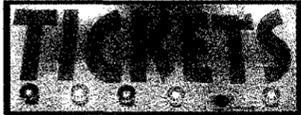


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HEALTH - C8

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Ban sought on putting snow on city streets

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

A move to punish Westland property owners for pushing snow onto city streets has touched off a flurry of opposing opinions.

Residents and businesses could face penalties, such as fines up to \$500, if they violate the ordinance proposed by Westland City Councilman James Godbout.

Godbout said he has received calls from residents complaining about neighbors who push snow back onto public streets after city workers plow through neighborhoods.

"It's not courteous, and it presents a potential hazard," he said. "And our guys work hard to clear those streets."

Godbout has asked City Attorney Angelo Plakas

to draft an ordinance. If approved, it also would prohibit property owners from moving snow onto public rights of way, generally the area between sidewalks and streets.

Resident Bob Johnson spoke against the ordinance during a Monday night Westland City Council meeting.

"We have to put the snow someplace," he said.

Ordinance supporters say property owners can pile the snow in their yards rather than in city streets.

Resident Shauna Jaynes said she saw a car accident that happened when a driver ran across snow that had been pushed onto a street in her neighborhood. If the snow had been pushed elsewhere, she told the council, "That accident would not have happened."

Jaynes warned that such an accident could result

in the city being slapped with a lawsuit.

For now, the council has delayed action on the proposed ordinance. Council President Charles Pickering plans to schedule a yet-unannounced study session so the issue can be debated.

Pickering has indicated some reservations about the ordinance, saying it appears the city would be placing more demands on residents than on itself.

Councilman Michael Kehrer also has voiced opposition to the proposal.

"I'm not going to tell anybody how to do their snow," he said.

Many homes are situated on an incline from the street, making it difficult to push snow onto the yard, Kehrer said.

When removing snow at his house, he said, "I may not be an expert, but I go with the way the wind is blowing."

Kehrer said he is worried that the proposed ordinance could pit neighbors against each other. Moreover, he questioned how the city, with only two ordinance enforcement officers, would handle complaints.

The city has nearly 21 square miles. One ordinance officer is assigned specifically to the Norway subdivision, while the other officer handles complaints elsewhere.

By contrast, Kehrer said, Livonia has 12 ordinance officers.

With spring nearing, city leaders doubt that any snow ordinance will be approved in time to have much of an impact this snow season.

Still, Godbout said he hopes to see the issue addressed before a motorist or possibly a school bus is involved in an accident that could have been avoided.



PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Hamilton Elementary fourth-grader Drake Carpenter looks at the letters sent by Staff Sgt. Bill Nichols, a member of the U.S. Air Force's 557th Expeditionary Red Horse Squadron. The letters are in response to ones sent by classmates to Drake's father who is on active duty in Iraq.

Over there: Students get letters from Iraq

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER

Staff Sgt. Bill Nichols does a variety of things as a member of the U.S. Air Force's 557th Expeditionary Red Horse Squadron (ERHS).

The public affairs officer, he gathers and distributes mail, supervises the unit's recreation center and writes articles and takes photographs that can be found on the Internet.

But his writing, in the form of letters, also can be found on a bulletin board in the hallway of Hamilton Elementary School in Westland. Nichols has taken on the task of responding to letters written to the unit by the school's fourth-graders.

"What I love about his letters is that he absolutely reads every one he gets and puts little things in his letter about what they wrote," said teacher Roberta Widrig. "He personalizes them so beautifully."

FAMILY TIES

The students decided to use what they've been learning in the classroom to write letters to student Drake Carpenter's father, who was deployed



Olivia Mastropietro reads her letter from Staff Sgt. Bill Nichols. Looking over her shoulder is Tyler Blackburn.

to Iraq in November.

Instead of doing "boring worksheets," Widrig and fellow teacher Lois Sinagra decided to have students do the real thing and write letters that were sent to the 557 ERHS.

Drake has been keeping in touch by e-mail with his father who let him know when the students' letters arrived. Within a few weeks, they

started getting letters from Nichols.

"The curriculum stresses making real world connections," said Widrig. "What's so neat is one idea to write one service person blossomed into wonderful communication back and forth."

Since the first of the year, Nichols has written some 61 letters to the students, offering advice on what to do when they get bored like read a good book.

"You can learn a lot from reading a book," he wrote.

A member of the Florida Air National Guard, Nichols has been in the military for almost 20 years. He's on his second tour of duty in Iraq and is based with the 557 ERHS at Az Asad Air Base west of Baghdad.

