred amid a huge crowd near Westland City Hall, just before fireworks erupted over Central City Park.

On Monday, Harrington was described as a Westland John Glenn High School honor roll

PLEASE SEE STABBING, A5



PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Edison Elementary first-grader Kevin Hall and fourth-grader William Hines work on tying the ends of the blanket as part of the celebration of Make a Difference Day project. The blankets will be delivered to the University of Michigan Cancer Center.

Warm Fuzzies

Edison students make a difference with fleece blankets

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER

How many ways can you make a difference? For students at Edison Elementary School, the number was somewhere around 350 fleece blankets and braided dog toys that they took time to make last Friday as part of national Make a Difference Day.

"I really think this is a life-learning lesson for these children," said fourth-grade teacher Tim Sullivan, who worked with the Student

PLEASE SEE BLANKETS, A4



The blankets Edison students did for Make a Difference Day come with cloth donation plates and paper tags telling patients at the University of Michigan Cancer Center who made them.

Police charge 4 men in Sept. 20 break-in and armed robbery

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Four young men - accused of barging into a Westland man's apartment, torturing him, robbing him at gunpoint and taking his car - were arraigned this week on multiple felony charges.

Livonia police also want to question the defendants about recent home invasions they are investigating.

James Michael Hobson, 18, DeCory Lamar Sharpe, 19, and Harry James Taylor, 23, were arraigned Monday on charges of torture, first-degree home invasion and armed robbery for an incident that happened around 2 a.m. Sept. 20 at Westwood Village Apartments, at Joy and Hix roads.

On Tuesday, McKnight arraigned a fourth defendant, 19-year-old Laquinta Terry on charges of armed robbery, first-degree home invasion and driving the stolen vehicle.

Hobson and Taylor also have a felony firearms charge against them.

Taylor also is known by the last name of Miller, police Sgt. Steve Borisch said during the arraignment in front of Westland District Judge Gail McKnight.

Taylor and Hobson are Canton residents; Sharpe lives in Westland and Terry in Southfield.

McKnight ordered Hobson, Sharpe and Taylor jailed on \$1 million cash bonds. She set Terry's bond at \$500,000 cash.

She entered not-guilty pleas for the men and set a Nov. 9 hearing that will determine whether they should stand trial in Wayne County Circuit Court.

In court Monday, Borisch said the 47-year-old victim was in his apartment when intruders entered his door, ordered him to lie on the floor and robbed him at gunpoint.

Packing tape was placed around the victim's head and mouth. "He could still breathe," Borisch said.

The intruders dragged the victim into a back room and tied his arms behind his back, Borisch said. A vacuum cord also was used to tie his feet together, the detective said.

In all, the intruders spent about 30 minutes ransacking the apartment, Borisch said. They robbed the victim and took guns, liquor, credit cards and a cell phone, and they left in his 2005 Monte Carlo, Borisch said.

Westland police arrested the suspects after allegedly linking fingerprints to one of the defendants from another investigation in Canton.

A search warrant also was executed in Canton, and Borisch said in court that evidence was found of more than one home invasion.

Guns stolen from the Westland home invasion still haven't been recovered - nor has the pistol used during the incident, Borisch said.

McKnight set a \$1 million bond for three of the defendants after Borisch said the victim remains fearful.

Moreover, Borisch said, "This was predatory behavior that seems to be part of a crime spree."

PLEASE SEE FATAL, A5

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Westland woman charged in fatal accident

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

A 24-year-old Westland man was killed early Saturday when he was struck by a car while walking in an eastbound curb lane of Ford east of Wayne Road, near Christine Street, police said.

Andre Thomas LeFaive died after he was hit around 2 a.m. Saturday by a 2003 Ford Focus, police Officer Thomas

Lessnau said.

LeFaive, dressed in orange coveralls when the accident happened, was taken to Garden City Hospital and then to the University of Michigan Hospital in Ann Arbor, where he was pronounced dead.

The accident resulted in 42-year-old Westland resident Cheryl Weinau being arraigned Monday on a charge of operating under the influence of liquor and causing a death.

"Alcohol appears to be a factor," Lessnau said.

LeFaive, who lived near Wildwood and Cowan, received severe head injuries when he was hit, authorities said.

"She did not run him over. He hit the windshield," Lessnau said. "Speed does not appear to be a factor."

Weinau was taken to Redford District

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Volume 42
Number 46



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Coming Sunday

We recap our endorsements for Tuesday's general election.



Senate race in home stretch; attack ads target Toy, Anderson

BY DAN WEST
STAFF WRITER

Incumbent state Sen. Laura Toy is in a battle with state Rep. Glenn Anderson to keep her seat in the Michigan Senate.

Toy, a Livonia Republican, and Anderson, a Westland Democrat, are vying for a four-year term in the Senate in Tuesday's general election. The winner will represent Livonia, Westland, Garden City and Redford in the 38-member chamber.

Both candidates have been the subject of numerous attack ads as part of an expensive media campaign waged by the state's political parties. Democrats accuse Toy of missing too many votes in Lansing while Republicans claim Anderson supports higher taxes. Toy and Anderson, who both have

held elected local and state offices, also have taken their swipes by accusing each other of taking questionable campaign contributions, spreading distortions, being ineffective lawmakers and failing to produce viable ideas to help the state.

A source familiar with recent polling numbers said the Senate candidates are in a dead-heat. Anderson made a recent surge, the source said, based on Democratic party television ads that report Toy missed more than 400 Senate votes. Toy said she missed most of those votes so she could stay home and tend to her ill mother who died earlier this year. With many procedural votes scheduled, Toy said a lawmaker can vote on 100 items in a day.

"This is nothing but a low blow for my opponent who is criticizing me for taking care of my mother," Toy said. "You

need to look at results and leadership and not just how votes are taken. If you do that, you'll learn my opponent has been a non-performer."

Anderson said he holds nothing against Toy for missing time to tend to her ailing mother, but he added Toy has had excuses for missing votes in Lansing long before her mother fell into grave condition.

"She's had a record of ducking tough votes, above and beyond the time she missed while taking care of her mother," Anderson said. "The issue is, she doesn't vote on things that she thinks will cost her politically."

Toy, a small business owner, criticizes Anderson for voting against eliminating the Single Business Tax, which she said hurts the state's ability to retain and create jobs.

"He apparently supports a tax that hurts small businesses which produces seven out of every 10 jobs in this state," she said.

Anderson, a former quality control manager for Ford Motor Co., said he voted against cutting the SBT because Republicans will not explain how they will replace the \$1.9 billion in annual revenue lost when the tax disappears.

"By not discussing their plans, my opponent and her party are being dishonest with voters and businesses," Anderson said.

Toy said she's worked hard on bills designed to bring more suburban input into the management of the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department, but Anderson said these efforts have unproductively pit suburbs against the city of Detroit. Toy said she has compiled many

more legislative accomplishments in her career compared to Anderson, but he said she's benefited from being part of the majority party.

Both candidates agree that creating jobs and economic growth is the most important issue for Michigan.

Anderson backs Gov. Jennifer Granholm's plan to invest \$2 billion into public education, jobs training and research and development programs which he said will begin to attract jobs and private investments to Michigan in about a year.

Toy supports investments in public schools and research and development, primarily for the auto industry. She added the state needs to do more to boost tourism in Michigan because each tourism dollar spent in Michigan yields a \$3 economic benefit.

Survivor relays Holocaust horrors

BY SUSAN STEINMUELLER
STAFF WRITER

More than fifty years later Tova Friedman is still haunted by bad dreams and memories, and sometimes it comes flooding back.

Such was the case when the New Jersey resident visited the Holocaust Memorial Center in Farmington Hills and saw a replica of a cattle car used to take Jewish people to concentration camps during World War II.

"I felt like I was back again," said Friedman to students at West Bloomfield High School.

As a 5-year-old, Friedman and her mother were taken to the German concentration camp Auschwitz-Birkenau in a cattle car. During the nightmare three-day journey she drifted in and out of consciousness from heat, lack of food and water and the stench.

Friedman recently spoke to a new Sociology of Genocide class at the school, taught by Mara Hoffer.

The Anti-Defamation League of Bloomfield Hills brought Friedman to the area. Television

station WGTV in Grand Rapids produced a video, *Surviving Auschwitz*, that features Friedman, and was shown in a shortened version during the class.

Friedman's talk showed students what the horror of genocide can mean on a personal level.

"In class, in textbooks, it's just an overall point of view," said Mark Anderson, 18. "Her talk gave you details, it was really direct."

"It really hit home because she was so young, and it was hard to grasp that people can do things like that and that it's still going on today," said Hannah Hakala, 16.

"Basically I think we should have partnerships in nations so if something like this should happen we can get people together and try to stop them."

ESCAPING DEATH

Friedman escaped death many times in those years. In her hometown in Poland, most of the children had been killed. Upon arriving at Auschwitz, she again did not know why she was not killed. She surmises

that soldiers were not expecting a child, and so had not been given orders to kill her.

"This was only for one reason, to kill people," she said of Auschwitz. "It was not a working place. It was a holding camp."

At Auschwitz, hunger and death were part of the daily experience, she said.

Shortly before being liberated by Russian soldiers, Friedman and a group of other children were taken to the crematorium to be put to death.

"I wasn't worried," she said. "I thought all Jews had to die especially all Jewish children. I think what scared me the most was watching people die of starvation — the slow death."

But there was some confusion and it didn't happen, she still does not know why. After liberation, Friedman became the youngest person to survive the concentration camp where 1.5 million people died.

Miraculously her mother and father, who were sent to Dachau, survived too and they were reunited. But they had to endure more battles. The people now occupying their home-



LAWRENCE MCKEE | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

West Bloomfield High School senior Jordan Shifman (right) listens to Holocaust survivor Tova Friedman describe how she and her mother hid underneath a human corpse to escape detection from the Nazis during World War II.

town did not welcome them and had taken over houses and property. "Our liberators became our captors," she added of the Russians. The family then moved to America.

CHANGING THE FUTURE

Asked if she blamed the guards, she said, "I blame the world, I blame America, I blame the silence of the world. Blaming a guard is too small a

thing." She compared genocide to cancer, saying it starts small and ends up killing the body.

The class is currently studying Armenian genocide. They will also study Rwanda and other areas. Hoffer said the class seeks to be positive by telling students that they can make the choice to stand up and speak out.

Friedman herself urged them

to do so. "You can change the future for the better," she said. "The reason I tell you such detail is I want you to get emotionally involved in it. I want you to really feel what hatred can do to human beings, what dehumanization, destruction can do if you don't stop it, if you don't see the signs. "Maybe my speech will help in some way. I don't know."

Bouchard stumps for better job policies

Sen. Stabenow refutes 'ineffective' claims

BY DAN WEST
STAFF WRITER

Oakland County Sheriff Michael Bouchard brought his campaign for U.S. Senate to Livonia this week as he bids to unseat incumbent Debbie Stabenow.

The Birmingham Republican joined 30 supporters Monday at Senate Coney Island. He talked about his plans to help the auto industry, strengthen border security, control federal spending and address illegal immigration issues. He ripped Stabenow, an East Lansing Democrat, for being weak in these areas.

"They keep saying Michigan is hurting because of President Bush and that just doesn't make sense," Bouchard said. "There are 49 other states going in the right direction, so it's ridiculous to think Michigan is being pushed aside."

"There is a lack of leadership in this state on specific issues that impact Michigan."

If elected, Bouchard said the first thing he would propose in Washington is an automaker protection bill that would protect General Motors, Ford and DaimlerChrysler from "junk lawsuits." As an example of such lawsuits, he noted a recent

California lawsuit against the three Detroit-based automakers with that state seeking monetary damages for automobile emissions that fuel global warming.

"Our automakers are in compliance with California and federal regulations, they are still getting sued for billions and it could bankrupt them," Bouchard said. "This bill would require judges to throw out lawsuits against automakers if they meet regulations."

Bouchard called on his opponent to support this effort, but Stabenow spokesman Brent Colburn said more details are needed.

"Nobody supports frivolous lawsuits and, of course, we support things that help the Big 3," Colburn said. "What's troubling about the Sheriff, is his support for Bush's failed 21st Century policies that have hurt manufacturers and cost Michigan jobs."

Bouchard said trade organizations that support farming, manufacturing and small businesses in Michigan are backing his campaign.

He questions how Stabenow can contend she fights for jobs when these trade groups — which support the state's largest employers — are looking to Bouchard for help.

"It is insanity to keep sending the same people back to

Washington, who have the same failed philosophies and keep coming up with the same failed results," Bouchard said. "Our state is alone in policies that keep punishing employers. They don't feel welcome here by our leaders and some of them are looking to other states to do business."

Colburn said that Bouchard's claims that Stabenow has been "ineffective" is absurd.

"The senator has delivered a \$2 billion tax cut for Michigan businesses in an amendment to a bill and she helped bring transportation jobs to the state," Colburn said.

Bouchard also criticized Stabenow for ignoring pleas for more debates. He said she ignored opportunities for a 60-minute debate on statewide television.

"She would rather stay confined to the 30-second ad world than debate me," he said. "She owes it to the voters to give them a prime-time debate to talk about her record, which has a lot more rhetoric than results."

Colburn said Bouchard is more interested in political stunts that debating issues in front of voters, citing a recent incident when someone dressed as a chicken appeared in front of a Stabenow campaign office.

"We don't want to be involved in games," Colburn said. "We want to spend the last days of the campaign talking directly to voters."

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DEATHS

C Elizabeth Janet Mercer Chapman Chapman, 94, of Farmington, died Oct. 24.	M David Michael Martin Martin, 69, died Oct. 15.
D Gertrude E. Davis Davis, of Livonia, died Oct. 23.	R Rosalie T. Rottman Rottman, 68, formerly of Livonia, died Oct. 24.
F William C. Fertig Fertig, 68, of Farmington Hills, died Oct. 23.	W Katherine S. Warren Warren, 88, formerly of Livonia, died Oct. 24.
K Harold W. Kuisel Kuisel, 91, of Plymouth, died Oct. 26.	

Complete paid obituaries can be found inside today's newspaper in Passages on page A17.

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The following vehicles have been deemed abandoned and will be sold at public auction on Tuesday, November 7, 2006 at 9:00 a.m. The auction is to be held at Westland Car Care Towing, 6375 Hix Road, Westland, MI 48185.

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

YEAR & MAKE	STYLE	V.I.N. #
1989 JEEP	P.U.	1J7FT26E6KL526924
1991 CHEVY LUMINA	4 DR	2G1WN54T1M9140947
1990 CHEVY	SW	1GBDM15Z3LB188092
1993 CHEVY CAVALIER	2 DR	1G1JC1440P7347613
2000 DODGE INTREPID	4 DR	2B3HD46R5YH226547
1997 FORD ESCORT	4 DR	1FALP13P0VW188875
1992 PLYMOUTH ACCLAIM	4 DR	3P3XA46K3NT847408
2000 PLYMOUTH BREEZE	4 DR	1P3EJ46XXYN117291
2004 HONDA CIVIC	4 DR	1HGES16514L019008

Publish: November 2, 2006

City of Garden City County of Wayne State of Michigan

Board of Canvassers Meeting
Wednesday, November 8, 2006

This is your official notification of a Board of Canvassers meeting which is scheduled for Wednesday, November 8, 2006 at 1:00 P.M. in the Civic Center, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan to consider the following:

- Approval of the November 9, 2005 Board Minutes.
- Canvass and certify results of the City Special Election of November 7, 2006.
- Adjournment.

Allyson M. Bettis
City Clerk-Treasurer

Publish: November 2, 2006

'Cold Case' focus on Livonia

A&E documentary to detail how 1 call ended 17-year murder probe

BY DAN WEST
STAFF WRITER

A 17-year search for the killer of a Livonia man will be documented on an upcoming episode of *Cold Case Files* on the A&E cable network.

A video production crew was in Livonia this week to document the tragic saga that began in June 1989 when businessman Exavor Giller was shot to death at his home on Seven Mile near Gill, and ended in April of this year when former employee Richard Lawson was convicted for the Giller murder and sentenced to life in prison.

The crew recorded footage of the Giller home, Livonia Police Department and interviewed members of the Giller family, witnesses and police investigators who worked on the case through the years — including retired Sgt. Don Vandersloot, who was the first LPD detective on the case.

"It just wasn't the unusual nature of this case, but it was amazing how one phone call, after 15 years, provided a huge break that led to this case being solved," said Mary Frances O'Connor, a supervising producer on the project. She works for Chicago-based

Kurtis Productions that assembles the program for A&E.

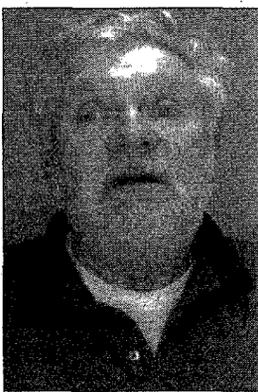
"Usually, there is new testing or technology that produces a break in a case that's been cold for a long time, but in this case, we have someone calling the daughter of the murder victim with key information," O'Connor said.

A church volunteer, who met with inmates at a California prison, had an affair with prisoner Richard Mutica, who was a teenager in 1989 and said he was with Lawson when he shot Giller. The woman took Mutica's information and called Giller's daughter, Bonnie Swoboda, in December 2004.

One month later, Lawson was arrested in his San Diego apartment.

The cross-country investigation by Livonia police included trips to several states in search of evidence, which included arrest documents in Pennsylvania, key receipts in Florida and the recovery of weapons stolen from the Giller home in a New Jersey pond.

The case also took another unusual turn during Lawson's preliminary examination in Livonia's 16th District Court when Lawson, serving as his own attorney, was allowed to question widow Catherine



Richard Lawson, who has a long criminal record, was charged with Giller's murder.

Giller, who testified about what she remembered about the night her husband was killed.

"There really wasn't a slam-dunk piece of evidence, so it took a lot of hard, careful work to develop the leads and evidence to get a conviction and solve this crime," O'Connor said.

Livonia police Sgt. Cory Williams, one of the detectives who arrested Lawson, said it was tough for the Giller family to talk about the ordeal again in front of a television camera, but he said their story will give other grieving families hope.

"After 17 years, they finally got resolution," Williams said. "By putting their story on a tel-



FILE PHOTO

While trying to make a statement to the court, Exavor Giller's widow is too overcome with emotion to speak.

evision program that runs across the country, it lets other people know that their unsolved tragic crimes, no matter how long it takes, can be solved."