INFORMATION, PLEASE

In his letters, he answers the questions students have asked about him. He has one sister, no pets, plays tennis and enjoys reading. While on active duty in Iraq, he has seen President George W. Bush (in 2003), former Secretary of Defense Donald

PLEASE SEE LETTERS, A4

DEQ will drill for soil samples in city park

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Working to identify the scope of contamination in Central City Park, the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality hopes by early April to begin drilling into the ground to obtain soil and groundwater samples.

DEQ project manager Beth Vens estimated that 60-100 borings will be done, with multiple samples of varying depths at each location.

The borings, or "geoprobe" work, will be the next step in identifying the level of contam-

ination at the former Wayne County dump site.

Ultimately, the borings will help collect information that the DEQ, Wayne County and the city of Westland will use to develop a plan for cleaning up the park, which Mayor William Wild ordered fenced off after he took office in January.

Wayne County officials and former Mayor Sandra Cicirelli came under fire after it became known in November that they kept quiet for years about high levels of lead in the park.

The borings to collect soil

PLEASE SEE SAMPLES, A5

Splish, splash - Bailey pool gets makeover

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Think summer. After an often brutally cold winter season, Westland officials are promising some hot fun in the summertime with a \$105,600 project upgrading the Bailey Recreation Center's outdoor swimming pool.

That's significant for a pool that draws 10,000 visitors - many of them repeat users - during a typical summer.

"The pool's going to look sharp this year," said Parks and Recreation Director Robert Kosowski.

Why? Children will be able to climb up a 6-foot, poolside climbing wall before falling into the water and splashing away the lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer.

The pool's deep end will be changed from 12 feet to 7 feet, giving youngsters plenty of room to play while easing parents' worries.

"We're trying to make the pool more user-friendly. Parents won't have to worry

about their kids being in 12 feet of water," Kosowski said.

The pool's liner - long past its prime at 20 years old - will be replaced.

"We've been patching it, but it's just not looking good," Kosowski said.

Finally, the city will use a state grant to install a shallow-end wheelchair lift to make the pool more accessible.

Marlene Doran, who oversees a special-needs pool program at the Wayne-Westland school district's Dyer Center, embraced the decision to install a wheelchair lift.

"I think it's extremely important that our pools are totally accessible," she said. "I think this is a great step forward."

The long-awaited pool improvements have left officials more eager than usual for summer.

"We're very excited about this," Kosowski said.

For the record, the pool will open in 75 days from today (Sunday).

But, who's counting?

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Blue Man Group coming to The Palace March 24.



District to put Legacy info online

BY REBECCA JONES
STAFF WRITER

Information about the Legacy Initiative will go online and the Livonia school board may schedule a meeting to discuss the restructuring's effects on the district.

Supt. Randy Liepa said key points about the Legacy Initiative "anything from expenditures ... to how we're measuring our successes" will be posted this week as a link from the district's main Web page.

Most of this information has already been shared, Liepa said.

The purpose is to improve communication and provide "clear, straightforward information" for the public, said board President Lynda Scheel.

The controversial plan, implemented at the start of this school year, closed seven schools and reconfigured schools into upper and lower elementary buildings.

A citizen's group, Citizens for Livonia's Future, which led a failed recall effort after the board approved the plan last year, has attempted to gather district documents to show costs associated with the plan.

Members of the group have blamed the LI for a loss in

enrollment that wipes out the savings it was intended to provide.

The board may also schedule a study session to talk about the LI. The board hasn't had any meetings on the topic since September.

Trustee Tom Bailey said that this talk is overdue.

He specifically wants to discuss whether the LI has saved the amount of money it was designed to, if the new configuration can be improved, if the upper elementary schools are operating at expected levels and the "specials."

He said the district should survey every household with students in kindergarten through eighth-grade.

Bailey, who cast the only dissenting vote on the initiative, said he unloaded a "2,000-pound weight" off his chest at the school board retreat session Wednesday, March 1. At the untelevised meeting, he read from a four-page opinion he said he has written and rewritten over the past six months.

"If we started discussing any improvements or future plans at this point in the school year," he said, "are we already past the time frame needed to improve our current position? One way to look at it is, better late than never."



PHOTOS BY STEVE MCGINN

Moving in on defense against a member of the Sterling Heights Chargers are Cory Kind (left) and Megan Muzzle.

Chargers roll over Chargers in annual wheelchair game

Churchill High School hosted an annual competition last week, pitting an organized wheelchair team, the Sterling Heights Chargers, against several teams of CHS students and teachers, who took a spin at playing the game on wheels.

It was no contest on the scoreboard, as the Chargers of Sterling Heights easily topped the CHS Chargers 102-75.

But the game was about more than that. "It gave us a taste of their world for one night," said Tim Oakley, one of the 40 or so students who participated.

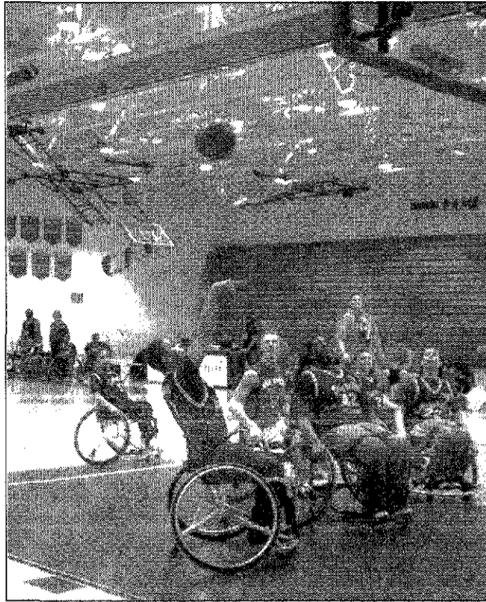
The event was free and many came to watch. About \$250 was donated by the school's student council towards the Sterling Heights Chargers.

"It gave me a chance to do something nice for our school," said Brandon Wesenberg of the event.

Melissa Westrick appreciated seeing so much support from the school, saying there aren't "many chances you can come and see something like this."

"It's really quite cool," said Bill Halvangis, student activities director, of the event.

Student Steve McGinn contributed to this report.



A member of the Sterling Heights Chargers takes a shot as teammates gather for the rebound during the game Feb. 28 at Churchill High.

Whitehead not qualified to vote in Livonia elections

Former school board Trustee Kevin Whitehead is no longer a qualified elector in Livonia.

Whitehead — whose residency was challenged, prompting him to resign his board seat last month — did not answer the challenge at the city clerk's office. He had 30 days to prove that he was still a resident, by showing a utility bill and swearing to his residency.

"The deadline was Feb. 28 for him to come into the office," said assistant city clerk Karen Tesner. "To my knowledge, he never made an appointment."

Whitehead's name was removed from the voting records, she said.

At the time of his resignation, Whitehead said he would answer the challenge. His home had a for-sale sign in front of it.

New hires bring police staffing to 102 officers

Westland has hired two new police officers, bringing the city's police force to 102 officers for the first time in a few years, Chief Daniel Pfannes said.

The hiring of Officers Jeffery Kropodra and Timothy Liess makes Westland the fourth-largest city police department in Wayne County, Pfannes said.

The new officers were sworn in for duty Monday during a City Hall ceremony attended by city officials and police department personnel.

Kropodra, 24, is a Dearborn Heights resident who has an

associate's degree from Oakland County Community College. He graduated from the Oakland County Police Academy in January 2005.

Kropodra was the class vice president and was voted as his class' best driver. He volunteers for his local church, St. Albert the Great, where he serves as festival chairman and lawn care/snow removal volunteer.

Kropodra's mother, Marty, pinned his badge on him during Monday's ceremony. His brother Tony also attended.

Liess, 37, is a Harper Woods resident who received an asso-

ciate's degree from Macomb Community College. He graduated from the Wayne County Regional Police Academy.

Liess has 13 years of experience with the Roseville Police Department. While there, he was a uniformed patrol officer, a field training officer, a SWAT team leader and an undercover narcotics officer.

He also has worked as a civilian contractor for the U.S. government. He served two tours of duty in Iraq, where he was assigned to assist in the training of Iraqi counterterrorism units and U.S. military

special forces' personnel. "Westland made Liess a job offer while he was in Iraq," Pfannes said, "and he gladly accepted."

Liess was accompanied at the swearing-in ceremony by his girlfriend, Stephanie Palembas, who pinned on his badge.

Pfannes issued a statement welcoming the new officers and said, "We are proud to have two such fine additions to our staff, and I wish both of them the best of luck in their new careers."

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DEATHS

B
Dennis (Denny) Burton
Burton, 52, of Livonia, died.

C
Thomas N. Carmody
Carmody, 76, of Plymouth, died Feb. 27.

E
Elmer East
East, 84, of Plymouth, died March 7.

M
Jack D. Malaney

M
Malaney, 83, formerly of Westland, died March 2.

Lillian Milczarek
Milczarek, 92, formerly of Garden City, died Feb. 5.

S
David A. Solomon
Solomon, 51, of Wayne, died March 8. Complete paid obituaries can be found inside today's newspaper in Passages on page C5.