The program on the Giller case is scheduled to be broadcast on in late December. *Cold Case Files* airs on A&E in a pair of one-hour programs, starting at 8 p.m. each Saturday.

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Nigerian woman accused of abusing 6-year-old daughter

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

A Nigerian woman living illegally in the United States was charged Monday with abusing her 6-year-old daughter in Westland by tying her up and beating her with cords and sticks.

Onyinyechi Joy Ogundu, 25, also was accused of abusing the girl by forcing her to stand in difficult positions, such as balancing on her left foot while leaning forward and putting her right index finger on the floor, police Sgt. Debra Mathews said.

Ogundu also was accused of tying a scarf around the girl's head at her mouth while abusing her at Woodcrest Villa Apartments, near Wayne Road south of Joy, Mathews said.

Ogundu was arraigned Monday in front of Westland 18th District Judge Gail McKnight on charges of second- and third-degree child abuse.

A not-guilty plea was entered for her.

Ogundu was jailed in lieu of a \$50,000 cash bond as she awaits a preliminary hearing that will determine whether she should stand trial.

Allegations surfaced against Ogundu after employees at Garfield Elementary School in Livonia became suspicious that the first-grade girl was being abused, Mathews said.

According to court documents, the girl was abused from August 2005 through October 2006.

The girl has been placed in

a foster home. She was described as quiet-spoken and well-behaved.

"She's bright, she's sweet and she's very respectful," Mathews said.

Ogundu, who has no green card, could face penalties ranging up to four years in prison if convicted of abusing the girl. She then would be turned over to immigration officials for possible deportation, Mathews said.

The girl's father wasn't living in the apartment.

Ogundu was accused in court documents of causing "serious physical or mental harm" to the girl.

The case comes in the aftermath of another grim but unrelated Westland child abuse case in which Vincent Garrison Grant, 38, pleaded no contest to second-degree child abuse.

Grant was accused of abusing his wife's 9-year-old son and her nephews, ages 11 and 12, by blindfolding them, tying them up and burning them with a heated screwdriver and a hot glue gun.

Under a plea agreement, Grant faces an eight-month jail sentence with work release during a sentencing scheduled for Nov. 21 in Wayne County Circuit Court, according to Assistant Wayne County Prosecutor Lora Weingarden.

Like Ogundu's daughter, the boys have been placed in foster homes. They had lived with Grant and his wife at their home on Barchester, near John Hix and Cherry Hill roads.

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Prosecutor: Director didn't report abuse

BY BRAD KADRICH
STAFF WRITER

A Westland woman who runs a child care center in Plymouth Township is being charged with failing to report signs of abuse on a Canton toddler who eventually died while in the care of her foster mother.

Jacqueline Hadwin, 36, director of Childtime Learning Center, faces 93 days in jail or a fine of not more than \$500, or both, if convicted of misdemeanor failure to report suspected child abuse. Wayne County Prosecutor Kym Worthy announced the charges Monday.

The charges stem from the death of 2-year-old Allison Newman, the Canton girl who died Sept. 22, a death the Wayne County medical examiner ruled was caused by head trauma. Carol Poole, Allison's foster mother, has been



Hadwin

charged with felony murder, child abuse and involuntary manslaughter in the case.

The state closed Childtime last month after two witnesses came forward to say they'd reported their suspicions of child abuse to supervisors at the center. On Monday, Worthy announced the charges against Hadwin.

Hadwin was arraigned Monday before 35th District Court Judge Ron Lowe. She was given a \$1,000 personal bond and is scheduled for a preliminary hearing Nov. 20.

"Deciding on child care, particularly for a young child, is one of the most stressful, time-consuming, and important decisions that a parent makes," Worthy said in announcing the

charges. "And still you always worry if your child is safe. It is critical that all child care providers strictly follow reporting laws. Perhaps if this had been done, little Allison might be alive today."

In a statement released Monday, Childtime officials called the charges "surprising," but vowed to "continue to cooperate with all the appropriate authorities."

"Everyone at Childtime takes their responsibility of being mandated reporters very seriously. While child abuse is a rare but sad reality, we have never hesitated to notify the appropriate authorities when we suspected that a child might have been in danger," the statement read. "In fact, we have promptly reported suspicions of abuse and neglect both in Michigan — and around the country — in those cases where it was warranted." Poole, scheduled for a Nov.

13 preliminary hearing in 35th District Court, faces a mandatory life sentence if convicted on the felony murder. The first-degree child abuse charge carries a maximum sentence, while involuntary manslaughter carries a maximum 15-year penalty.

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BLANKETS

FROM PAGE A1
Council in sponsoring the event. "I think it's something they'll never forget."

Youngsters spent a portion of last Friday afternoon working on the fleece blankets that were delivered Monday to the University of Michigan Hospital cancer center.

The blankets, cut into 24-by-60-inch pieces, were knotted, rolled and tied with a ribbon then stacked on the school stage. On a table nearby, volunteers like Eva Garcia, assembled scraps into blocks, stuffed with fiber filling, to create blocks for the hospital's children's center, braided dog toys for the Michigan Humane Society and scarves.

"We've still got a lot of material to work with," said Garcia, looking at a bin filled with fleece squares. "We'll be working a ton this weekend."

The students participate in Make a Difference Day in honor of the late Kim Shock, a longtime volunteer at the school, who died in June 2005 of cervical cancer. Their participation started back in October 2005, when they created heart-shaped cards they presented to her children during a planting of a tree in Mrs. Shock's honor.

Last year, the students presented 25 large knotted fleece blankets to seniors at nearby Westhaven Manor, Westland senior Friendship Center and Dyer Senior Center. According to Sullivan, the school decided to do that and add on the small fleece blankets bound for Ann Arbor.

"This really ties in with life skills and the six pillars of characters caring... we can care for other people," he said.

As part of this year's project, the students attended an assembly at which Principal Barbara Hastings read the book, *Have You Filled a Bucket Today?*

"It talks about making an invisible bucket and filling it with kind words and gestures," said Sullivan. "We incorporated it into what we're doing... Fill your bucket for someone you don't know and make them feel good."

The Student Council helped fund the project with a Hat Day where students paid \$1 to wear a hat to school. Sullivan said the project took 200 yards of fleece and was a success because of five people - Rebecca Karpiuk, Birgid Quecke, Barb Batko, Kerstin Spark and Batko's mother, Eileen - who bought the fabric, prepped it and did the machine sewing of the blocks. Parents also pitched in, helping cut fleece, set out on a table at school's Harvest Fest.

"This is Mr. Sullivan's project, we're just here to help," Batko said.

At Edison, each student on average made one blanket. Once done, they were placed on the stage so "they can see how much of an impact they've made," Sullivan said.

Breanna Detherage, fourth-grade Student Council representative, made two blankets. She enjoys being on the Student Council "because I like helping the school with different things."

"I was excited about making the blankets," she added. "It was fun tying them and it's fun giving them to people to make them happy."

Known as Warm Fuzzies, the blanket project got its start in with a Brownie Girl Scout Troop in Pinckney that wanted to create a service project for



PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Fourth-grader Jordyn Przeklasa watches as first-grader Kayla Fountain tries her hand at knotting the blanket's fringe.



Edison Elementary first-grade teacher Mary Jo Dreffs helps first-graders Morgan Hunt and Brett Harper with their blanket. Also working on the blanket fourth-grader Don Antonio Bailey (behind).

U-M's cancer patients. For several years, they made caps, but in 2001 switched to the blankets. Since then, Pinckney Girl Scouts have made 700 Warm Fuzzies.

U-M now estimates it needs 180 new blankets each month to distribute to its cancer patients.

"It's really a nice tie-in with Girl Scouts, Edison's parents, students and teachers," Sullivan added.

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PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Richardson's manager Leslie Conley looks over a display of Webkinz adoptable pets. The newest pet is the white bear.

Fuzzy Webkinz help children learn while they're having fun

BY NANCY DEUTSCH
CORRESPONDENT

Most stuffed animals are cute, but not particularly educational. A group of stuffed animals known as Webkinz have developed an almost cult-like following, and the small friends, that sell for \$9.99 at most stores, are both.

When you buy a Webkinz made by Ganz, the toy comes with a code that can be used to enter the Webkinz online world for a one-year period. In the Webkinz world, children can do anything from buy food or toys for their pet, take their pet to the vet, decorate their pet's room, or play educational games to earn money to buy more things.

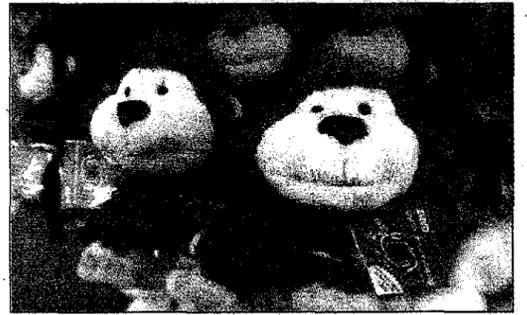
If you have more than one Webkinz, which come in a variety of colors and animals with a new one debuting each month, the animals can talk to each other, or your child's pet can speak with a friend's pet.

"It's a personal experience," said Susan McVeigh, communications manager for Ganz. "It's a complete experience with the pet."

Since hitting the market 18 months ago, Webkinz have really taken off, she said. There are now a million and a half registered users on the Web site.

"The premise is that your pet is adopted online. Each pet has its own personality."

The Web site is saved from becoming mundane because new characters are introduced regularly - a polar bear and tree frog will come out before the end of the year - and new features are added at intervals, McVeigh says. Right now there are Halloween



Webkinz animals on display each show their own personality.

themes, and at Christmas, children can "buy" decorations online.

At Richardson Drugs in Canton, the small stuffed animals "go rather quickly," said Leslie Conley, merchandise manager. "We sell at least 25 a week. The dogs are always popular, and the panda bear is really popular."

Conley's own daughters, ages 9 and 12, have also taken to the craze. They like all the animals, but do favor the monkey and some dogs and cats more than others, she says. "They just love to play with the Web site. The best thing about them (Webkinz) is they're semi-educational."

Conley has even visited a school in the area, promoting the toys as educational and a good buy. For those with smaller children or a smaller budget, there are also smaller versions of the animals known as Lil'kins which sell for about \$7.49 and give the child the same access to the Web site.

"A lot of schools use them," said Linda Crimboli, who sells Webkinz through Crimboli Nursery in Canton. "It's very educational." Kids learn how to

make decisions, and play math or spelling games in the arcade, she says. "It helps you learn to use the computer safely and wisely."

While pets can talk to each other, children have to use constructed messaging, so "there's no way to exchange personal information," said McVeigh.

Crimboli says she probably sells 25 a week or so, and each child who buys one gets a card stamped. After buying five, the next one is half-off. "I sell a lot of elephants and I sell a lot of monkeys."

Some children have almost every one of the more than 30 Webkinz which have come out, she noted, and customers can reserve the new ones in advance. "The new ones go really, really fast."

Only certain locations sell Ganz, as the company has always sold to independent retailers, McVeigh says. Richardson Drugs and Crimboli Nursery are the only stores selling Webkinz in Canton.

"They want to keep it a select item," Crimboli said. It's a strategy that seems to be working. "We have a regular following."

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ACHIEVERS

Tabitha Marie Phillips of Westland has been selected to participate in the 2006 Miss Pre-Teen Detroit pageant competition Nov. 5.

Tabitha will be competing for more than \$20,000 in prizes and gifts in the Miss Pre-Teen division. The competition will include modeling routines, including casual and formal wear, and an interview with the judges.

The winner will represent the city at the Cities of America national competition in Orlando, Fla. More than \$60,000 in prizes will be presented during the national competition.



Phillips

Shannon Salisbury, 12, of Westland recently competed in the Best New Talent competition in Los Angeles, Calif.

Shannon made it to the final round of USA World Showcase, placing second in the contemporary soloist category for her performance of the song Popular from the sound track of Wicked.



Salisbury

The daughter of Shawn and Janet Salisbury, she has been performing since age 12. She has made appearances at the Michigan State Fair, Wayne County Fair, Calhoun County Fair, Westland Summer Festival and Wyandotte Street Fair to name a few venues.

She has two original songs, *Line Up* and *There's No More Tomorrows*, and is working on her third and fourth songs. She wrote the lyrics to *Line Up*, with Rick Young of Talent Live Studios in Canton doing the lyrics.

A seventh-grader at Marshall Middle School, she is involved in the school choir drama club and varsity girls swim team. She also has joined two other teens - Kelsey Rose Young and Jessica Gray (Mitzfit) to form the group T.L.T. (Talent Live Trio).

Stephanie Fries has been named associate development director for Forgotten Harvest, the nation's third largest food rescue agency. She was formerly the fund development specialist for The Heat and Warmth Fund (THAW) in Detroit.

A Westland resident, Fries will be responsible for coordination of donor appeals, donor stewardship, database management and funding research.

Fries earned her bachelor of arts degree in social relations from James Madison College within Michigan State University. She is currently a master's degree candidate at Wayne State University.

Forgotten Harvest rescues more than 8 million pounds of surplus prepared and perishable food from grocery stores, fruit and vegetable markets, restaurants, caterers, dairies, farmers, wholesale food distributors, and other Health Department-approved sources and delivers it to free of charge to emergency food providers in the Detroit area.

STABBING

FROM PAGE A1

student with a perfect grade point average.

"Nicole is a 4.0 student who's looking forward to going to college and enjoying the rest of her life now," Bunting said.

Harrington, who had been free on bond, had maintained her innocence all along, he said. A jury acquitted her after hearing testimony last week in Wayne County Circuit Judge Craig Strong's courtroom.

During the trial, Nagle testified that she saw Harrington with a knife in her hand but that she didn't actually see

Harrington stab her as she fought with Krueger.

An 11th-hour witness also testified that Krueger, not Harrington, may have had the knife, according to authorities.

Moreover, Bunting attempted to raise questions about Nagle's credibility by introducing evidence that she had used drugs, such as cocaine and marijuana, prior to the assault.

Assistant Wayne County Prosecutor Opolla Brown said she believes that testimony about Harrington being an honor roll student, coupled with Krueger admitting some culpability, may have led to the not-guilty verdict.

"Based on that, I think the jury

just thought that maybe it was OK to find her not guilty, regardless of the facts," Brown said.

However, she said, "I think that for the most part our system works."

Nagle's mother, Debbie Nagle, couldn't be reached for comment after Harrington was found not guilty, but she already had criticized what she considered "a slap on the wrist" for co-defendant Krueger. Debbie Nagle had told the *Observer* in October that she was starting to lose faith in the justice system after Krueger received only three months in jail.

FATAL

FROM PAGE 1

Court for her arraignment, and she was jailed in lieu of a \$20,000 cash bond.

According to court documents, the case was moved to Redford because the defendant is related to a Westland police officer, prompting Westland district judges to disqualify themselves.

A not-guilty plea was entered for Weillnau, and she was scheduled for a Nov. 7 preliminary examination in front of Redford District

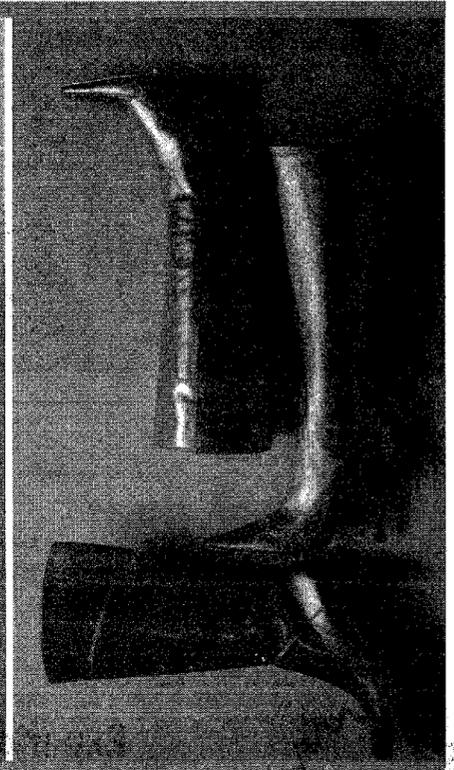
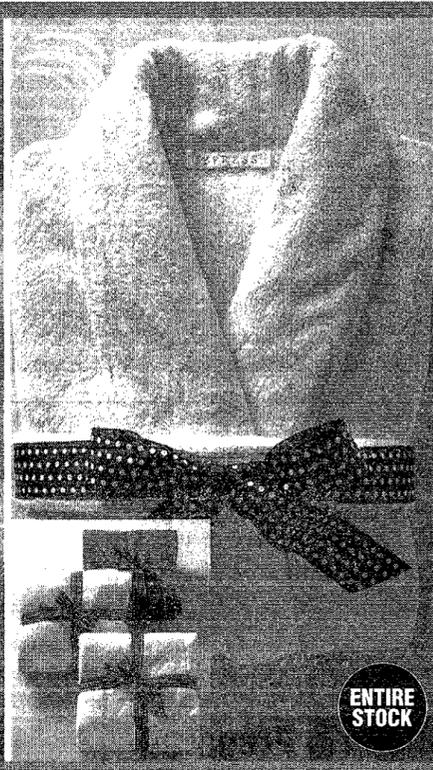
Judge Charlotte Wirth. The hearing will determine whether Weillnau should stand trial in Wayne County Circuit Court.

If convicted, Weillnau could face penalties ranging up to 15 years in prison.

LeFaive's death marked the third traffic fatality of the year in Westland, Lessnau said.

Police didn't know where LeFaive had been before the accident. Weillnau was on her way home, but it wasn't immediately known where she had been.

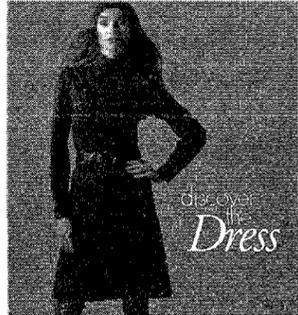
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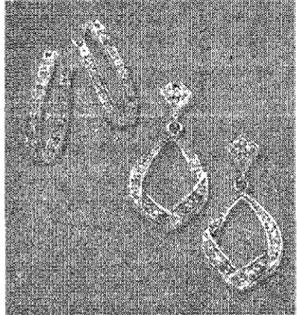
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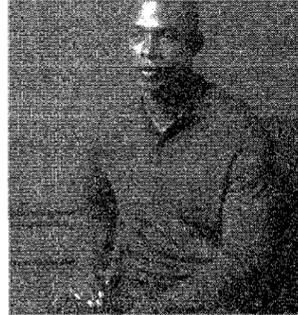
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Ziegler: Leading GOP group that's supporting Granholm

BY DAN WEST
STAFF WRITER

Not all local Republicans are on board with Dick DeVos' campaign for governor.