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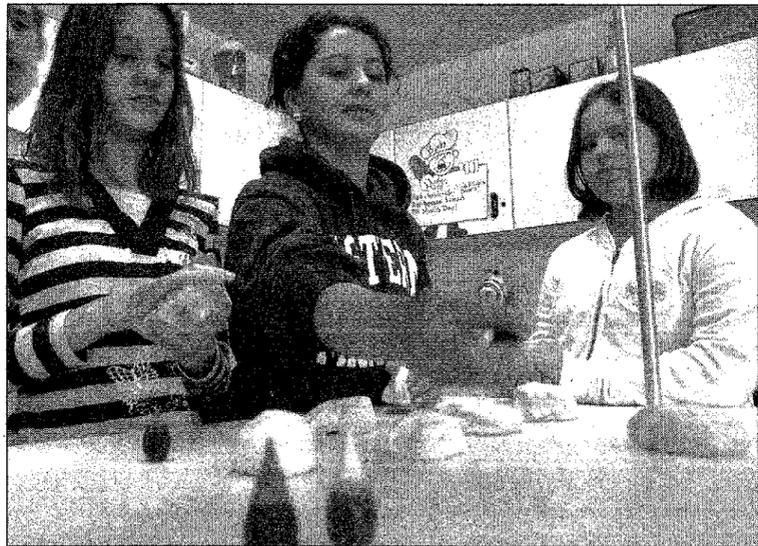
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TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Franklin senior Nancy Smith, center, works with Ashley Pyle, left, and Nicole Huff as they add dye to homemade playdough in a foods class for cognitively impaired students. Smith helps in that classroom as part of her community service class.

Learning ... with help from new friends

BY REBECCA JONES
STAFF WRITER

Teacher's helper, leader, role model, friend — students in Franklin High School's community service class play different roles working with cognitively impaired classmates.

The 39 community service students help students in the Franklin Transition Program and similar programs at other schools.

In art class, senior Heather Kiselewski held a piece of paper for a student who needed help cutting a shape for his mask. Meanwhile, teacher Betty Jo Welsh kept another eye on a student who was misbehaving with a glue stick.

"This would be a very hard class to run without the assistance of the students," Welsh said.

Kiselewski said spending time with the cognitively impaired students is the bright spot of her day.

Other students reported the same reaction, said

teacher Julie Cosgrove, who oversees and grades the community service students. They also volunteer outside of school and write essays throughout the course, describing what they learned.

"They've taken on a larger role" than classroom helpers, Cosgrove said. "They might lead a lesson or tutor students. They might start the warm-up in gym class."

The transition program for cognitively impaired students and service class are new to Franklin this year. The disabled students used to attend Churchill High School, which had student volunteers to help out, but no formal class.

Service student Andrew Goy said he's made new friends and finds that adults treat him with more respect.

"The kids are basically just other friends who I do not treat any differently than anyone else, (except) of course with some exceptions when it comes to conversational material," he wrote in

his self-evaluation last semester. "Even when I am not working with them and I am just walking to my next class, they will never miss an opportunity for a hello, a high-five or a handshake."

The community service class was introduced at an assembly last year. Interest has spread by word of mouth.

The class helped inspire some students to consider special education as a career, Cosgrove said.

Others just find that the class helps bring out their best.

"This class has helped me develop certain skills that I could apply to any career," said Samantha Tullio. "My goal is to be a nurse, and I have already learned how to interact with people of different disabilities, how to do some sign language, and having patience with people because every student learns at a different pace."

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Hearing delayed for man charged in shooting case

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

A Westland man charged with robbing and trying to kill a man visiting his residence will have to wait another week to learn whether he will face trial.

Vincent Edward Emery, 25, appeared Thursday before Westland District Judge Sandra Cicirelli for a preliminary hearing that was delayed one week.

Emery's hearing, stemming from a Feb. 3 shooting on the city's south side, was delayed after his new attorney asked for more time to review the case.

The lawyer, Jeffrey Schwartz, declined Thursday afternoon to issue any statements on Emery's behalf.

Charged as a third-time offender, Emery faces a hearing on charges of assault with intent to murder, armed robbery, felonious assault, felony firearm, and being a felon with a weapon.

If convicted, he could face penalties ranging up to life in prison. A not guilty plea has been placed on record for him.

Emery, jailed with a \$1 million cash bond set by Cicirelli, was extradited to Michigan last

month after he fled to West Virginia in a Greyhound bus, police Sgt. Michael Harhold has said.

The defendant was captured after police received an undisclosed tip that he was working for a Red Roof Inn near Huntington, W.Va., Harhold said.

Emery is accused of shooting a 29-year-old man in the left arm during a robbery inside a residence where Emery had been staying on Belding Court, in the city's Norwayne subdivision.

The victim, visiting with a 23-year-old woman who told police she had known Emery since high school, was treated at Garden City Hospital.

A co-defendant, 24-year-old Jason David Shuford, already has been ordered to stand trial in Wayne County Circuit Court. He faces charges similar to those against Emery, except Shuford isn't charged with assault with intent to murder.

Shuford is accused of holding the same gun and threatening the female visitor. If convicted, he, too, could face penalties ranging up to life in prison.