Livonia resident and business owner Gil Ziegler has formed a political action committee of "progressive-minded Republicans" who are supporting Democratic Gov. Jennifer Granholm's re-election bid. "Republicans for Granholm" was formed in August and has gathered 1,500 volunteers and supporters. Its Web site is expected to top 100,000 hits this weekend.

Ziegler, the group's chairman, said

Granholm is fiscally responsible and unfairly blamed for the state's economic troubles fueled by struggles in the auto industry. He added PAC supporters also are motivated by a desire to curb the extremism in both political parties.

"We want to advocate for a more mainstream political movement," Ziegler said. "Our reception has been very good, especially from people who are tired of the vicious partisanship."

"They feel that the Democratic Party has gone too far left and the Republican Party has gone too far right."

The governor was at Ziegler's home last week for a fund-raiser that

included 40 of the group's supporters.

The group will not disclose how much money it has raised, however, it has purchased advertising on 10 freeway signs throughout southeastern Michigan. The group took a motor home tour to several political gatherings in his native Upper Peninsula earlier this month, and plans a similar tour across the southern part of the state later this month.

Ziegler, owner of the tier-one auto supplier Alken-Ziegler, said his group does not plan to attack DeVos, but he notes his group disagrees with the Republican gubernatorial candidate's opposition to stem cell research, and his support for the teaching of

Intelligent Design in public schools and publicly funded vouchers for private schools.

"The biggest thing is the women's choice issues," Ziegler said. "That's a decision that needs to be made from the heart and home and it should not be made by government."

Former Republican Gov. John Engler appointed Ziegler to serve on the Northern Michigan University Board of Control in the 1990s. He made an unsuccessful run in northern Michigan for Congress in 1994, but was elected to a term on the Atrium County Commission when living in Kalkaska.

Ziegler said he's loyal to the GOP's

positions on freedom, responsibility and fiscal restraint, but he fears the party is becoming increasingly narrow-minded. This concern, he said, sparked discussions among "mainstream" Republicans who feared an infiltration of extremists into state-appointed jobs, boards and commissions.

"I did a lot of soul searching before I did this," Ziegler said. "It was a difficult decision, but the more I get into it, the more I realize it's the right thing to do."

The group's Web site is: www.republicansfor-granholm.com
dwest@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2109

Southfield police identify body in Dumpster as Westland man

BY PAT MURPHY
STAFF WRITER

Police have identified the body of a man who was apparently crushed in a Dumpster before being dropped off at a recycling center in Southfield.

He was Dennis A. Reed, 46, of Westland whose body was found Friday in a load of materials delivered to the resource Recovery and Recycling Authority of Southeast

Oakland County center at Evergreen and Eight Mile roads.

Reed died of "crushing injuries," according to the Oakland County Medical Examiner's office, and the death was classified as accidental.

It appears that Reed climbed into the Dumpster to take a nap, said Detective John Harris, spokesman for the Southfield police.

The Dumpster was picked up by a trash pickup service at

about 6 a.m. Friday, Harris said. The contents were compacted and subsequently dropped off at the recycling center shortly before noon.

The body was discovered at about 1 p.m. after which the center was closed for a police investigation. Survivors include his wife Gloria Reed of Westland and two stepsons.

Visitation is from 4:30 to 8 p.m. today (Thursday) with funeral services at 11 a.m. Friday at the Crane Funeral Home in Romulus.

Retired LPS principal honored

Helene Lusa, a recently retired Livonia elementary principal, has earned the statewide Champion of Education award.

"This is a special award to honor someone at the state level for making an outstanding contribution," said Marcia Kreger, Cass principal. Lusa is the third recipient of such recognition, as chosen by the Michigan Elementary and Middle School Association (MEMSPA) during its state conference.

Kreger called Lusa's work with the state Legislature "instrumental," as she's worked to help restore administrator certification requirements in Michigan's public schools.

In 1986 Michigan laws began to require that public school administrators be certified, but in 1995 those laws were repealed. Then, in Aug. Gov. Jennifer Granholm signed Senate Bills 673 and 674, creating Public Act 335 to restore that certification.

Joanne Welihan, the executive director of MEMSPA, honored Lusa for her role in that action. Working toward that goal since 2004, Lusa saw it through, and is being recognized.

"Helene's persistence and her solid wisdom were key ingredients in getting this legislation to move," said Welihan. "Through the course of this work, Helene retired and she regretted not being able to see this through as a MEMSPA member."

AROUND WESTLAND

Polling place change

With the closing of Nankin Mills Elementary School in Westland, voters who used to cast their ballots there will now vote at a different location, Westland City Clerk Eileen DeHart said.

Those voters should go to the nearby Western Wayne Skills Center, at Ritz and Ann Arbor Trail, to cast their ballots on Tuesday, Nov. 7, DeHart said.

The Nankin Mills school was among several buildings closed by the Livonia Public Schools at the end of last school year.

The skills center also is operated by the Livonia district.

Poker tournament

The Westland Jaycees will hold a two-day Texas Hold 'Em Tournament Friday-Saturday, Nov. 10-11, at the Bailey Recreation Center on Ford west of Wayne Road. The tournament will begin at 6 p.m. on Nov. 10, and the top 21 players will return on Nov. 11 for a chance at the \$1,000 top prize.

Spots in the tournament are available at the door and through pre-registration. Pre-registration price is \$65 until Nov. 6.

After that date, there will be a \$15 late registration fee.

There also will be a Vegas Room available both nights. Vegas Room games include Roulette, Big Wheel, Blackjack, 7 Card and Let it Ride. Food and beverages also will be available. For more information, call (734) 226-0400.

10th anniversary

The William P. Faust Public Library of Westland will celebrate its 10th anniversary on Sunday. The public is invited.

The library, named after the late state senator, will begin its celebration at 11:30 a.m. with the Westland John Glenn High School marching band playing the national anthem and the Livonia Franklin High School's junior ROTC carrying flags.

At noon, former library board President Jim Chuck, the master of ceremonies, will welcome visitors and make introductory remarks. There also will be a coffee-and-cookies reception.

Open house activities 1-4 p.m. will include a piano player, a balloon twister, book characters and much more, according to the library staff.

Pancake breakfast

Westland Civitan Club will hold an all-you-can-eat pancake breakfast at 8-10 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 11, at Applebee's Restaurant on Warren at

Central City Parkway in Westland.

Breakfast includes pancakes, bacon, sausage, juice, coffee, tea or milk. Tickets are \$6 each with children age 3 and under free. Proceeds will be used for ongoing community projects that enhance the quality of life for those in the Westland community who are physically and mentally challenged.

Absentee ballots

Westland residents who want an application for an absentee ballot for the Nov. 7 election should call the clerk's office at (734) 467-3188 or (734) 467-3187. Voters who think they might not be able to make it to the polls are encouraged to request an absentee ballot.

Poker game

The St. Theodore's Men's Club will hold at Texas Hold 'Em poker game 7-11:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 10, in the church social hall, 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland.

Doors will open at 6 p.m. Refreshments will be available and there also will be a 50/50 raffle. Players must be at least age 18 to play and age 21 to drink. Top prize will be \$500. The cost is a \$40 buy in and only 110 tickets will be sold in advance. No tickets will be available at the door.

For tickets, call Mary at the parish office at (734) 425-4421, voice mail No. 10 or Ken at (734) 634-4898.

Attention, shoppers

Westland Shopping Center and Macy's will sponsor a half-day "shopping extravaganza" starting at 9 a.m. Friday, Nov. 17, at the mall. The cost is \$25, and the event is open to the first 100 people who respond. The event is being presented by the Westland Chamber of Commerce.

Guests will report to Macy's for a continental breakfast provided by Panera Bread and a holiday make-up presentation by Clinique.

The day will continue with shopping for holiday gifts at participating merchants. Every participant will receive discounts and giveaways at certain stores. The day will end at 1 p.m. at Lakeshore Grill with lunch and door prize drawings.

To sign up or for more information, call the chamber at (734) 326-7222.

Toy show

Westland Rotary will hold a toy show 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday at the Romanowski VFW Post 6896 in Westland.

There will be new and antique toys, collectibles, non-sport cards, action figures, die cast toys, movie items, model cars, NASCAR, Matchbox, Hot Wheels and more as well as raffle prizes and refreshments.

Admission is \$3 with kids under age 12 free. The VFW Post 6896 is at 28945 Joy Road. For more information, call Mary McGraw at (734) 748-8515.

Holiday helpers

Community Hospice is seeking volunteers to help with its Tree of Memories holiday fundraiser. Activities include setting up Christmas trees at local businesses, assembling mail pieces, and collecting donations at the Westland Shopping Center exhibit.

No experience necessary, just a desire to help others facing terminal illness. Training will be provided. For more information, call Vicki at (734) 522-4244.

Crafters wanted

Crafters are being sought for a craft show 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 11, at Community Free Will Baptist Church, 33031 Cherry Hill, west of Venoy, Westland.

Registration is \$20 and must be paid Oct. 28 to hold a spot. The money will be applied to the \$20 table rental charge. Any remaining balance for additional tables must be paid at time of set up. For more information, call Marge at (734) 729-2578 or Jean at (734) 421-0733.

Craft show

The Frost Middle School PTSA hosts its 30th annual Holiday Craft Show from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday at the school, 14041 Stark Road in Livonia, west of Farmington Rod and north of I-96. Admission is \$2. No strollers allowed. More than 170 exhibitors will be featured, plus a lunch room, bake sale and more.

The Sgt. Romanowski VFW Post 6896 will hold its annual fall craft show that will be 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday. The post is at 28945 Joy Road.

Euchre games

Friday Night Euchre/Pinocle Card Parties start at 7:30 p.m. at St. Bernardine Parish in Westland. Doors open at 7 p.m. No partner is needed. Admission is \$5 admission includes refreshments, snacks and cash prizes. A 50/50 raffle also is available. The scheduled dates are Nov. 3, 17, Dec. 1, 15, Jan. 7, 5, 12, 26 and Feb. 2, 9, 16. For more information, call (734) 427-5150.



The Westland Chamber of Commerce proudly presents the 2006

Holiday Taste Fest

Treat yourself to an evening of fine dining and relaxation at the luxurious Hellenic Cultural Center.

Join us for this gourmet adventure featuring the area's finest restaurants and culinary artists.

Graze on gourmet goodies while enjoying music and entertainment. Do some holiday shopping... bid on some of the exciting items in our silent auction!

Participants:

Casa Fiesta	Le' Cakery Bake Shop	Red Robin
Fire Mountain	Longhorn Steakhouse	Souper Sandwich Carver
Hellenic Cultural Center	Maria's Italian Bakery	Starbuck's Coffee Company
Hickory BBQ & Grill	Marvaso's Italian Grille	Toarina's Pizza
Johnny Carino's	Mary Denning's Cake Shoppe	Uno Chicago Grill
Lakeshore Grill at Macy's	O & W Inc.	Westland Big Boy

William D. Ford Career Technical Center - Culinary Arts Department

December 5, 2006 at 6 o'clock in the evening

Hellenic Cultural Center, 36375 Joy Rd., Westland, MI (between Wayne & Newburgh Rds.)

Admission: \$20 (all ages)

Ticket sales: Westland Chamber of Commerce, Mon. - Fri. 9:00 am - 4:30 pm.
For more information, call the Chamber at 734-326-7222.

2006 Holiday Taste Fest Major Sponsors:

		
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2006 Holiday Taste Fest Gold Sponsors:

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DW Computers, Inc.	LaSalle Bank - Nancy Barrons	Modern Classics
GFS Marketplace	LaSalle Bank - Jade Smith	Parkside Credit Union
Garden City Hospital: Sports Rehab Center, Westland		Westland Shopping Center

Partial proceeds from the event will go to the Joseph Benyo Scholarship Fund.

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<p>LADIES Wednesdays 6:30 pm Need 3 bowlers</p>	<p>9 Pin - No Tap Doubles & Singles Prize \$ Mystery Game Lucky Strike Saturdays 11:15 pm During November 2 couples bowl for the prices of one!</p>	

Unhappy with Toy

I saw an ad on TV against U.S. Sen. Stabenow. Her opponent said she voted against Social Security for immigrants.

Well, I am totally behind her on this. I did NOT pay into Social Security all these years just so MY Government can give it away illegally. Our government says Social Security is in trouble. Well, it is no wonder when you are giving it to people who have not earned it.

I also have a problem that is really close to home. My husband passed away April 2 of this year. He received a birthday card from Sen. Toy. It was addressed to "Ted" and only his friends called him that. His name is Edward.

I would truly like to know how she got his birth date, Nov. 2. The only place I can assume she got it is the Friendship Center. Sen. Toy seems to spend a lot of time there, and they are the ones who had this information.

I am angry and hurt. I don't need anyone to remind me of when my husband's birthday was. I am well aware of it. Sen. Toy should check her facts before HER STAFF sends these things out. I am NOT a supporter of hers, but if I had been this would have changed my vote.

Deane Seber-Kirby
Westland

Supports Anderson

In recent editions of the Observer there have been letters that claim Glenn Anderson voted against the cable competition bill. I have been in contact with Rep. Anderson's office and as it turns out, these letters are misrepresenting the vote in question.

Before a bill is voted on as legislation, it goes through several considerations or readings. The legislature has not even voted on whether or not to pass the cable competition bill into law. Rep. Anderson did NOT vote no on

See Page A10 and A11 for more of this week's Letters to the Editor.

passing this legislation, he voted no on moving the bill from a second to third reading. He did this because he felt the bill needed additional work.

There are many concerns over this bill, including concerns that the legislation strips away local control and voids current franchise agreements, while making special provisions for one company. Rep. Anderson voted to show concern for our local governments and to make an effort to address these issues before the legislation was rushed through the legislature.

Glenn Anderson wasn't voting against competition and lower cable rates, he was voting to force a balance on state and local concerns. It is exactly because of his diligence and his ability to always do what is right for his constituents that I will be supporting Glenn Anderson for state Senate.

Jane Vinson
Garden City

Time for change

While many attacks against the current and new Democrats running for office claim they support illegal immigrants, raising taxes and do not have a plan, consider this: I have seen many debates this year and have not heard one plan from the Republicans currently in control of the state House and Senate. They only claim they will continue to cut taxes.

How many more tax cuts do we need to destroy our public schools, public services like police, fire, water and all public sector jobs? If we think privatizing will save money, we're wrong. It has, and will always, cost more to do these jobs in the private sector because the companies providing the workers are for profit.

We need to change our thinking and support change.

The Republicans have had control over the past 10 years to address this current trend Michigan is in, and have only fattened their personal pots of gold. Look at the current governor's race in itself.

Mr. DeVos has spent millions of his own money, starting in January 2006, and claims he would work for free. Can you work for free? He uses jobs as the issue and blames our governor, and any others that stand up and run for office.

I sit on a few boards where manufacturing companies are involved and they clearly state that going overseas or to Mexico and getting work done for \$0.25, \$1.50 to \$3.50 per hour is the only way they can compete in this global market today. We need to understand, "Standing up for American Standards" is the issue. Would you work for 50 cents per hour?

If you believe that any person who works for a living is making too much money then consider yourself taking a wage cut also, because if we don't support the quality standards we have developed in the past 50 years, we will all suffer in the end.

We need manufacturing in

America and cannot survive as a service country only. Protect manufacturing in our country and purchase U.S. company products, support earned wages and standards. If needed, ask questions when you don't understand. And we all need to be accountable.

Get involved and vote. Get involved and ask for accountability. Our children and theirs deserve better. Everyone has a responsibility to give back or pay forward. Whatever success you have earned was not achieved without the help of others.

Edgell Turnquist
Westland

Send GOP packing

I was, to say the very least a little "steamed" as I read a Letter to the Editor, titled "Seniors, listen up." Just for the record, to the persons who wrote that misguided letter, I would like to inform all of your readers of the following facts:

While serving the PEOPLE of this great state, Gov. Granholm has done the following:

1) The governor introduced the nation's first bulk-buying pool for prescription drugs

and received federal approval from the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services to provide lower prescription drug costs for more than 1.3 million Michigan citizens.

2) Gov. Granholm created the MiRX prescription drug discount card program designed to help lower prescription drug costs for some of Michigan's one million uninsured residents. Also, more than 38,000 uninsured SENIORS and people from working families have signed up for the discount prescription drug card since its inception.

3) Gov. Granholm has helped lead the fight in opposition to President's Bush's plan to privatize Social Security.

4) Gov. Granholm signed legislation requiring criminal background checks for workers in nursing homes and in assisted living facilities. Since she signed this legislation, nearly 40,000 background checks have been conducted on those workers.

5) Gov. Granholm created a state Long-Term Care Task Force to ensure that Michigan's SENIORS are protected and cared for. This task force has generated dozens of

substantive recommendations - many of which have already been adopted.

6) Gov. Granholm signed legislation to protect the property and finances of senior citizens from con artists and identity thieves.

7) The governor's Task Force on Elder Abuse has worked on ways to ensure that the beloved SENIORS of Michigan are protected from abuse, fraud, neglect and financial exploitation.

Our governor has been doing the job she was elected to do. The problem that goes under the "radar," is the fact that it is hard to accomplish many more things that would benefit our seniors when the Republicans have held control. Please remember this folks, ever since John Engler has left office, Gov. Granholm has had to fight "tooth-and-nail" with all those self-anointed Republicans!

Please join me in RE-ELECTING our Gov. Granholm! And, let's send all of those Republicans packing!!!! Vote Nov. 7, and VOTE STRAIGHT DEMOCRATIC!!!!

Mark Blackwell
Wayne

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Suburban Detroit - A new free report has recently been released that reveals an amazing new medical breakthrough that has proven 86% successful treating debilitating back pain. Even with multiple herniated discs. Find out how space travel solved astronauts back pain and how this accidental discovery has led to the most promising back pain treatment today. For your free report entitled, "How Space Age Technology Is Solving Back Pain Without Drugs Or Surgery!" call 1-800-469-3618 and listen to the toll-free 24 hr. recorded message for all the details. If phone lines are busy, visit: www.midischerniation.com

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Department of Management and Budget, Office of Retirement Services and Department of Labor and Economic Growth, State Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules

The State Employees' Retirement Board and the State Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules will hold a public hearing on November 20, 2006, from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. The hearing will be held in Conference Room A, 1st Floor of the General Office Building, 7150 Harris Drive, Dimondale, Michigan.

The public hearing is being held to receive comments from interested persons on the promulgation of General Rules, R 38.21 - R 38.51 and the rescission of Rules 38.8, 38.11, 38.12 by the State Employees' Retirement Board and the promulgation of General Rules, R 38.71 - R 38.86 and the rescission of Rules 38.1 - 38.7 by the State Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules.

The State Employees' Retirement Board rules are being promulgated under the authority of Section 2 of Public Act 240 of 1943, MCL 38.2. The Rules for the State Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules are being promulgated under the authority of Executive Order 2005-1, MCL 445.2021. It is proposed that all of the Rules will take effect immediately after filing with the Secretary of State.

Comments may be presented in person and in writing at the time of hearing. Comments may also be submitted by mail or FAX until November 20, 2006, at 5:00 p.m. Address any comments to:

Office of Retirement Services
State Employees' Retirement Board - Rule Hearing
Attention: Phil Stoddard, Executive Secretary to the Board
P.O. Box 30171
Lansing, Michigan 48909
Or FAX: 517/322-6145

All hearings are conducted in compliance with the 1990 Americans With Disabilities Act. Hearings are held in buildings that accommodate mobility-impaired individuals and accessible parking is available. A disabled individual who requires accommodations for effective participation in a hearing should call Kathy Claramella at 517/322-1412 (voice) to make the necessary arrangements. To ensure availability of the accommodation, please call at least 1 week in advance.

Date: September 21, 2006 SOAHR# 2004-056 MB and 2006-046 SR



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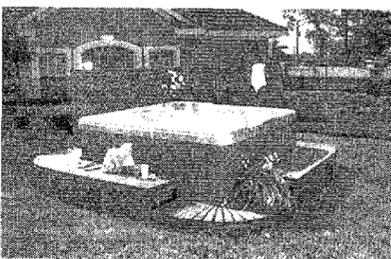
91 in. X 91 in. x 37in.
2 Seats, 2 Lounges
Total of 33 Jets, 1 Master Massage, 4 Poly Monster Jets, 1 Feature Jet(Waterfall), 8 Adj. Nozzle Cyclone Jets, 19 Euro Jets

"Salida"

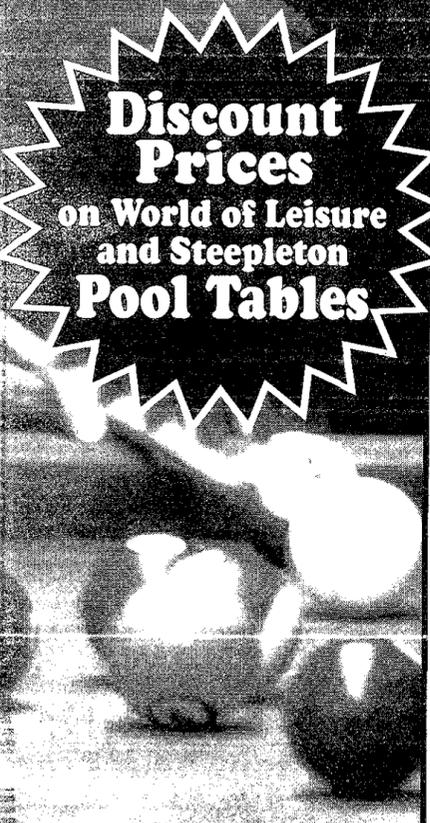


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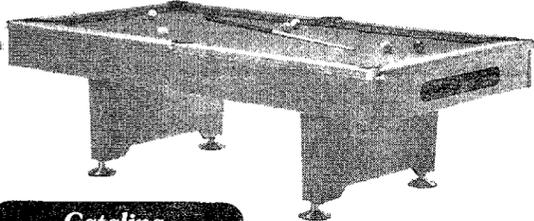
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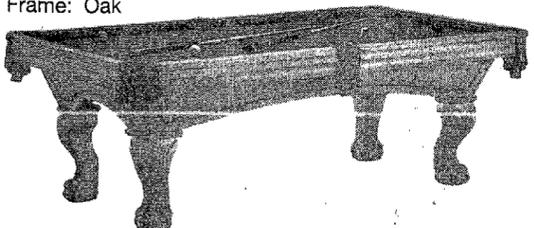
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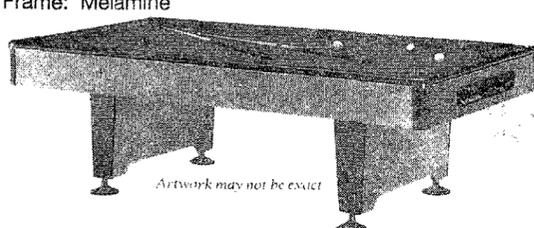
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Frame: Oak

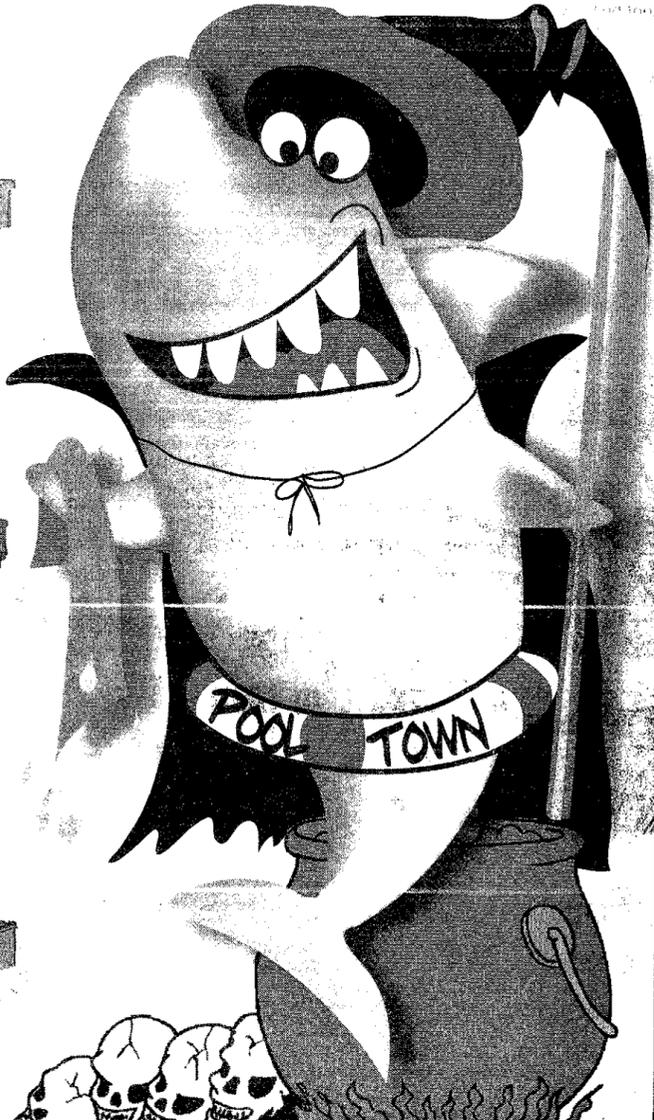


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McCotter keeps knocking for votes in crucial election

This is the second of two stories on the campaigns of the major party candidates for the 11th Congressional District seat. Last week, we ran a story on Democrat Tony Trupiano's campaign.

BY HUGH GALLAGHER
STAFF WRITER

With a little more than a week to go before the Nov. 7 election, volunteers gathered at the 11th Congressional District's Republican "Victory Center" on Schoolcraft Road behind Laurel Manor in Livonia.

On a blustery Saturday, the troops made phone calls, labeled campaign mailers and prepared to hit the streets to knock on doors and ask for votes.

But the talk this Saturday wasn't primarily about politics. And the somewhat deflated mood wasn't about the prospects of GOP candidates. The main topic of conversation was the sloppy ending to the Detroit Tigers' spectacular season in the fifth and final game of the World Series against the St. Louis Cardinals the night before.

U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter said he woke up Saturday looking forward to another night of baseball only to remember that it was over and the Tigers would have to wait until next year.

McCotter joined a dozen or so supporters applying labels to his campaign mailers. McCotter is facing a spirited challenge from Democrat Tony Trupiano and not taking the campaign lightly.

The group of volunteers included Livonia City Councilman Joe Laura, several longtime McCotter supporters and a group of young political neophytes in their teens and early 20s.

A YOUNG VETERAN

One of these 20-somethings was anything but a neophyte. Though still in his early 20s, McCotter campaign manager Mark Garrison has been in politics since he was "11 or 12." Garrison, a Clarenceville school board member, was directing the morning's activities like the old hand he is.

"I grew up in Livonia, worked on Laura Toy's races, passed out stuff for McCotter for state Senate campaign," Garrison said. "I've known him a long time. I liked his stances on the issues."

Garrison said he was up at 5 a.m. In the next week, he'll be putting in long hours.

"I function better on less sleep," he said.



U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter helps volunteers Ida Shelly of Westland (foreground left) and Peter McCrary of Plymouth, a senior at Catholic Central, prepare mailers for absentee voters for McCotter's campaign.

Knocking on doors and asking for votes is the link for all candidates, McCotter said.

Garrison is confident of victory.

"It's looking good, we're working hard, getting the message out," he said. "Knocking on more doors, getting mailings ready and out the door."

McCotter's message to the assembled volunteers was short and to the point: "You're working hard and I want to thank you, now let's get back to work."

Next stop for the candidate was the Walled Lake campaign office. The 11th District stretches from Highland and White Lake townships in western Oakland County south to Van Buren Township in western Wayne County. State Sen. Nancy Cassis was there to welcome McCotter and his staff with coffee and doughnuts.

McCotter press aide Bob Jackson estimated that the Livonia office alone might go through four boxes of doughnuts and a lot of coffee every day. It's all part of fueling the volunteers to get out the vote. But McCotter is his own biggest volunteer.

"He's gone door-to-door, constantly walking the precincts," said Jackson. "The object is to make sure they know who he is and that he's working for them. And when there are concerns or they need help, we're always visible and not walled off in an office."

KNOCKING ON DOORS

Knocking on doors and asking for votes is the link for all candidates, McCotter said.

"There is no normal day," he said. "The centerpiece of my

day is to do the job, get absentee mailings out, get signs out, make sure I'm walking on a continuous basis. The key elements of every campaign. I used to do more when I was younger."

McCotter of Livonia is running for a third term to Congress after serving in the Michigan State Senate, the Wayne County Commission and the Schoolcraft Board of Trustees. Nationally, polls suggest that the Republicans might lose their majority in one or both houses of Congress.

"It could change, it will be close for Republicans," McCotter said. "It could be a large change for Democrats. If it breaks one way, we lose a few seats and retain power. If it breaks another way, it could cost us 20 seats."

McCotter, who frequently cites historical precedents, points to the 1950 midterm congressional election when Republicans picked up seats because of controversies swirling around President Harry Truman's administration and policies. The Republicans picked up several seats in the House and two years later, with Dwight Eisenhower's victory, the GOP reclaimed the House, briefly, for the first time since Franklin Roosevelt was elected in 1932.

This year, voters are dissatisfied with President George Bush, the war in Iraq and a series of scandals involving Republican House members. McCotter has been a consistent supporter of his party on many issues but has been critical of the progress of the war and free trade agreements.

"First thing you've got to do what you've got to do. If you don't, nothing will happen," he said. "You always have to represent the district, not a plank in the party. We have separate



Peggy Gray of Livonia is greeted by Thaddeus McCotter at the Livonia Victory Center Saturday. Volunteers for the congressman's campaign prepare mailers. (Back from left) Adnan Ahmad of Northville, Mike Laginess of Canton, Campaign Manager Mark Garrison of Livonia and Tara Brackney of Canton.

branches of government, I like the president but my job is to offer advice whether he wants it or not."

McCotter's first taste of politics was when he was a teenager and his mother, Joan McCotter, ran for, and lost, her first campaign for Livonia city clerk in 1983. She won the seat in 1985 and served many years as the city's clerk.

"In college, under Reagan, I got interested in foreign policy and having seen Carter and Reagan..." he said.

In 1988 he was a George H.W. Bush delegate to the GOP convention. After that he was asked to run for the Schoolcraft board.

McCotter's least favorite part of running for office is fund raising.

"Some people like to do it, I'm not one," he said. "I asked when I need it and they're happy with that."

The walk on Saturday morning (but not too early) was in a middle-class subdivision in Walled Lake. It was rainy and cold. The homes were brightly



McCotter's campaign volunteers prepare mailers at the Livonia Victory Center. (Front from left) Michael Gibbons of Livonia, Jordan Nelson of Novi, Livonia City Councilman Joe Laura and Will Orlewicz, of Plymouth. (Back from left) Ida Shelly of Westland, and Frankie Middleton of Belleville.

decorated for Halloween.

McCotter has developed rules for his walks. Watch out for the dogs. Respect the no-soliciting signs ("They mean it"). Don't put anything in the mailbox. Keep it short - "I'm Thaddeus McCotter running for re-election to Congress. I

would appreciate your consideration" - give them the literature.

For the next few days, McCotter and Trupiano will be in a dash to the finish line.

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OUR VIEWS

Granholt's plan is best to move Michigan forward

Michigan has been through a difficult time. While most of the country was recovering from the 2001 recession, areas dependent on heavy manufacturing continued to struggle. Michigan's heavy dependence on the automotive industry has made it the most resistant to recovery.

The Republican Party would like to place Michigan's economic difficulties squarely on the shoulders of Democratic Gov. Jennifer Granholm. But blame for Michigan's economic anemia has more to do with a seismic shift in the auto industry than in the performance of the governor, who has spent the better part of her first term finding ways to preserve the state's important government services that will be needed to support a real recovery.

It hasn't been easy. Granholm inherited a \$1.7 billion deficit from the previous administration of Republican John Engler. This combined with declining tax revenues has made every year a struggle to balance the budget and still meet the state's primary needs.

She also faced an often hostile Republican-controlled Legislature, that often seemed more interested in making the governor look bad than in improving the state's economy. As a centrist Democrat, Granholm often attempted to find accommodations with the Republican leadership. Her opponent, Grand Rapids businessman Dick DeVos, has run his campaign focusing on promises made by the governor that she didn't keep. But the truth is many of those promises are programs that a DeVos administration would never propose. They were proposals that were either defeated by the Republican Legislature or by the necessity of shifting funds to support the state's primary obligation, public education.

Still it is fair to say that Granholm has wasted a lot of political capital in her dealings with the Legislature. She has failed to push through on several of her initiatives and also failed to capitalize on Republican initiatives that she could have used to create a bridge with the Republican leaders.

The governor has been able to find some common ground with the Legislature, and both sides can claim some victory.

Granholm has made strides in setting the right priorities for Michigan. She has done the necessary work in trimming the state government bureaucracy. She's worked with the Legislature to create the 21st Century Job Fund to invest \$2 billion in emerging sector businesses that will begin to diversify away from the auto industry with life sciences, homeland security and alternative energy businesses. Her \$4 billion Jobs Today program provided both jobs and needed infrastructure repairs.

She has made a strong case for public education, again working with the Legislature to increase the education foundation grant and implement a strong high school curriculum. She has also put the state's focus on getting more high school graduates into state universities, community colleges and skilled training programs.

She also has innovative ideas for a health care program similar to the one implemented in Massachusetts that would provide access to affordable health care for all Michigan residents. The governor was right in supporting elimination of the complicated and counterproductive Single Business Tax while insisting that the Legislature have a plan in place to recoup most of the lost revenue. Instead they voted to move up the sunset on the SBT by two years without a replacement. Her opponent has been vague and inconsistent about how much of the nearly \$2 billion in lost revenue he would replace and how. At the same time, he has been critical of the reduction in police officers and other local services, which are paid for by state revenue sharing money. Granholm has proposed a simpler corporate tax that is less payroll-sensitive. By many measures, Michigan's business taxes are already competitive with other states and have not been a major factor in Michigan's economic problems.

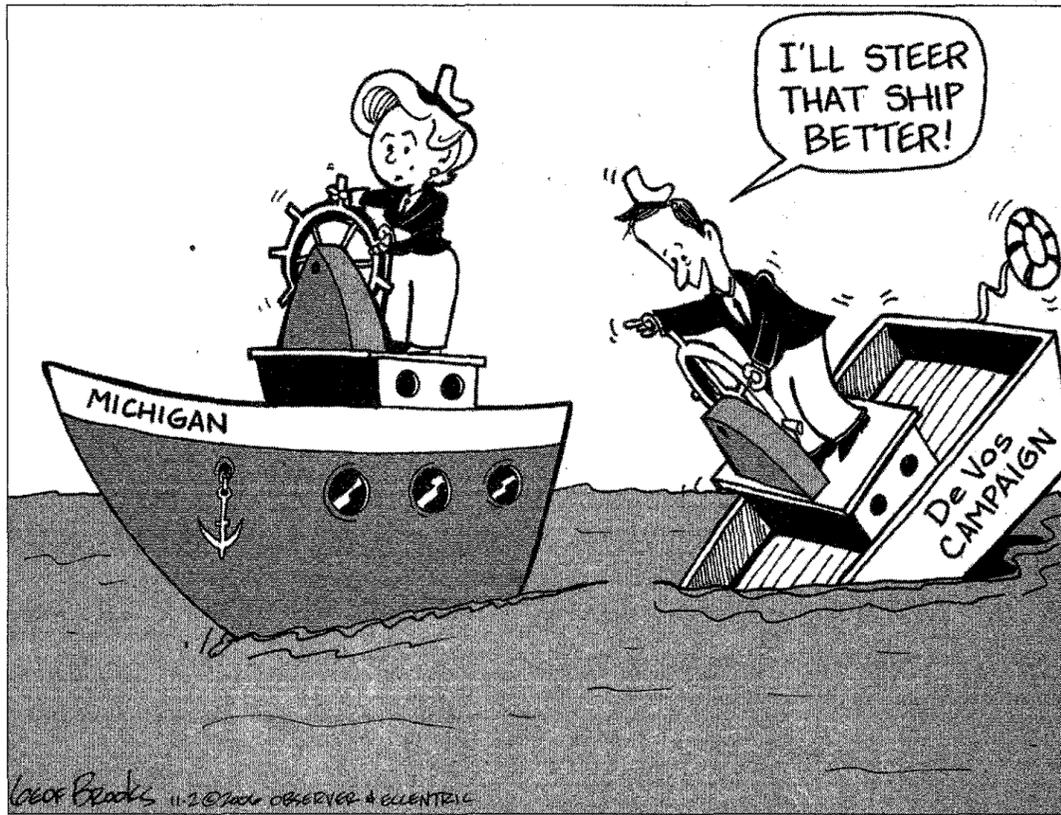
Opponents have scoffed at Granholm's "Cool Cities" initiatives, but the governor is on to something. Dynamic urban environments are exactly what cutting edge businesses need to attract the best young workers. Granholm should continue her emphasis on making Michigan's urban and rural environments an attractive calling card to business.