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LETTERS

FROM PAGE A1

Rumsfeld, actress Karrie Turner of the TV show *JAG* and Sean Hannity of FOX News. Even though he corresponds with his father, Drake is also getting letters from Nichols. Drake thinks it's better to write the letter, but he also likes getting them.

"I messed up the address, but it still got to Iraq," he said. "I like the letters, but I like ones from loved ones more."

Ma Lisa Williams was surprised to find out that he has no children, and Aaron Durham got answers to his questions about the weather and what Nichols does in Iraq. With such formalities out of the way, his next letter

will include a question about what else he does.

"He wrote me that it sounds like a great school and sounds like the teachers are great, too," he said.

Megan McCurry asked if he takes photographs and got a surprise answer.

"He said he's going to send some photographs, hand-writing and rocks from Iraq to the class so we can see what they're like," she said.

Letters have been trickling in from Nichols and one student waiting for his letter was Silas Davis. He's OK about that, since he'd rather have the sergeant take his time.

"I'll be happy when it comes," he said, adding that he's been writing to a brother in the Army who also is in

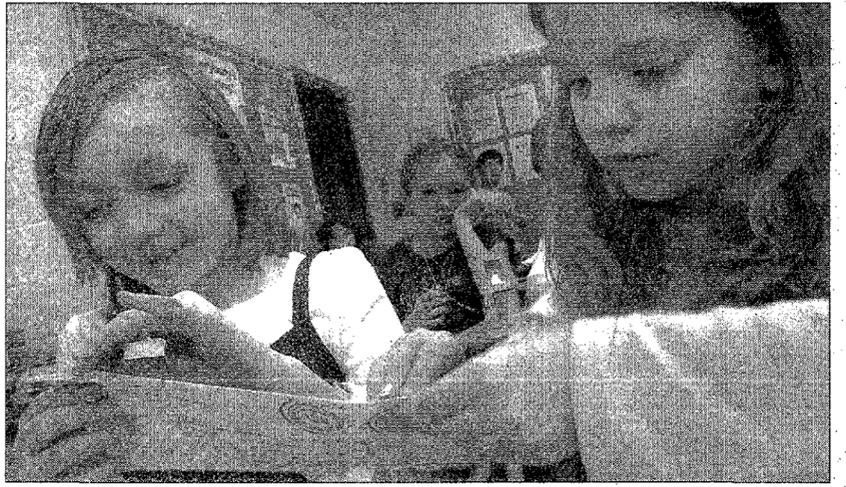
Iraq.

In preparation for the letter writing, the teachers asked students how many knew someone in the service. A lot of hands went up, according to Widrig.

"We're not sure how long they'll be there, but we plan on writing at least once a month and sending a packet of letters to him," she said.

Of the letters he has written back, one speaks volumes about life for the students. When asked if he got Christmas presents, he responded that he did, but added a thought in parenthesis: "Remember," he wrote, "every day is a gift that's why we call it 'the present.'"

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TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Emily Fry and Amanda Kohmescher open a letter from Staff Sgt. Bill Nichols of the U.S. Air Force's 557th Expeditionary Red Horse Squadron.

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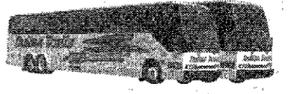
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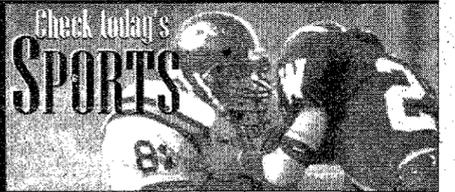
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The following resolution was duly adopted by the Garden City Hospital Finance Authority on March 6, 2007

GARDEN CITY HOSPITAL FINANCE AUTHORITY

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING NOT TO EXCEED \$48,000,000 GARDEN CITY HOSPITAL FINANCE AUTHORITY HOSPITAL REVENUE AND REFUNDING BONDS (GARDEN CITY HOSPITAL OBLIGATED GROUP) SERIES 2007A AND DETERMINING OTHER MATTERS RELATIVE THERETO.