Supporters and opponents of the governor have complained that she has allowed her staff to isolate her from all but a small group of advisers. They also complain that she has been lax in negotiating the right deals to bring business to the state. We urge the governor to take these criticisms to heart if she wants to realize the goals she's set for the next four years. Her opponent is running on the theme that Michigan needs a businessman in charge. But, as Granholm points out, the goal of business is to make a profit and when it fails to make a profit it declines, as the businessmen leading our auto industry have discovered.

The business of government is to serve the residents of this state during good times and bad and to provide for their education and safety, to protect the environment, to promote the state's image and to serve the needs of both business and residents. We believe the governor is the right person to fulfill those goals. We support Jennifer Granholm for re-election Nov. 7.



Granholm



Time to abandon ship

In 1912, a ship called the Titanic was captured by a man that told the passengers, "not even God Himself could sink her." An hour before midnight on April 12, passengers felt a gentle shudder that briefly shook the 900-foot vessel.

Well, I think we all know what happened after that. The "unsinkable" sank, taking with her the lives, the dreams and hopes of thousands of men, women and children that had innocently trusted the captain and the crew to save them.

Michigan, too, has hit an iceberg, an economic iceberg. The business closings, family moves, unemployment and job losses we are experiencing are dragging Michigan down to the very bottom. Look at the economic reality outside of Michigan and you will see that our state is sinking economically.

Our current governor seems to only want to give us false hope that the next risky scheme or plan she develops will save us. Possibly her intentions are well-meaning or perhaps not, either way this situation calls for new leadership.

When you vote this Nov. 7, you will be making a choice. Will you stay on her boat? Or will you see that under this "captain's" failed leadership your family and your children's future might be at great risk? If all of the passengers of the Titanic happened to be Democrats, I am certain they wouldn't have remained loyal to the captain simply because he was a Democrat, too! No, they would do the intelligent thing and jump off his boat in order to save their lives and futures.

Recently, our governor called for "all hands on deck." I say, all hands and passengers to the lifeboats. It's time to abandon her ship or we are all going to perish in this economic nightmare she's led us into. Don't go down with the ship, that's the captain's job. Let her do the sinking, she's become an expert at it.

Joe Wrobel
Westland

Vote to protect environment

As our November election draws near, it is critical that we obtain clear facts on the status of our environment and the critical condition we and our planet are in. According to a recent study of the tree canopy in Southeast Michigan compiled by the American Forest Association, our ecosystem is in serious danger. Millions of trees need to be planted in the next few years to return our area to at least a minimum level of ecological health.

The NASA/Goddard Space Flight Center stated on Oct. 22, 2006, that the Greenland ice sheet is on a downward slide. The British Antarctic Survey, dated Oct. 16, 2006, is communicating that we have the "first direct evidence that human activity is linked to Antarctic ice shelf collapse."

We are in serious environmental times. Shortly, care for the environment will no longer be a partisan issue, it will be a survival issue. I am not sure how our sacred contract to be guardians of this planet got off track and became political. It is unfortunate as our in-fighting only drives our earth further into danger.

I encourage everyone to consult the Sierra Club Political Scorecard to see how

LETTERS

your candidate voted on environmental issues over the last year and to encourage candidates that didn't fare as well to learn more about our earth and how protecting it is not a political party issue.

In my opinion, making good choices which protect our water, animals, trees and air is simply about honoring what is sacred and important to each and everyone of us. We all breathe the same air, drink from the same stream and walk on the same land. We are all connected in the grand cycle of life. We still have a short window of time to heal what we can.

The Sierra Club has endorsed the following candidates in our district: House District 18: Richard LeBlanc (D-Westland); Senate District 6: Glenn Anderson (D-Westland); U.S. Senate: Debbie Stabenow (D-Michigan); and Governor: Jennifer Granholm (D).

Our vote in this election is a vote for the quality of life on this planet. There is no business to be done on a dead planet. Join me in voting for environmentally responsible leadership and supporting everyone on learning more about the environment. Think globally and act locally.

The Sierra Club Political Scorecard can be found at www.michigan.sierraclub.org/scorecard.

Judy Rubasky
Westland registered voter
Sierra Club member

Represent the voters

I read with some humor an article written on Richard LeBlanc in your paper. It gave many good reasons why people should vote for Richard, such as his being a people person, responsive to the needs of his constituents, asking questions on his constituents behalf and getting answers. Personally, I feel that Richard would be outstanding as our State Representative for the 18th District and I plan on voting for him.

That being said, the humor part was thinking that these were some of the same words used to describe Glenn Anderson when he was running for that position. However, after Glenn Anderson was in the position of state representative he seemed to forget who he was representing. Most of his voting records seemed to travel down the same old road of the Democratic Party.

I voted for Glenn when he was first put into that office, but I will not vote for him this time around as he tries to advance his career as it seems that his thinking is being done for him by others, mainly the Democratic Party and its agenda. Sure, we hear of future plans he wants to implement. Didn't he just have six years to get some of these started? What has he done with those plans during that period?

I don't think we need Glenn Anderson to advance higher in our government offices until he comes back down to earth and starts to remember who he represents and why he was put into that office in the first place.

Our State Senator also has been voting down party lines and like a puppet, voting the way that Carl Levin and their party tells her. She, too, has lost her independent way of thinking. She probably believes that this is what is expected of her. Either way, it is not the way a person with morals would represent their people back home. This money-for-votes lobby principal

has got to stop, as usually the ideas they want pushed through government are things of the very small minority. I just hope and pray that whoever gets into their elected offices this term will really consider the people that put them into that office and vote the way their constituents back home would want them to vote.

Jack Stange
Westland

Vote wisely on Nov. 7

The Nov. 7 election is fast approaching, and I hope everyone who can gets out and votes. All elections are important even if they're not presidential.

All these campaigns forget to tell you that Granholm was working with a Republican House and Senate. How can you change anything, if everyone is working against you (kind of like the Westland City Council isn't it)?

McCotter tells you whatever he thinks you want to hear. Toy is too busy kissing up to the seniors in Westland to know what's going on anywhere else. DeVos doesn't bother to tell you the jobs he wants for Michigan don't pay enough to let you survive here.

Mike Cox is so busy making news how can he or his office protect the public? I called there when DTE was incorrectly billing me and was told DTE was a private company. If so, who's the competition and how do I get a company to finance solar energy on a monthly bill? One all of us could afford. No answer from his office.

And have you noticed how long you stand in line at the Secretary of States office? Why do you stand in line to take a number to sit down and wait two-three hours? Remember the name Terri Lynn Land and vote the opposite. She has money and can afford to sit that long and not lose a job she doesn't need. Do you? I know I don't. And so many of us have a hard time standing in line.

And locally why is the mayor of Westland running for judge? She hasn't been in office for her second term for even a year. Oh, that's right it's déjà vu. Remember the Westland Council person who couldn't be elected so he was appointed only to be recalled later?

These are not just opinions, but facts as well. Vote Nov. 7, if you haven't already, and vote wisely.

Judy McKinney
Westland

SHARE YOUR OPINIONS

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

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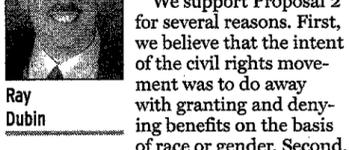
QUOTABLE

"I'm sure some people think that we were misled or it (the Legacy decision) was pre-emptive. But we use the information we have at the time to make the best decision we can, at that time."

- school board trustee Cynthia Markarian about questions raised concerning the Livonia Public Schools' audit results

Proposal 2: 'Two wrongs don't make a right'

We are the Grumpies, a group of ordinary citizens who write letters to the editor on public policy issues. We include men and women, workers and retirees, the devout and atheists. We disagree profoundly among ourselves on abortion, school prayer, immigration policy and just about every other issue except one: ballot Proposal 2, which would specifically ban race and gender preferences in public education, public contracting and public employment — not affirmative action in general, as claimed by its opponents.



Ray Dubin

We support Proposal 2 for several reasons. First, we believe that the intent of the civil rights movement was to do away with granting and denying benefits on the basis of race or gender. Second, if minority applicants are less qualified for a merit-based benefit because of poor elementary and secondary schooling or because of socio-economic disadvantage, those deficits need to be fixed where they are found, not patched over by the benefit itself. Third and very simply, two wrongs don't make a right.

Proposal 2 is contested by a vast and well-organized opposition. One United Michigan is a slick, well-funded alliance whose primary undertaking is to confuse voters. It erroneously and consistently asserts that Proposal 2 would end all affirmative action programs. That is patently false.

Proposal 2 would have no effect on affirmative action programs in the private sector. In fact, it will impact only those government affirmative action programs that grant preferential treatment on the basis of race or gender. And in its current radio ad, OUM tastelessly exploits America's recent national tragedies by equating Proposal 2 to the 9/11 attacks on America and to Hurricane Katrina.

Another group working against Proposal 2 is By Any Means Necessary. BAMN is a militant group of national reach whose strategy of bullying, intimidation and failed lawsuits reveals its own lack of confidence in the arguments, such as they are, against the proposal.

In their attempt to further confuse voters, Proposal 2 opponents rely extensively on scare tactics. For example, they falsely assert that Proposal 2 would threaten breast cancer and cervical cancer screen-

ing programs. The language contained in the proposal coupled with the experience in the two states that have adopted similar measures prove this unfounded claim to be unequivocally false. They've also attempted to scare voters to believe that Proposal 2 would endanger girls and boys sports programs. The provisions set forth in Title IX would preclude Proposal 2 from having any effect on same-gender sports.

Through daily monitoring in the Detroit and Lansing areas, we've noticed a disturbing trend emerging over the past several weeks among print as well as broadcast media in their Proposal 2 coverage. The media repeatedly echo OUM's claim that Proposal 2 would ban affirmative action. Any voter is free to confirm that, by its own terms, Proposal 2 would ban the much more focused practice of granting race and gender preferences in public education, public contracting and public employment. Our repetition of this point is necessary in the present circumstances.

We recognize that the press is free to support or oppose current public policy issues; but we expect the press, as the principal broker in the marketplace of ideas, to give reasonable voice also to contrary views as well as to ensure that disputed issues are accurately framed. And so we challenge the press in covering Proposal 2 to return to established journalistic standards of accuracy, especially in distinguishing what Proposal 2 would ban from what it wouldn't.

To say that it would ban "affirmative action" is a careless if not deliberate distortion of truth.

In the home stretch to the election, we Grumpies urge Proposal 2 supporters to write and speak out for balance and accuracy in media editorials, columns, articles, blogs and broadcasts. And on Election Day, despite fierce opposition, we trust our fellow citizens to cast their vote for justice in the only poll that counts. Yes on 2!

The Grumpies are: Ray Dubin, chair, of Farmington Hills; Paul Seibold, of Birmingham; Patricia Alspach, of Farmington Hills; Glynette Wolk, of Farmington Hills; Steve Sutton, of Farmington Hills; Bill Boitos, of Livonia; Marti Boitos, of Livonia; Dan Dubin, of Farmington Hills; Neil Goodbred, of Livonia; Zelda Rose, of Farmington Hills; George Haddad, of Franklin; Thomas Hunter, of Bloomfield Hills; John C. Broadwell, of West Bloomfield; Les Ostrander, of Livonia; and Robert Mack, of Romulus.

Affirmative action is a critical part of the solution to discrimination

On Tuesday, Nov. 7, citizens in the State of Michigan will be asked to vote on Proposal 2. If this purported "Civil Rights Initiative" is passed, it would amend the state constitution to ban affirmative action programs that give preferential treatment to groups or individuals based on their race, gender, color, ethnicity or national origin for public employment, education, or contracting purposes.

Affirmative action is not the ideal or single means to end the legacy of discrimination and its resultant educational and economical disparities in the U. S.

However, it is a critical part of the solution. The only ideal way to legitimately level the playing field for all Americans is for hundreds of years of intentional inequities not to have happened. Since erasing the past is impossible, Americans must be responsible in acknowledging this past and act to eliminate our discrepancies.

While progress has been made, we haven't yet achieved an equal playing field for all citizens. According to a 2004 report by the Institute for Women's Policy Research out of Washington, D.C., and the Grand Rapids-based Nokomis Foundation, Michigan is ranked 49th in the nation for its ratio of women's to men's earnings for full-time year-round work, with women making \$.67 to every \$1.00 men do. According to 2000 census data for the State of Michigan, the median household income for blacks was \$31,051 and \$46,838 for whites.

But, let's take a look at what affirmative action is and what it is not. Affirmative action is often misunderstood as a strict quota system that governs admission to our universities and employment. Affirmative action began as a policy under the Johnson administration that required government contractors and the construction industry to establish goals and timetables for the hiring of minorities and women. While these orders were established, goals and timetables were often not achieved.

But since the Supreme Court Bakke decision in 1978, it has been deemed illegal to hire a targeted number of a population without consideration of individuals' qualifications.

It is often claimed that race and gender are given preference during selection of university candidates or potential employees. There are many factors which determine college entrance, including residency, family legacy and athletic ability, to name a few. Test scores and grade points are factors that usually give advantage to majority students, due to achievement gaps that exist between students of color and majority populations. This results from segregated communities and school systems. Race and gender,

which are the only factors considered on Proposal 2, have also been used when establishing a diverse population of college students or employees.

Affirmative action is smart business. We operate in a global business society. This is why major corporations and many Chambers of Commerce do not support Proposal 2. Business leaders know that to relate to all of their customers, they must have a diverse group of managers representing all customers.

For example, let's look at Farmington Public Schools, one of the biggest employers in our community. The district seeks to make our hiring pools diverse because we have a student body of every race and ethnicity with over 80 languages spoken in the homes of our children. We want our staff to reflect the students we teach. We make a concerted effort to have a diverse pool of potential hires. If Proposal 2 passes, the development of these candidate pools may be illegal, as would be the targeting of male teachers for elementary positions because they are the minority in that staff population.

Bringing new business to the state relies on potential businesses seeing us as a forward-thinking community, not one wanting to step back in time. Our economy cannot afford to turn away potential businesses from residing in Michigan.

If big business, unions, both major political parties, many religious institutions, the National Bar Association, and newspaper editorial staffs are against the self-deemed "Civil Rights Initiative," then who is supporting the "Yes" vote?

Michigan ranks third in the country for reported hate crimes. As co-chair of the Multicultural Multiracial Community Council for our community, I recently received a report from the state police and the U.S. District Attorney's Office that within the past two weeks, KKK literature was distributed in nearby Roseville. Hate crimes and organizations are rampant across our country. Do we want to set the example in our state of moving a nation forward or do we want to let violent haters think they have a sympathetic ear in Michigan?

It is imperative that we make inequities disappear to "make it right" for all Americans.

The components that will help us achieve equitable education and employment require the continued sharing of opportunities, hard work and determination by all, dialogue to understand our commonalities and differences, and the dismantling of practices that exclude or harm one group of Americans to the advantage of another.

The State of Michigan will be better served if you vote "No" on Proposal 2 on Nov. 7.

Karen Bolsen is co-chair of the Multicultural Multiracial Community Council and president of the Farmington school board.