WHEREAS, on February 1, 2007, the Garden City Hospital Finance Authority (the "Authority"), adopted a resolution entitled "Resolution Including Loan, Providing for Distribution of Preliminary Official Statement and Requesting Public Hearing" with respect to the proposed issuance by the Authority of its bonds for the benefit of Garden City Hospital, Osteopathic (the "Hospital") in order to (i) pay certain existing indebtedness of the Hospital to the Authority which will enable the Authority to refund the outstanding Authority's Hospital Revenue Bonds (Garden City Hospital Obligated Group) Series 1996A (the "Series 1996A Bonds To Be Refunded"), (ii) pay the cost of the construction, acquisition, renovation and equipping of hospital facilities (the "Project"), (iii) pay a portion of interest to accrue on the bonds, (iv) to fund a debt service reserve fund for the bonds, and (v) to pay the costs of issuing the bonds (collectively, the "Initial Proposed Financing"); and

WHEREAS, the Hospital at the February 1, 2007 meeting of the Authority, discussed with the Authority the possibility of the Authority also issuing its bonds in order to refund a portion of the outstanding Authority's Hospital Revenue and Refunding Bonds (Garden City Hospital Obligated Group) Series 1998A (the "Series 1998A Bonds To Be Refunded") (the "Additional Proposed Financing"); and

WHEREAS, on February 5, 2007, the City Council of the City of Garden City conducted a public hearing with respect to the issuance by the Authority of its bonds related to the Initial Proposed Financing; and

WHEREAS, on February 5, 2007, the City Council of the City of Garden City adopted a resolution approving the issuance by the Authority of its bonds related to the Initial Proposed Financing; and

WHEREAS, on March 5, 2007, the City Council of the City of Garden City conducted a public hearing with respect to the issuance by the Authority of its bonds related to the Additional Proposed Financing; and

WHEREAS, on March 5, 2007, the City Council of the City of Garden City adopted a resolution approving the issuance by the Authority of its bonds related to the Additional Proposed Financing; and

WHEREAS, the Authority proposes to issue its Hospital Revenue and Refunding Bonds (Garden City Hospital Obligated Group) Series 2007A (the "Series 2007A Bonds") and to enter into a hospital loan agreement (the "Loan Agreement") with the Hospital, for itself and as Obligated Group Agent on behalf of the Obligated Group (which at the time of delivery of the Series 2007A Bonds will consist of only the Hospital) providing for the lending (the "Loan") of the aggregate principal amount of not to exceed \$48,000,000 by the Authority to the Hospital to be used by the Hospital, together with other available funds of the Hospital, (i) to refund the Series 1996A Bonds To Be Refunded, (ii) to refund the Series 1998A Bonds To Be Refunded, (iii) to pay the costs of the Project, (iv) to pay a portion of the interest to accrue on the Series 2007A Bonds, (v) to fund a debt service reserve fund for the Series 2007A Bonds, and (vi) to pay the costs of issuing the Series 2007A Bonds; and

WHEREAS, the Loan Agreement will contain the terms and conditions of the Loan and the repayment thereof and provide for the execution and delivery of Note No. 10 ("Note No. 10") pursuant to the Amended and Restated Master Indenture and Security Agreement, dated as of February 15, 2007 (the "Master Indenture"), between the Hospital and Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., as trustee (the "Master Trustee"), as supplemented by Supplemental Indenture Number 10 ("Supplemental Indenture Number 10"); and

WHEREAS, the Authority desires to approve (i) the Master Indenture, (ii) an Assignment and Amendment to Mortgage, dated as of February 15, 2007, among the Hospital and U.S. Bank National Association ("Mortgage Amendment"), (iii) the Loan Agreement, (iv) Supplemental Indenture Number 10, (v) Note No. 10, (vi) the Bond Indenture (the "Bond Indenture") between the Authority and Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., as trustee (the "Bond Trustee"), providing for the terms and conditions under which the Series 2007A Bonds are to be issued and will be outstanding, (vii) Escrow Deposit Agreements, dated as of February 15, 2007, among the Authority, the Hospital and U.S. Bank National Association or Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., as the case may be, as escrow trustee (the "Escrow Deposit Agreements"), and (viii) a Bond Purchase Agreement (the "Purchase Contract") approved by the Obligated

Group and between the Authority and A.G. Edwards & Sons, Inc., as underwriter (the "Underwriter") of the Series 2007A Bonds; and

WHEREAS, the Authority is reasonably satisfied that there will be available to the Hospital from the proceeds of the Loan and other sources all the funds necessary to pay all costs of the Project, that the hospital facilities of the Hospital and other revenues pledged will produce sufficient revenues to pay the principal of, and interest on, the Loan and the Series 2007A Bonds, other costs, expenses and charges in connection with the Loan and the issuance of the Series 2007A Bonds and other charges or obligations of the Hospital which may be prior to or equal to the Loan and the Series 2007A Bonds promptly as they become due, and that the Hospital is otherwise soundly financed; and

WHEREAS, the Authority expects to receive an offer to purchase the Series 2007A Bonds from the Underwriter pursuant to the Purchase Contract submitted to the Authority by the Underwriter.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GARDEN CITY HOSPITAL FINANCE AUTHORITY, THAT:

1. Issuance of Series 2007A Bonds; Compliance with Act. The Series 2007A Bonds shall be issued pursuant to the Hospital Finance Authority Act, Act No. 38, Public Acts of Michigan of 1969, as amended (the "Act"), and the Bond Indenture. The Series 2007A Bonds shall be limited obligations of the Authority, payable solely from the sources provided by the Bond Indenture, and shall not constitute a general obligation or debt of the City of Garden City, the State of Michigan or any political subdivision thereof within the meaning of any constitutional, charter, or statutory provision or limitation. The Authority does hereby determine that the Hospital constitutes a hospital under the Act and the Loan to the Hospital in accordance with the terms of the Loan Agreement is in furtherance of the public benefit and good as set forth in the Act and is necessary to realize the objectives and purposes of the Act. The Authority does further determine that the Hospital has received all certifications and determinations required by Section 47 of the Act. The Authority does further determine, based on information supplied by the Hospital, that the Authority is reasonably satisfied that there will be available to the Hospital from the proceeds of the Loan and other sources all the funds necessary to pay all costs of the Project, that the hospital facilities of the Hospital and other revenues pledged will produce sufficient revenues to meet the principal of and interest on the Loan and the Series 2007A Bonds, other costs, expenses and charges in connection with the Loan and the issuance of the Series 2007A Bonds, and the other charges or obligations of the Hospital which may be prior to or equal to the Loan and the Series 2007A Bonds promptly as they become due, and that the Hospital is otherwise soundly financed. The Authority adopts the Plans of Refunding set forth in the Bond Indenture.

The principal of and redemption premium, if any, and interest on the Series 2007A Bonds shall be paid from the sources and at the times provided in this Authorizing Resolution and the Bond Indenture.

2. Approval of Documents. The Authority hereby approves the following agreements and instruments substantially in the form presented to the Authority and on file with the Authority. The Chairperson, the Treasurer or the Secretary of the Authority (each an "Authorized Officer"), subject to the additions, corrections and changes permitted by paragraph 3 hereof, is hereby authorized and directed to execute, deliver and accept the agreements and instruments to which the Authority is a party:

- A. Master Indenture
- B. Mortgage Amendment
- C. Loan Agreement
- D. Note No. 10 in the form contained in Supplemental Indenture Number 10
- E. Bond Indenture
- F. Supplemental Indenture Number 10
- G. Escrow Deposit Agreements
- H. Purchase Contract (including the Letters of Representation attached thereto).

3. Authorized Completion, Corrections and Changes in Documents. Approval of each of the Master Indenture, the Mortgage Amendment, the Loan Agreement, Note No. 10, Bond Indenture, Supplemental Indenture Number 10, Escrow Deposit Agreements and Purchase Contract is subject to and includes approval of such completions, corrections and other changes therein as are determined by any Authorized Officer of the

Authority to be necessary and not to materially or substantially adversely alter any essential provision thereof and as are approved by the Authority's counsel and bond counsel. The following terms of the Series 2007A Bonds shall be as approved by the Authorized Officer executing the Purchase Contract:

- (a) The Series 2007A Bonds shall bear an interest rate of the date of delivery and the Series 2007A Bonds shall be issued in the aggregate principal amount of not to exceed \$48,000,000;
- (b) The original issue discount for any Bond shall not exceed 10%;
- (c) The discount to, or the compensation paid to, the Underwriter shall not exceed 0.65% of the principal amount of the Series 2007A Bonds;
- (d) The true interest cost of the Series 2007A Bonds shall not exceed 6% per annum;
- (e) The Series 2007A Bonds have a maximum principal payment in any year of not to exceed \$4,000,000;
- (f) The Series 2007A Bonds shall be subject to optional redemption not earlier than August 15, 2012 and at a premium not greater than 2%.

4. Official Statement. An Authorized Officer is authorized and directed to execute and deliver for and on behalf of the Authority an official statement for the Series 2007A Bonds and to make such changes or variations to the official statement as an Authorized Officer may deem necessary and as are approved by counsel to the Authority and bond counsel. Circulation in accordance with law by the Underwriter of the official statement for the Series 2007A Bonds as so changed is hereby approved.

5. Appointment of Bond Trustee; Escrow Trustee. Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. is hereby appointed Bond Trustee under the Bond Indenture. U.S. Bank National Association is hereby appointed Escrow Trustee under the Escrow Deposit Agreement with respect to the Series 1996A Bonds To Be Refunded and U.S. Bank National Association or Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., as selected by the Hospital, is hereby appointed Escrow Trustee under the Escrow Deposit Agreement with respect to the Series 1998A Bonds To Be Refunded.