Karen Bolsen

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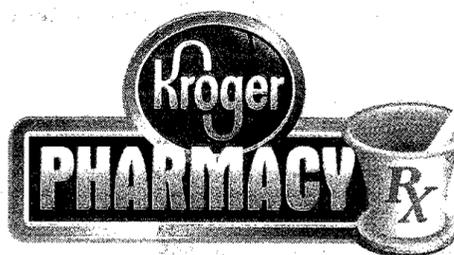
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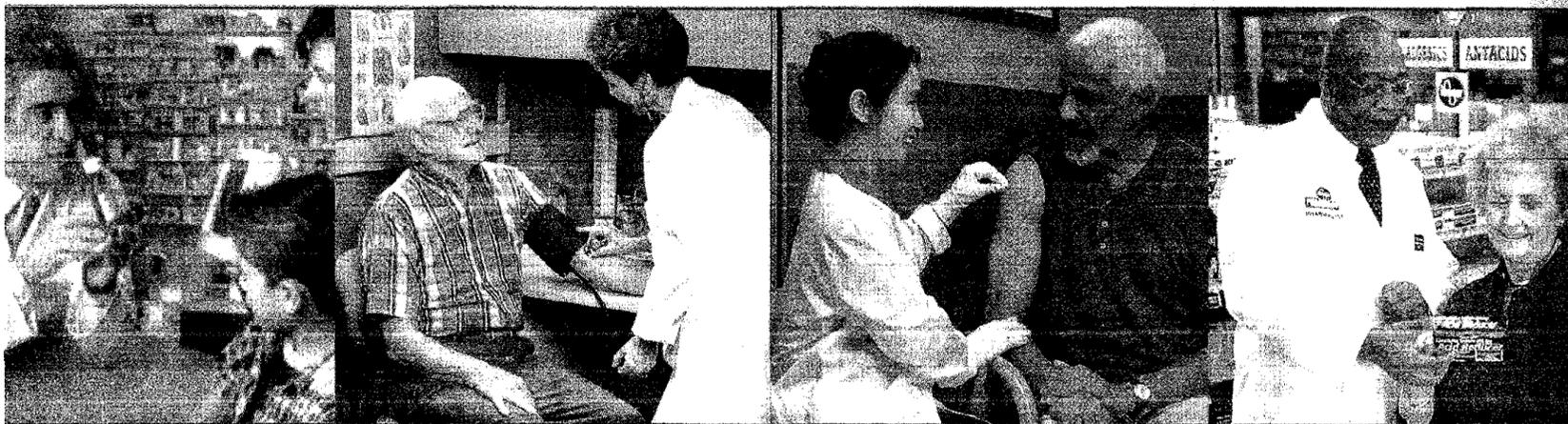
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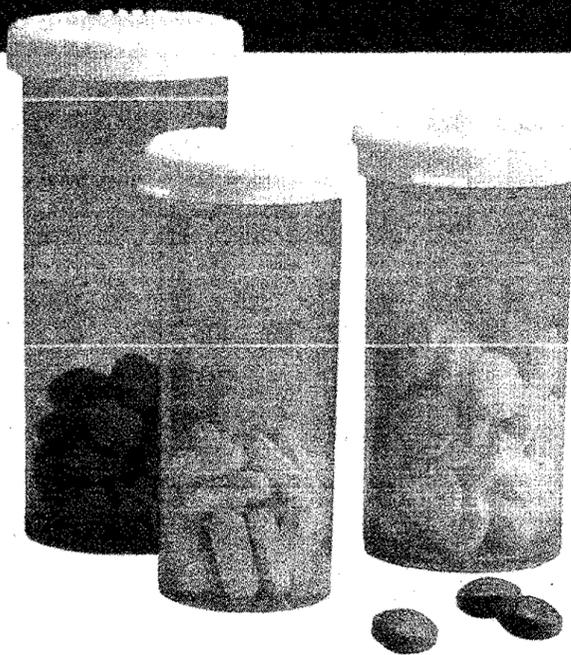
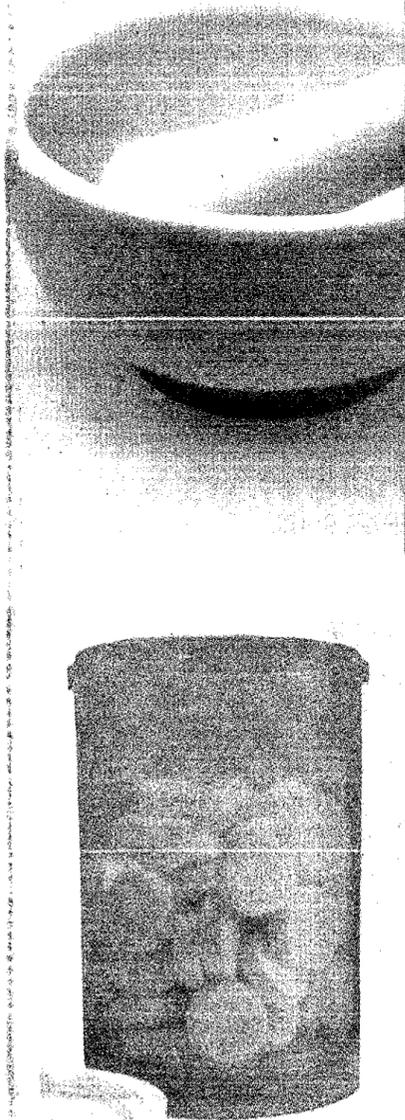
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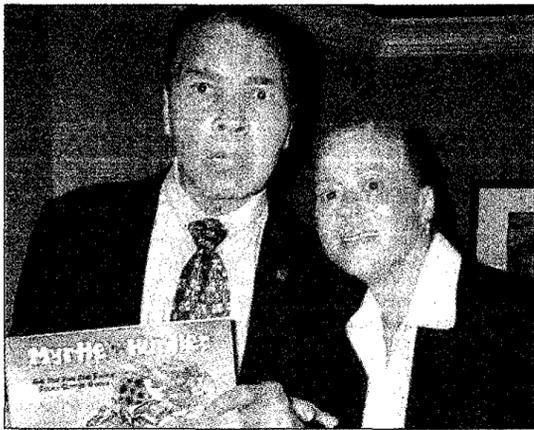
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TKO for Parkinson's or Bust

Former world heavyweight boxing champion Muhammad Ali pulled a one-two punch at the posh Opus One restaurant in Detroit recently. Ali and wife Lonnie Ali headlined a fund-raiser for Gov. Jennifer Granholm, posing for photos with Democratic supporters and fans. Muhammad Ali also signed a pair of boxing gloves for the Livonia Western-Wayne Parkinson Support Group. They'll be auctioned at the Michigan Parkinson Foundation's 'Night of a Thousand Stars Cabaret and Dinner-Dance' Sunday, Nov. 5, at the Dearborn Inn. The Alis, who live in western Michigan, are involved in a variety of projects aimed at finding a cure for Parkinson's Disease, a form of which afflicts Muhammad Ali. The Michigan Parkinson Foundation is headquartered in Southfield. Ali is displaying a copy of the children's book 'Myrtle the Hurdler' by Livonia writer Marybeth Dillon Butler.

STRATFORD WORKSHOPS

Actors from the renowned Stratford Festival of Canada will lead hands-on theater workshops for kids at Detroit's Boll Family YMCA on Saturday. These interactive workshops are a part of the Stratford Festival's Michigan Residency Project and will provide a glimpse into some essential elements of the live theater experience. The workshops take place from 10 am until 3 pm and cost \$10 each; \$5 for YMCA members.

Scene study
10 a.m. to noon (Ages 13-18) & 1-3 pm (Ages 8-12)
Explore a scene or two from a Shakespeare play and take part in a performance, with guidance and encouragement

from Stratford Festival actors.

Song and dance workshop
10 a.m. to noon (Ages 8-12)
Get out your dancing shoes, warm up your voice and work with Festival actors on a popular Broadway number.

Stage combat
1-3 p.m. (Ages 15-18)
Let Festival actors safely teach you the skills of sword-play and hand-to-hand combat for theater, and discover how actors stage realistic fights.

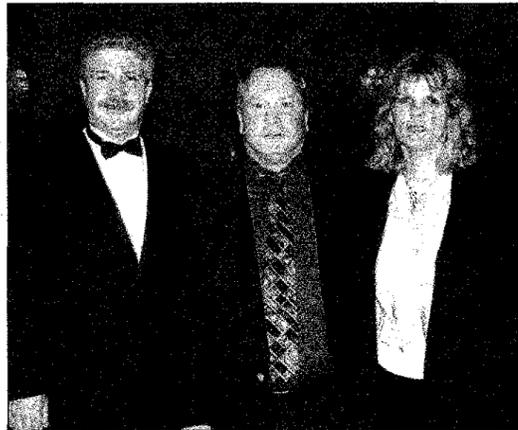
The Boll Family YMCA is at 1401 Broadway in Detroit. Advance registration is recommended; call (313) 309-9622.

The YMCA public workshops conclude a weeklong visit by Stratford Festival company members.

Circle of Hope Gala raises \$150,000

St. Mary Mercy Hospital benefits from Oct. 13 event

More than 400 people enjoyed the St. Mary Mercy Hospital 14th annual Circle of Hope Gala, themed For the Heart, at the Dearborn Inn on Oct. 13. Guests were pleasantly surprised by a trio of singing waiters and entertaining swing dance sounds by the Rhythm Society Orchestra.



St. Mary Mercy Hospital President and CEO David Spivey (left) recognized cardiac patient Dean Gilbert (center), and his wife Cindy, at the St. Mary Mercy Hospital 14th Annual Circle of Hope Gala, benefiting Cardiovascular Services. Dean Gilbert's life was saved at St. Mary Mercy in October 2005.

The event raised more than \$150,000 for St. Mary Mercy Cardiovascular Services. Proceeds will contribute to hospital renovations in the Cardiac Catheterization Lab and new leading-edge technology capable of performing both cardiac and peripheral vascular intervention.

Recognized at the Gala as an example of the life-saving cardiovascular care offered at St. Mary Mercy Hospital, was Dean Gilbert of Westland, a cardiac patient whose life was saved in October 2005 after multiple defibrillations to his heart.

After he was stabilized, Gilbert received an emergency angioplasty procedure to open up his artery and is doing well today. Coronary artery disease is the leading cause of death in Michigan, and thus, there is the demand for expanded cardiovascular

services. With this expansion, St. Mary Mercy can save more patients like Gilbert.

"We appreciate the tremendous support of our community in helping expand St. Mary Mercy's cardiovascular program," said Richard DeLoof, vice president, St. Mary Mercy Hospital Foundation. "The hospital is in the business to save lives and make people well, and can help make that happen through the generous contributions of our patrons for renovations and equipment needed."

The hospital thanks its major sponsors:

■ Joyful Heart, \$10,000: Anonymous, Concord EMS, and The Dearborn Inn, A Marriott Hotel.

■ Heart to Heart, \$5,000: Affiliated Anesthesiologists, Greenfield Health Systems, Heartland Health Care Centers, Huron Valley Ambulance, Livonia Radiology Group, P.C., The Observer and Eccentric Newspapers, Inc., Phillips Service Industries, Inc., and St. Mary Mercy Hospital Medical Staff.

■ Healthy Heart, \$2,500: Aims/Christman, Bumber Mechanical, Inc., Complete Infusion Services, Flowers on the Avenue, Thomas Gunderson, Kupelian Ormond & Magy, Kyphon Inc., David Spivey and Kelly Bradish, St. Mary Mercy Hospital Emergency Physician Group, Temperature Services Inc.,

and Drs. Syam and Ratna Zampani.

■ Grateful Heart, \$1,500: Development Service Associates, Heartland Home Care & Hospice, Dr. Ash and Tina Gokli, GE Healthcare - Clinical Systems, Guardian Plumbing & Heating, Michigan Heart, P.C., and Robert and Doris Russell.

■ Happy Heart, \$1,250: Advomas, Aims/Christman, Allen Park Cardiology, P.C., Angela Hospice Home Care, Inc., Ken and Dr. Sharon Antczak, Biotronik, Inc., Consultants in Cardiology, P.C., Daudlin De Beaupre and Company, Richard and Dr. Patricia DeLoof, Flagstar Bank, Kitch Drutchas Wagner Valitutti & Sherbrook, Drs. Omar Majid and Jaspal Singh, Dr. and Mrs. Roy Misirliyan, Northville Community Foundation, Mary Jane Peck, Schoolcraft College, Siemion, Huckabay, Bodary, Padilla, Morganti & Bowerman, P.C., Mr. and Mrs. Marty Shoushanian, Strategic Staffing Solutions, and Vascular Associates of Michigan, P.C.

Numerous other donors gave \$1,000, \$500 and \$350 donations to support the foundation.

For more information about the St. Mary Mercy Hospital Foundation, contact Katherine Daudlin at (734) 655-2980. St. Mary Mercy Hospital is located at 36475 Five Mile Road, at Levan, in Livonia. For more information about physician and hospital services, visit www.stmarymercy.org.

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Dietrich at last

Film legend's life and times revealed by grandson who knew her best

BY WAYNE PEAL
STAFF WRITER

One of Hollywood's most mysterious stars could be a little less mysterious to those who attend an upcoming program at the Southfield Public Library.

Marlene Dietrich, an iconic, pioneering film star of Hollywood's Golden Age, will be revealed this weekend by her grandson, David Riva.

"She is one of the most written about women of all time, so the thought is — what could you provide that's new," said Riva, a Los Angeles-based filmmaker and author/editor of the newly-published *A Woman at War: Marlene Dietrich Remembered*.

What's new, he said, is an effort to put Dietrich's sprawling, complex life into perspective by viewing it through the prism of her actions during World War II.

Though her career peaked in the 1940s, Dietrich's film hits such as *Destry Rides Again* with James Stewart and *Pittsburgh* with John Wayne are widely shown on cable stations such as Turner Classic Movies. Dietrich's image, incorporated by stars of succeeding generations, remains an inspiration.

"Certainly, Madonna has paid tribute to her and Cher, who I've interviewed, considers her an inspiration as well," Riva said.

Sharp-eyed Beatles fans will find her on the cover of the Sgt. Pepper album as well.

Riva's presentation is scheduled from 4-5:30 p.m. Saturday and is co-sponsored by Book Beat of Oak Park.

"Normally, we feature local authors, but we're thrilled to have him," outreach librarian Kelly Ireland said. "We're all about getting people to read."

Riva's coffee table-sized book is published by the Wayne State University Press.

Dietrich was a German national who famously turned against Hitler to become a tireless crusader for the Allied cause and that juxtaposition, Riva said, forms the basis of her life and book.

"She was very much a product of the Berlin of the 1920s which was one of the most free-thinking cities of its time," he noted.

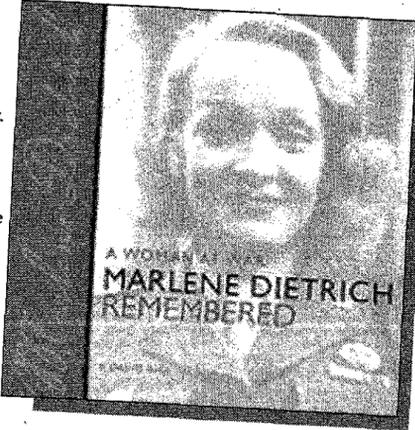
While Dietrich's freewheeling love life, gender-bending dress and staunch individualism have been written about many times over — an Amazon.com search lists more than 4,000 available books either directly about her or with reference to her.

Yet, for all that, Riva said, his grandmother remains more an icon that a flesh and blood character leading Dietrich herself to once famously proclaim: "I am not a myth."

With that in mind, Riva said he hopes his work provides a fresh perspective with which to view his grandmother's life and work.

"I hope to provide the missing piece to the puzzle," he said.

Her actions during the war — and afterward —



provide that piece, according to her grandson.

"Here she was raising money for the Allies to buy bombs which, essentially, would be dropped on the heads of her relatives," he said.

Nor was she afraid of seeing the war close up.

In addition to appearing during official USO shows, Riva said his grandmother would often privately visit the soldiers at the front as well, in a standard military uniform provided by Gen. George S. Patton.

"There was a time when she and her driver ended up behind enemy lines and, coming back, the troops didn't realize who she was until she showed them her (famous) legs," Riva said. "After that, 'Legs' became the password for the 101st Airborne."

Dietrich's film career wound down after the war and, while she maintained an active schedule of personal appearances, she became something of a recluse.

That image was perpetuated by fellow film star Maximilian Schell's 1980s documentary which featured extensive interviews with Dietrich — but no visuals of her.

"Of all her grandchildren, I was probably the closest to her because I was the youngest and the most interested in show business," he said.

"If you see TV footage of her shows there's usually a little boy who comes up on stage to hand her flowers and that's me."

As an adult, Riva would serve as her agent. How does Riva recall his legendary grandmother?

"She was a German soldier's daughter, with all that implies," he said. "That doesn't make for the best mother, of course, but, as a grandmother she was a great pal the best you could ever have."

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Angry residents put brakes on Oakwood medical facility

BY KURT KUBAN
STAFF WRITER

Hundreds of Canton residents showed up at the Canton Planning Commission meeting last week to protest a proposal by Dearborn-based Oakwood Healthcare Systems to build a major medical facility at the northwest corner of Beck and Geddes roads.

Oakwood has requested that the township alter a planned development district (PDD) agreement on 55 acres owned by Singh Development to allow it to build a medical facility that could be expanded to a full hospital in the future. Oakwood wants to purchase the property from Singh, which has an agreement with the township to build single-family homes and apartments on the parcel of land.

The property is currently zoned for residential, and would have to be rezoned to medical office and hospital use for Oakwood to proceed with its plans.

By some estimates, about 500 people showed up to protest the plan, saying the project would hurt property values and quality of life in an area of new homes.

The planning commission did not take action on the request, but rather tabled the issue to

give Oakwood representatives a chance to answer some of the questions that were raised by residents at the meeting.

Canton Township Supervisor Tom Yack said it may not matter, because he has requested that Singh officials withdraw the request to have the PDD altered, which would end the issue. Yack was not at the meeting, but has watched the tape, and said the response from residents was enough to tell him the facility is not compatible with the area.

"Sometimes institutional uses, such as schools or medical facilities are acceptable projects in these PDD areas. In this case, it's not an acceptable project," he said.

Still, Oakwood attorney Stephen Estey said Oakwood has every intention of coming back before the planning commission, probably in late November or early December. Right now, he said Oakwood is only planning a 55,000-square foot medical facility, similar to Oakwood's facility at Canton Center and Warren roads. He did acknowledge, however, if growth dictates it, there could be a hospital at the site, but it could be as much as a 12-year process. Even if that happens, though, he said 20 of the 55 acres would remain a preserved

wetland with walking trails.

He said the residents should be happier with that proposal than Singh's plan to build multifamily apartments.

"This project would enhance the overall area," he said. "We believe a \$60-70 million medical facility is much more attractive than apartments for the homeowners in the area. We think it would be more beneficial to their property values."

Resident Kiki Glesneski, who lives directly next to the proposed facility, completely disagrees. She was one of many people who spoke up at the meeting.

Glesneski said Oakwood's plans are too vague, and she has no doubt that the goal is to build a massive hospital that could be as large as 800,000 square feet and include towers that could be six stories high. She said the township's master plan and current zoning are for residential and that should not change.

"Those of us who live here don't want this in our backyards," she said. "We have no problem with Oakwood building a medical facility somewhere in Canton — it would be great for the community. But this is a huge monstrosity that will be in a residential area within 10 years."

Resident 'had to go' help after Katrina

BY CAROL MARSHALL
STAFF WRITER

For two weeks, Canton resident Nancy Malone watched the coverage of Hurricane Katrina's aftermath. And for two weeks, she agonized about the battered Gulf Coast.

Should she hit the road, not knowing where or how to help, or should she just go about the task of collecting money and supplies to send for relief efforts?

On the morning of Sept. 16, Malone woke up with tears in her eyes, and knew she had to go.

She had been for two weeks rounding up supplies and money to help the survivors of the hurricane, and by mid-September, she had raised more than \$10,000.

'HAD TO GO'

"It was like I just had to go. People had donated money, and someone donated a truck, and people had just opened up their hearts and gave so much. I had to follow through," Malone said.

It started when she told five people — family and friends — that she was raising money. People started sending money. Then they started sending supplies. Then people started offering to make the trip to deliver the goods. The women at her mother's church back in Minnesota sent 50 quilts. Her daughter's cross country team made fleece blankets. Then more money came, and more help, as calls from around the country started making their way into Malone's voice mail.

"It all happened so fast, I almost wanted to say, 'Stop!' but I couldn't," Malone said.

Malone loaded up four trucks with water, blankets, and emergency supplies, and, along with her two brothers and a friend from Ann Arbor, hit the road and headed for Biloxi, Miss.

The foursome wasn't sure where they would go, or how they would help, but when they got to Mississippi, they found a group at a Methodist Church that was begging for volunteers to help. Malone had wanted to go south with the Red Cross, but quickly realized that because the Red Cross is responsible for first response, the organization is very limited in the kinds of help it can offer.

"The Red Cross helps a lot, and it's a very helpful organization which can take care of the big things that have to be done. But going as a renegade, I could do so much more," she said.

She wasn't alone. She met dozens, if not hundreds, of people who like her had just hit the road, with no official direction and in no sanctioned capacity. They found on their own the best places to help, she said.

"Some people worked on cutting down the trees that had fallen onto houses and cars. Some covered up the damaged roofs with tarps. Other people went to the Humane Society to help with the animals," Malone said.

Malone, herself, decided to pick up water and ice and deliver them in the streets. As a physical therapist, Malone

was also able to help deliver basic medical care to people who had decided to stay in their homes and communities. And a surprising number of people did stay.

"I met this couple — they were in their 80s — and they were sleeping on cots outside their home, and they had no food, no running water and their house was filled with sewage. But they wouldn't go to a shelter because it lacked dignity," Malone said.

Some of the survivors had to be approached very carefully by volunteers.

"We wanted to help clean up debris, but people were very protective of their property. Even though their homes had been destroyed, and it looked like debris to us, it was all they had left. It was their debris," Malone said.

Malone was able to help with cleaning up a school and two churches, and after two weeks of working 12-hour days in the stifling heat and barely hopeful conditions, she had to return to Canton and her children, her job and her graduate studies.

But she's going back. "I'm going to return in June or July next year," she said, as when she goes she hopes to be able to contribute in a significant way to the rebuilding of the Gulf Coast.

In the meantime, she's set up an organization, Hands of Light in Action, to collect goods and donations, as well as other volunteers. For more information on how to help, visit online at handsoflightinaction.org.

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3rd Course: (Choose 1 of the following)
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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

Church fair
The First Congregational Church of Wayne is holding its 60th annual holiday fair 9:30 a.m.-8 p.m. today (Nov. 2) and Friday, Nov. 3. The church, which is located at 2 Towne Square in downtown Wayne, will feature lunch (a la carte) from 11 a.m.-1 p.m., and dinner from 5-7 p.m. (\$7.50 for adults and \$3.50 for children). The event will also feature items for sale including aprons, attic treasures, books, boutiques, candy, gift baskets and more. There will also be a raffle. For more information, please call the church at (734) 729-7550.

Crafters needed
Crafters are needed for the 18th annual juried arts and crafts show Saturday, Nov. 18, at Sts. Peter and Paul Church Hall, 750 N. Beech Daly, Dearborn Heights. For more information, call Virginia or Deb at (734) 522-9653 or (248) 348-6823.

Rummage sale
A rummage sale benefiting Motor City Youth Brass Band will be held 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 11, at VFW Post 345, 27345 Schoolcraft, just east of Inkster Road, Redford. Clothing, toys, small appliances and other household items will be available for sale. Refreshments also will be sold. Tables also are available for rent tables for \$25. Funds raised will support the newly developed youth brass band program under the auspices of Motor City Brass Band. For more information, or to register for a rental table, contact Laurie at motorcity-brassband@yahoo.com.

New Year's Eve party
Urban Singles presents "Ring in the New Year," with live entertainment from Jimmy Howard and Company Sunday, Dec. 31. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.; the party goes until 1 a.m. The party takes place at the Livonia Elks, 3117 Plymouth Road in Livonia (between Merriman and Middlebelt). Tickets are \$50 per person until Dec. 8; \$60 after Dec. 8, and cover dinner and beverage. Dinner is served at 7:30 p.m. Overnight accommodations will be available. Deadline for tickets is Friday, Dec. 22. For more information, call Linda, (734) 507-9173, or Mary Ann, (734) 654-0115.

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, 3117 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 Friday 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.

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 50. 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.

Dyer Center
The Wayne-Westland school district's Dyer Senior Adult Center offers activities Monday-Thursday at the center, on Marquette between Wayne and Newburgh roads. Mondays, Senior Chorus at 1:30 p.m.; Tuesdays, arts, crafts and needlework at 9:30 a.m.; Wednesdays, kitchen band, 10 a.m., bingo at 1 p.m.; Thursdays, ceramics, arts, crafts at 9:30 a.m.

ORGANIZATIONS

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

John Elbe at (734) 414-3401 or Curt Gottlieb at (734) 525-8445.

Vietnam Vets
The Plymouth-Canton Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 528, meet at 7:30 p.m. the second Monday of every month at the Plymouth VFW Post 6695, on S. Mill Street, just north of Ann Arbor Road. If you served in the U.S. military between 1964 and 1975, even if not, "in country" (combat zone) you are still eligible to become a member. Visit the Web site at www.mihometown.com/oe/PlymouthCantonVVA for more information.

Friends of library
The Friends of the William P. Faust Public Library organization meets at 2 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month at the library, 6123 Central City Parkway. Call (734) 326-6123. Meetings last about one hour and are open to the public. The group also holds a book sale during regular library hours at the library.

In Harmony
The Wayne Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society meets at 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays at Kirk of Our Savior Presbyterian Church, 36660 Cherry Hill, west of Wayne Road, Westland. Gentlemen interested in the chapter's Renaissance Chorus or who enjoy quartetting can call membership chairman Bob Wolf at (734) 421-1652, or attend a rehearsal.

Civil Air Patrol
Emergency service is just one of the congressionally mandated missions of the Civil Air Patrol, which includes ground and air search-and-rescue operations. The Civil Air Patrol, which is the official U.S. Air Force auxiliary, is made up of civilian volunteers. To learn more about CAP or training as

an air crew or ground team member, contact the Willow Run Composite Squadron (MI-260). Call Capt. Dane Hansen, deputy commander/recruiter, at (734) 485-3021 or visit the Web site www.members.home.net/capliberators/.

Habitat help
The Western Wayne affiliate of Habitat for Humanity is seeking volunteers to help with building homes, office duties and fund-raising. No experience necessary. Training will be provided. Call (734) 459-7744.

Veteran's Haven
Veteran's Haven operates a car, boat, camper and real estate-donation program. Donations are tax-deductible. For information, call (734) 728-0527. Food is distributed to veterans once a month throughout the month and there is a supplemental food program 9 a.m. to noon Wednesdays. The Veteran Haven's Outreach Center 4924 S. Wayne Road two blocks south of Annapolis in Wayne. Any honorably discharged Veteran that is in need or homeless and wants a better quality of life can call (734) 728-0527.

Pet-A-Pet
The Pet-A-Pet animal visitation program provides pet therapy with the help of volunteers. Pets should be friendly, well-behaved and must have current vaccinations. There is a \$5 membership fee. Volunteer opportunities are available at Hope Nursing Care Center, 6:30 p.m. the third Tuesday of the month (Marie Johnson, (734) 326-1200), and Marquette House, 10:30 a.m. the second Wednesday of the month (Lorna Johnson, (734) 425-1681). There are also openings at Garden City Hospital, 3 p.m. the fourth Thursday of the month (Stacy Suida, (734) 458-4392).

Zonta Club

The Zonta Club of Northwest Wayne County, a service club to advance the status of women, meets every month on the fourth Monday at the Holiday Inn, Livonia. For more information, call Pat Harris at (734) 420-2920

Franklin PTSA

The Franklin High School PTSA is seeking members. Membership is open to those who care about the schools and the community. Members need not have a student in the school. Price is \$3 for students, \$5 for adults. Checks should be made payable to Franklin PTSA and sent to 31000 Joy, Livonia MI 48150.

Tutorial program

A tutoring program for students is offered at the Salvation Army Wayne-Westland Corps Community Center, 2300 Venoy in Westland. The program, 3:45-5:15 p.m. Mondays and Tuesdays, is for students 9 and older in Wayne, Westland and Romulus. For information on participating or volunteering, call Tyrone Peterson, (734) 722-3660. Tutors need to have at least a high school education.

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. 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. 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.

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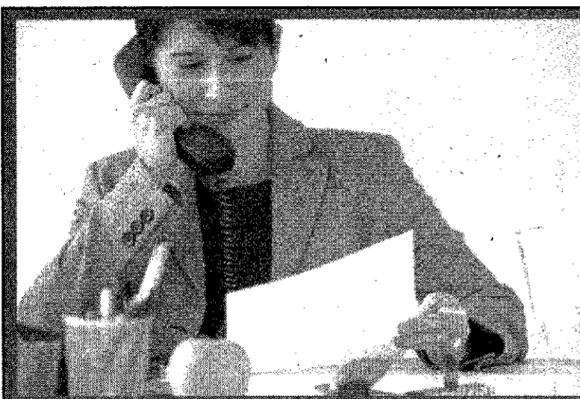
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If you want to submit an item for the religion calendar, fax it to (734) 591-7279 or write: Religion Calendar, Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150. The deadline for an announcement to appear in the Thursday edition is noon Monday.

NOVEMBER

Crafts and more

Christmas gifts, jewelry, attic treasures, bake sale from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Nov. 3-4, at Redford Aldersgate United Methodist Church, 10000 Beech Daly. Lunch is from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Proceeds benefit mission and church programs. Call (313) 937-3170.

Laugh out loud

With comedian Thor Ramsey at 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 3, at Ward Presbyterian Church, Ward Presbyterian Church, Northville. Tickets \$5, advance purchase recommended. Free child care provided. Ramsey has appeared on A&E network and was a semifinalist in Comedy Central's Laugh Riots competition. He presently hosts the syndicated family-friendly comedy series, *Bananas*. Call (248) 374-5920.

Haiti dinner buffet

At 5:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 4, at First United Methodist Church, 209 Washenaw at Washington, Ypsilanti. Donation is \$18 adults, \$8 children age 11 and under. A benefit for The Haiti School Project, a plan to build and improve schools in northern Haiti. For information and tickets, call (313) 278-4849.

Monthly dance

Presented by Bethany Suburban West, a Catholic organization providing peer support for the divorced and separated of all faiths, 8 p.m. to midnight (doors open at 7:30 p.m.) Saturday, Nov. 4, at St. Robert Bellarmine, 27101 W. Chicago at Inkster Road. Cost is \$10 and includes refreshments. For information, call (734) 261-5716.

Vegetarian holiday testing

At 11 a.m., 12:45 p.m. or 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 5, at Metropolitan Seventh Day Adventist School Gymnasium on Haggerty, north of Five Mile, Plymouth. Reserved tickets at \$14 adults, \$5 ages 6-12. Call (734) 459-0472. Make checks payable to Metro SDA School and send to Holiday Tasting, 695 N. Ridge Road, Canton, MI 48187-4635.

Fundamentalism

A Pastoral Concern. In biblical times the Word in the Scriptures was alive and applied to every situation. Fundamentalism freezes the Word at the time it was written. The pastoral challenge is to make the scriptural Word alive in every age, culture, and social situation. This two-part series will critique fundamentalism's approach to the Scriptural Word. David J. Conrad, Director of Faith Formation, presents Part One: A Descriptive Definition of Fundamentalism, Fundamentalism as a Theological, Pastoral, Social, Personal, and Evangelical Challenge from 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 8. Part Two: An extended analysis of the theology of Fundamentalism, and the Catholic Church's understanding of the topics in question from 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 15, in the Fellowship Hall (church building), St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington Road, north of Six Mile Road, Livonia. Call (734) 425-5950.

Hymn festival

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church opens its 2006-2007 Concert Series at 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 10, with a very special Hymn Festival led by noted Lutheran musician David Cherwien, director of the National Lutheran Choir based out of Minneapolis, and leader in the use of organ improvisation. Choirs from area congregations will be participating in the event which is open to the public with a freewill offering being taken. Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church is at 14175 Farmington Road, north of I-96 at exit 174, Livonia. For more information, call Mark Lohmeyer, music director, at (734) 522-6830.

Singles event

Cards, games and potluck presented by Bethany Suburban West, a Catholic organization providing peer support for the divorced and separated of all faiths, Friday, Nov. 10, at St. Linus Activity Center, 6466 Evangeline, Dearborn Heights. For details, call Michele at (313) 996-8644.

Crafters wanted

Show is from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 11, at Community Free Will Baptist Church, 33031 Cherry Hill, west of Yeno, Westland. Table rental is \$20. Mail registration fee by check or money order to Community Free Will Baptist Church, P.O. Box 851349, Westland, MI 48186. For more information, call Marge at (734) 729-2578 or Jean at (734) 421-0733.

Bethany gathering

Bethany Suburban West, a Catholic organization providing peer support for the divorced and separated of all faiths, is gathering to hear Air Margaritaville play on Saturday, Nov. 11, at the Last Lap Cafe, 27758 Warren, Westland. Call (734) 513-9479 for details.

Classical Bells concert

Michigan's premier handbell ensemble presents a Raise the Roof with a con-

cert at 4 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 12, at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 W. Six Mile, Livonia. The performance also features Chorale and Joseph Daniel, organist. Tickets are \$10 at the door. Groups of 20 or more, call (734) 414-9940. All proceeds benefit the Fellowship Hall building fund. For more information, call St. Matthew's church at (734) 422-6038.

Bagpipe entertainment

During St. Andrew's Day Dinner on Sunday, Nov. 12, The St. Andrew's Bagpipe Band will also perform during the worship service, at St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford. Tickets for the dinner are \$10 for adults, \$5 children. Call (313) 534-7730 for reservations

Thanksgiving bingo party

Doors open at 5 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 12, at Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church and Hellenic Center, 36375 Joy, Westland. Cost is \$8 for admission. Must be age 18 or older to play. Prizes include all of the Thanksgiving necessities including turkeys, hams, basket of plenty. Hall phone is (734) 525-3550.

SOUEL

Students Of Upper Elementary Activity Night from 6:30-9:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 17, at St. Aidan Catholic Church Activity Center, 17500 Farmington Road, north of Six Mile Road, Livonia. The theme is pirates. There is a best-dressed pirate prize. Pillage the free pizza and ice cream. For fifth- and sixth-graders (feel free to bring a friend). No registration required. Contact David Conrad at (734) 425-5950.

Breakfast meeting

Monthly meeting for Bethany Suburban West, a Catholic organization providing peer support for the divorced and separated of all faiths, 9:30 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 18, at Leon's Family Dining, 30149 Ford Road, Garden City. All separated, divorced and singles welcome. For details, call (734) 513-9479.

Sisterhood luncheon

For paid-up members of Congregation Beit Kodesh Sisterhood at 1 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 19, Canton Harry Sturm will delight with a concert of traditional Jewish melodies. Members are requested to bring in new, unopened toiletries to be donated to a local charity. For information on membership or to RSVP, call (248) 477-8974.

Hanukkah gift shoppe

Congregation Beit Kodesh Sisterhood Hanukkah/Judaic gift shoppe opens from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Sundays beginning Nov. 19 and continues to Dec. 10. Selection includes holiday gift wrap, chocolate coins, dreidels, candles, electric and traditional menorahs and many Judaic gift items. Congregation Beit Kodesh is located at 31840 W. Seven Mile, Livonia.

Thanksgiving choir festival

More than 100 voices will join in celebrating Thanksgiving with a music festival featuring choral anthems accompanied by brass, handbells and organ as well as an audience sing-along of familiar Thanksgiving hymns at 4 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 19, at First United Methodist Church, 45201 North Territorial, one mile east of Beck, Plymouth. Participating choirs are from First United, Our Lady of Good Counsel, First Presbyterian, St. John's Episcopal, and First Baptist. Brass players from the Plymouth Community Band led by Carl Battishill will add to the festivities. Admission is free but an offering will be received to benefit a local charity. Call (734) 453-5280.

Messiah

4 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 26, at the historic Cathedral of the Most Blessed Sacrament, 9844 Woodbridge at Trowbridge, Detroit. The concert is performed by the Archdiocesan Chorus and orchestra. Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$15 at door. Call (313) 865-6300, ext. 227 or visit www.aodonline and click on calendar.

Blood drive

Red Cross blood drive 2-8 p.m. Monday, Nov. 27, at St. John's Episcopal Church, 574 South Sheldon, Plymouth. Call Carolyn Libeau at (734) 455-5395 to make an appointment of just drop in.

Christmas Hope tour

Featuring NewSong and Todd Agnew with special guest Rachel Lampa, also author Donna VanLiere Tuesday, Nov. 28, at Faith Lutheran Church, 37635 Dequindre, Troy. Tickets are \$18 advance, \$20 at door. Call (248) 627-5800 or (888) 627-5808.

Worship service

All are welcome to attend 11 a.m. worship service Sundays, at Good Shepherd Reformed Church, 6500 N. Wayne at Hunter, Westland. Join us at 7 p.m. Tuesdays in November and December as Pastor Louise Monacelli introduces The Jesus Experience, a series of videos offering insight into the people and situations God used to expand the church around the world. For more information, call (734) 721-0800.

Bridging the holidays

A program designed to help families work through the holidays and special occasions without their loved one, includes a small memorial 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 29, at St. Cletus Catholic Church, 26256 Ryan, Warren. Winter memorial 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec.

2, at Best Western Hotel, 16999 South Laurel Park Drive, Livonia. Come to honor and celebrate the lives of your loved one. All programs are non-denominational. No charge. RSVP requested by Nov. 27, at (800) 770-9859. Refreshments provided.

UPCOMING

Crafters wanted

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

Christmas craft show

Featuring more than 85 crafters 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 2, at St. Thomas a'Becket Catholic Church, 555 S. Lilley at Cherry Hill, Canton. Admission is \$2, under age 12 free. Bake sale and lunch available. Call (734) 981-1333.

Vespers and Nativity concert

Sponsored by the Council of Orthodox Christian Churches of Metropolitan Detroit (COCC) 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 3, at St. Clement Ohridski Macedonian-Bulgarian Orthodox Church, 19600 Ford Road, Dearborn. The evening begins with a Vespers service celebrated by priests from COCC member churches and sung by the COCC's Inter-Orthodox Choir. Following the service, the choir will sing a concert of Orthodox liturgical and para-liturgical music for the Nativity season and selected Eastern and Western European Advent and Christmas carols. The story of St. Nicholas and gifts for children will follow the concert. Refreshments will be served.

The evening is free of charge and open to the public. A freewill offering will be collected. For more information, call (313) 366-0677 or send e-mail to KopistianskyVickie@sbcglobe.net.

Education pilgrimage

The third annual education pilgrimage of faith and hope to El Salvador is being organized by our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church in Plymouth, assisted by CRISPAZ (Christians for Peace in El Salvador). The pilgrimage will take place from Feb. 11-18, 2007. This is an intensive learning experience with special emphasis given to the voice and experience of the poor and marginalized. You will visit martyr sites, grassroots organizations, a rural community, and hear speakers on the history, politics, and economy of El Salvador. For details, call coordinator Richard Dahlke at (734) 455-6474.

ONGOING

Worship service

At 10:30 a.m. Sundays at New Beginnings United Methodist Church, 16175 Delaware at Puritan, Redford. Congregation is hearing lessons from 1 Peter. For more information, call (313) 255-6330.

Adult literacy classes

Available for those wishing to improve their reading and writing skills. Open to adults age 18 and over. Trained tutors available for day and evening hours. Call (734) 421-0472. Leave your name and phone number and someone will be in contact with you.

Ladies Bible studies

Began Tuesday, Sept. 12, at Detroit First Church of the Nazarene, 21260 Haggerty, Northville. Call (248) 348-7600. Women of the Word offer the Life Change Study of the book of Genesis by NavPress from 9:30-11:15 a.m. (\$15 registration fee includes interdenominational materials and free child care for ages through 5, and a study of the Patriarchs by Beth Moor from 6:45-8:15 p.m. (\$20 fee and no child care).

Personal ministry

Due Season Christian Church is a non-denominational, multicultural, full gospel church that offers Sunday worship services at 10 a.m. and Tuesday night Bible study at 7:15 p.m. Services are currently held at Stevenson High School on Six Mile, west of Farmington Road, Livonia. All are welcome. For information, call (248) 960-8063 or visit www.DueSeason.org.

Farmington Women Aglow

Meets from 5-8 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month at the Farmington Community Library, 32737 W. 12 Mile. For more information, call Linda Boone at (248) 476-1053.

Bible and playtime

For moms and tots began 10-11 a.m. Wednesdays at Vineyard Church of Farmington Hills 29200 Shiawassee (by Middlebelt and Nine Mile). No charge. For information, call (248) 766-0143.

Scripture studies

From 7-8:30 p.m. Mondays in the lower level of Our Lady of Loretto Church, 513 Mile and Beech Daly, Redford. Call (313) 534-9000.

TOPS

Stands for Take Off Pounds Sensibly, the group meets at 7 p.m. every Thursday evening at St. Thomas a'Becket Church, 555 S. Lilley, Canton. Weigh-in is from 6:15-6:55 p.m. It is a weight support group that encourages members to lose weight sensibly and keep it off. For more information, call Mary at (734) 394-1328.

Learner's Bible study

At 7 p.m. Mondays, in Room A101, at Ward Presbyterian Church, 40000 W. Six Mile, Northville. Call (248) 374-5920.

Church service

Loving God by loving people, meets at 10 a.m. Sunday at Westwood Community Church, 6500 N. Wayne Road at Hunter, Westland. Doughnuts and coffee served. Call (734) 254-0093.

Senior activities

Gathering for seniors 50 years and older at 11:30 a.m. on the third Friday of every month at Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh at Plymouth, Livonia. For more information, call (734) 464-0990. Put together a salad dish and come out and meet other seniors. Lunch is served followed by fellowship with some games and stories.

Church activities

St. James Presbyterian Church offers a Thursday dinner at 6 p.m. for \$5 prepared by Susan Navarro. The Cookie Lady, followed by Bible study at 7 p.m. and Chancel Choir rehearsal at 8 p.m.; Thrift store is open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. every Saturday; 10 a.m. women's study group second Saturday of the month, and Sunday worship at 10 a.m. (nursery available) and children's class at 10:15 a.m. at 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford. Call (313) 534-7730.

Eucharistic adoration

The monthly program of Parish Prayer and Eucharistic Adoration continues the third Wednesday of each month at St. Michael's Church of Livonia, corner of Plymouth and Hubbard roads. The

church will be open for worship from 10 a.m. until the 7 p.m. Benediction service. For information, call (734) 261-5331.

Worship services

All are welcome to attend worship service at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Five Mile and Inkster roads, Livonia. Service is held at 10 a.m. every Sunday with an education hour all for ages at 9 a.m. Call (734) 422-1470.

Unity of Livonia

Services at 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sundays at 28660 Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster roads. Call (734) 421-1760.

Shabbat services

The doors of Congregation Beit Kodesh, a Conservative synagogue at 31840 W. Seven Mile, between Farmington and Merriman, Livonia, are open to the Jewish community of southeastern Michigan. Call (248) 477-8974.

Bet Chaverim

Services are open to all living in the western counties including Canton, Plymouth, Livonia, and Northville. The congregation follows traditions of Reform Judaism. Interfaith families welcome to attend services at 321 S. Ridge, south of Cherry Hill, Canton. Call (734) 646-3864 for information or visit www.betchaverim.com.

Detroit World Outreach

A nondenominational church with cutting edge drama productions, energized contemporary music, high-tech video and lighting, programs for kids and teens, for college students, singles, married adults and seniors.

Services are at 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sunday (6:30 p.m. the first Sunday of the month), Sunday school for all ages at 10 a.m. and Wednesdays at 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. Call (313) 255-2222.

Trinity Episcopal Church

Sunday Services at 8 a.m. and 10 a.m., Wednesday service at 6:15 p.m., Bible Studies and Worship Center for all ages, at 11575 Belleville Road, (four miles south of Michigan Avenue), Belleville. Parents with Young Children Bible Study at 6 p.m. Sundays, includes dinner and child care. Call (734) 699-3361.

Shabbat Rocks

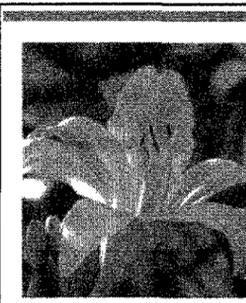
A musical celebration precedes traditional Shabbat service once a month at Adat Shalom Synagogue, 29901 Middlebelt in Farmington Hills. For more information, call (248) 851-5100 or visit www.adatshalom.org.

English classes

Conversational English as a Second Language classes are being offered for adults of all ages and backgrounds at 7 p.m. Monday and Tuesday at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia. Tutors will work on a one-to-one ratio to help students better understand and speak the English language. No charge. To register, call (734) 525-0191 or (734) 522-6830.

Sunday school

Congregation Beit Kodesh, located at 31840 Seven Mile, between Farmington and Merriman, Livonia, is registering children, age 4 and up, for Sunday school. Financial assistance available. Special discounts for new members. For more information, call (248) 477-8974.



ANNE E. BAKHAUS

October 28, 2006. Age 96. Wife of the founder and former owner of Cloverdale Farms Dairy of Plymouth. Beloved wife of the late Herman. Dear mother of William M. (Shirley) Bakhaus. Grandmother of Michael. Sister of Freda Gale, Carl Schuster, Mary Alice Beyer and Gretchen Heeren. Visitation was held on Tuesday and Wednesday at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home of Plymouth. Funeral Services were held on Thursday at 11 am from St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church of Plymouth. Contributions suggested to the church or Hospice Advantage.



AUDREY GALLOWAY-BROWER

Age 76, former resident of Redford Township for over 40 years. Passed away in Rocklin, California, October 28, 2006. She will be forever missed by her sons Mike and Rob; her daughters Vickie, Diane, and Denise; her 2 sisters, 1 brother, 29 grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren, and the many friends she touched throughout her life.



CHARLENE EVELYN MCCORKEL PARROTT

of Northville (resided in Plymouth for 29 years), died October 27, 2006. She was predeceased by her husband of forty-six years, Evans Parrott. She is survived by her daughters, Linda Aranda, Marsha Parrott-Boyle, Beth Parrott (Robert Hocaloski) and her son Jeffrey Parrott (Toni Staino), grandchildren, Julie Burns (Byron), Danielle Boyle, Paul and Joseph Hocaloski and great grandchildren, Megan, Samantha and Cameron Burns. She was born in Burlington, Iowa on November 22nd, 1930 to Nellie and Harry McCorkel. She graduated from the University of Iowa in 1952 with a degree in journalism and public relations. She received her Masters Degree from Eastern Michigan University in Guidance and Counseling in 1971. Corky retired from Farmington School District as a Vocational Guidance Counselor in 1992. She enjoyed many hobbies throughout her life including the symphony, traveling, reading, the theatre, and her grandchildren. A Memorial Celebration will be held on Saturday, November 4th in the Club Room at Main Centre (corner of Main and Centre Streets), Northville from 1:30 to 5:00. Memorial donations may be made to Channel 56, Purple Rose Theatre Company or the Detroit Institute for Children.

JOANNA GAJOWIAK

October 29, 2006. Resident of Garden City. Loving wife of the late John.

Passages

Obituaries, Memorials, Remembrances

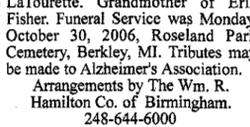
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SHIRLEY ANN WEAVER

Age 75, of Port Charlotte, Florida, died Saturday, October 28, 2006, at Fawcett Memorial Hospital in Port Charlotte. Born July 28, 1931, in Detroit, Michigan, Shirley, a retired public educator and counselor, moved with companion Barbara Sowers to Charlotte County in 1989 from Livonia, Michigan. Shirley, an avid golfer and sport enthusiast, was greatly loved by all. She is survived by Barbara Sowers of Port Charlotte, loving companion of 45 years; and cousin, Bruce Passes of Englewood, FL. Memorial services will be held in Port Charlotte and Livonia, Michigan, at a later date. Burial will be in Detroit; Michigan. Memorial contributions in lieu of flowers may be made to TideWell Hospice and Palliative Care 5955 Rand Boulevard Sarasota, FL 34238. Arrangements by Roberson Funeral Home & Crematory, Punta Gorda Chapel. Friends may visit online to sign the guest book and extend condolences to the family www.robersonfh.com.



PAULA LATOURETTE PEARSALL

Age 80, October 24, 2006. Formerly of Ypsilanti, MI. Wife of the late Garth D. Pearsall. Mother of M. Patricia Fisher and Susan Apker. Sister of Mary Jo LaTourette. Grandmother of Erin Fisher. Funeral service was Monday, October 30, 2006, Roseland Park Cemetery, Berkley, MI. Tributes may be made to Alzheimer's Association.

ARRANGEMENTS BY THE Wm. R. HAMILTON CO. OF BIRMINGHAM. 248-644-6000

PETER JAMES BABCOCK

suddenly October 31, 2006. 22 days old. Beloved son of Don and Peggy. Cherished brother of Elizabeth "Lizzie". Dear grandson of Peter and Mary Lou Davis and Emery and Lois Babcock. Peter is also survived by several loving aunts, uncles and cousins. Funeral service Saturday, November 4th, 2:00 p.m. (in state 1:00 p.m.) at Nardin Park United Methodist Church, 29887 W. Eleven Mile Rd., Farmington Hills. Visitation Friday 4:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. at Heeny-Sundquist Funeral Home, 23720 Farmington Rd., (btwn 9-10 Mile Rds.; just N. of Grand River), downtown Farmington. Memorial tributes in Peter's memory suggested to Make-A-Wish Foundation or St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

THELMA "BETTY" C. WOODARD

age 76, of Plymouth, died October 29, 2006. She was born October 4, 1930, in London, Ohio. She came to the Plymouth community in 1950, from Kentucky. She retired from Burroughs/Unisys, where she worked as an assembler. She was a member of First Baptist Church in Plymouth. She enjoyed cooking, canning, and making people happy. She is survived by her husband, Earl Edward; her daughter, Earlene (David) Brown of Milford; her grandchildren, Nathan Edward and Victoria Rochelle; and by a multitude of extended family and friends. Services were held Wednesday, November 1, at First Baptist Church, Plymouth. Arrangements entrusted to Schrader-Howell Funeral Home.

OBITUARY POLICY

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

Deadlines:

Friday 4:30 PM for Sunday
Wednesday Noon for Thursday

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9 candidates seek seats on Michigan State University board

There are two, eight-year seats on the Michigan State University Board of Trustees open on the Nov. 7 ballot.

The following biographical information was provided by the League of Women Voters of the candidates.

Incumbent MSU trustee Republican **Dee Cook** received a bachelor's degree from MSU and is the president of the Greenville Board of Education, a founder of the Montcalm Community College Citizen Committee, a trustee of the Detroit College of Business, a member of the MSU Foundation, a member of the Wharton Center Performing Arts Council and chair of two differ-

ent MSU capital campaigns.

Incumbent trustee Republican **David Porteous** is also the chairman of the MSU board, a member of the MSU College of Law Board of Trustees, a member of the Huntington National Bank Board of Directors. He is a graduate of MSU and the Cooley Law School who works as an attorney in private practice specializing in corporate and municipal law and government relations.

Democrat **Faylene Owen** is the founder of Mica Corp., marketing director for Village Green, director of Special Projects for Gov. James Blanchard and chair of the Sparrow Hospital Foundation. She is on the Board of Child Abuse Prevention

and MSU Safe Place. She is also the president of the Royal Oak PTA.

Democrat **George Perles** coached the Pittsburgh Steelers to four Super Bowl wins and is the former head coach of the MSU football team and the school's former athletic director. This is the former Army vet's first run at political office.

Green Party candidate **Lauren Elizabeth Spencer** is currently attending the school as a social relations major working toward a career as a civil rights attorney. She participates in the Multiracial Identity Experience, the Case Hall Black Caucus, the Students for Choice and lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender groups.

U.S. Taxpayer Party candidate **Robert Gale** attended Macomb Community College and MSU. He is a self-employed businessman in management and finance.

Libertarian candidate **J.P. Denoyer** is a computer programming student who has run twice for Ann Arbor City Council.

Libertarian candidate **David Raaflaub** is a graduate of the University of Michigan and Wayne State Law School.

Natural Law Party candidate and party secretary **Katherine Dern** is a senior systems analyst project leader with Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Michigan.

9 seek election to University of Michigan Board of Regents

Voters statewide get to decide who will sit on the governing boards of the University of Michigan on Nov. 7. There are two eight-year seats up for grabs in this election.

The following biographical information on the candidates for the board was generated by the League of Women Voters.

Republican **David Brandon** has been the chairman and CEO of Domino's Pizza and used to be the chairman, CEO and president of Valassis. He is a U-M graduate and has been a regent since 1998.

Republican **Susan Brown** has served

on the U-M President's Advisory Board and currently serves on the boards of the school's Museum of Art and the Ford School of Public Policy. She has been a trustee of Kalamazoo College, founder and president of the Kalamazoo Historic Conservancy for the Preservation of Art and a member of the Kalamazoo College Women's Council, and Junior League.

Democrat **Julia Donovan Darlow** is a lawyer in international law and has been president of the Michigan State Bar, chair of the Michigan Supreme Court Gender Bias Task Force, a member of the State Officers'

Compensation Commission, a trustee of Marygrove College, on the executive committee of Detroit Medical Center, chair of Hutzel Women's Hospital and a founding trustee of the Michigan Women's Foundation.

Incumbent Democrat **Kathy White** is a graduate of Princeton University, the University of Washington School of Law and the George Washington University Law School. She is a law professor at Wayne State University, registered patent attorney, White House Fellow, Fulbright Senior Scholar, vice president of the Fulbright Association, Intellectual

Property counsel for the U.S. Corps of Engineers and U.S. Army Judge Advocate General reservist.

Green Party Candidate **Edward Morin** has a bachelor's degree from Maryknoll, a master's from the University of Chicago and a Ph.D. from Loyola University. He has 30 years' experience teaching at the college level in five different universities, including U-M.

Libertarian Party Candidate **James Lewis Hudler** got his associate's degree from Jackson Community College, a bachelor's and graduate work from U-M, Eastern Michigan

University and Michigan State University. He is the alumnus adviser to the College Libertarians at U-M.

Libertarian **Eric L. Larson** has a bachelor's degree in nuclear engineering from U-M as well as a master's degree from the University of Iowa. He works for Anesthesia Medical Consultants in Grand Rapids.

Natural Law Party Candidate **Valerie Hilden** is an interior designer with an associate's degree in applied science from Baker Business college.

U.S. Taxpayer Party candidate **Karen Adams** did not respond to the survey.

2 seats are open on Wayne State board

Voters around the state will have a chance to choose two eight-year members of the Wayne State University Board of Governors on the Nov. 7 ballot.

The following biographical information appears courtesy of the League of Women Voters.

Democrat **Debbie Dingell** is a graduate of Georgetown University and has worked for General Motors for 29 years.

Incumbent Democrat **Eugene Driker** received a bachelor's degrees from WSU and was the first graduate of the Attorney General's Honors Program. He is the winner of the McCree Award for Social Justice.

Green Party candidate **Margaret Guttshall** is a 2003 graduate of WSU with a master's degree in library science and works in the school's law library.

Green Party Candidate

Michael Merriweather is a WSU student in media arts and a member of M.E.C.A.W.I., the S.D.S. and is a volunteer with Free Detroit.

U.S. Taxpayer candidate **Philip Johnson** has a bachelor's degree in political science and constitutional law, an MBA in international business and a ScD in computer science.

U.S. Taxpayer candidate **Robert Ban Bemmelen** has a bachelor's degree in pharmacy from the University of Michigan. He has worked as a pharmacist for 34 years.

Libertarian Party Candidate **Thomas Jones** is a citizen and elector.

Libertarian candidate **Thomas Jones** and Natural Law candidate **Tara Stegner** did not respond to the survey.

ABSOLUTE AUCTION

5 PROJECTS IN MICHIGAN

SAT, NOV. 4 • 1 PM • To be held at Genoa Woods Executive Center in Brighton

10 HOMES, 20 LIVE/WORK & LOFT UNITS, 79 LOTS, 3 MULTI-TH PAD UNITS, & 2 UNDEVELOPED PARCELS

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BRIGHTON "Copperleaf" Community	HOWELL "Town Commons," A Traditional Neighborhood Development	WALLED LAKE "Legato Point" Live & Work Community	FERNDALE "Legato at Brickley Place & Webster Place" Live & Work Community	HAMBURG Developer Opportunity
33 Lots *7 to Sell Absolute Previously Priced \$174,900-\$189,900	Homes & Lots 10 Homes, *3 to Sell Absolute Previously Priced \$269,000-\$309,900 46 Lots, *10 to Sell Absolute Previously Priced \$57,500-\$97,500	Developer Opportunities 3 Multi-TH Pad Units Offered Reserve 22.76± Undeveloped Acres Approved for 87 lots & 18 TH Pads - Offered Reserve	10 Live/Work & Loft Units *3 to Sell Absolute Previously Priced \$159,900-\$249,900	39± Undeveloped Acres Approved for 300 Units-Offered Reserve

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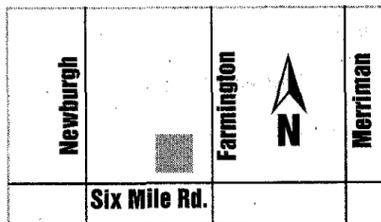
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