6. Authorization of Closing Certificates and Documents. Any Authorized Officer is hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver such certificates and other documents and to take such other actions as may be necessary or convenient to effect the proper sale, execution and delivery of the Series 2007A Bonds, including, without limitation, the consent to the execution and delivery of the Master Indenture and the Mortgage Amendment and the consent to the replacement of the current bond trustee by Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. regarding the Authority's Hospital Revenue and Refunding Bonds (Garden City Hospital Obligated Group) Series 1998A which remain outstanding after delivery of the Series 2007A Bonds, subject to and as may be required by the Purchase Contract, the Bond Indenture, the Loan Agreement, the Escrow Deposit Agreements and this Authorizing Resolution.

7. Authorization of Securities Purchase. An Authorized Officer is authorized to purchase direct obligations of the United States of America ("Government Obligations"), necessary to carry out the refunding of the Series 1996A Bonds To Be Refunded and the Series 1998A Bonds To Be Refunded, and to amend the maturities, interest rates and amounts of such securities as may be necessary to comply with the arbitrage covenants in the Bond Indenture. Each Escrow Trustee is hereby appointed as the Authority's attorney-in-fact through May 1, 2007, to subscribe through its duly appointed officers for the purchase of direct obligations of the United States of America, necessary to carry out the transaction.

8. Publication of Authorizing Resolution. The Secretary of the Authority is hereby authorized and directed to publish a copy of this Authorizing Resolution one time in a newspaper of general circulation within the City of Garden City within 7 days of the date hereof.

9. Effective Date. This Authorizing Resolution, as it relates to the authorization of the Series 2007A Bonds, shall be effective immediately upon the publication hereof authorized under paragraph 8 hereof and shall otherwise be effective immediately upon adoption.

/s/ Rosemarie Merrick
Secretary

Publish: March 11, 2007

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SAMPLES

FROM PAGE A1

and groundwater samples will follow a recently completed geophysical evaluation of the 100-acre park - essentially a metal detector type of testing.

The soil borings will come after the city and Wayne County granted permission to the DEQ to conduct the geoprobe study.

RESULTS DUE SOON

The geoprobe work will likely take three weeks to complete, with results coming several weeks after that, Vens said, citing a tentative timeline beginning in early April.

The borings will help the DEQ obtain critical information about the extent of waste buried in the popular park, which has been used for activities ranging from Little League baseball to the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life.

The geoprobe study will be guided by the earlier geophysical tests, aerial photos and a picture published Dec. 10 in the Observer that showed 55-gallon drums and other debris at the dump site, Vens said.

After the geoprobe work is done, the DEQ will likely want to perform controlled excavations, often referred to as "test pits," in the park, DEQ Deputy Director Jim Sygo said in a letter sent to city and county officials.

City and county officials haven't yet consented to the excavations.

"We're just trying to have some input (at each stage) as we go along," Assistant Wayne County Executive Alan Helmkamp said.

Mayor Wild, in a Feb. 22 letter to Vens, said the city and county want to meet with DEQ officials to discuss the geophysical and geoprobe studies before moving ahead with the excavation work.

"I am confident that at the conclusion of that discussion, an appropriate test-pitting plan can be identified," Wild wrote. "The city is interested in having the work done promptly and in protecting the assets at the park in which it has invested."

The county owns the park and has leased it to the city since the late 1970s.

Sygo, in his letter to county and city officials, explained the test-pitting procedure.

FINDING HAZARDS

"This technique allows for the identification of buried containers and other materials that may pose significant hazards and can provide knowledge critical to the delineation of the nature and extent of buried waste material," he wrote.

The DEQ will try to minimize the excavation work and has pledged to restore any disturbed areas.

Said Sygo, "The DEQ wishes to strongly encourage Wayne County to grant access to the property for all of the proposed investigative activities in order to assure that the risks posed by the property can be identified and addressed in a manner that will allow the property to return to reliably safe and productive public use."

Wayne County officials have said road workers used the dump site from the 1930s to the 1970s.

Lead is the only contaminant within the park that has been documented at levels exceeding the 400 parts per million residential standard that was used to evaluate the property.

Lead can be particularly harmful to the developing brain and nervous system of children, although county officials have called it unlikely that youngsters were exposed to levels that placed them at risk in Central City Park.

The county provided free testing of 132 people after the contamination scare became public. Ultimately, none of those people showed lead levels considered potentially harmful.

Other park contaminants, including arsenic, cyanide, mercury, pesticides and PCBs, haven't been found at levels considered potentially dangerous.

Two samples in a wooded area west of the park also found levels of benzo(a)pyrene, which can cause problems ranging from red blood cell damage to cancer. However, officials have called it highly unlikely that anyone would have encountered a serious exposure in the wooded area.

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

With all the information that is available out there, a person can easily get frustrated when trying to find what they're looking for.

Here at the William P. Faust Public Library of Westland, we provide a considerable amount of directories that compile and organize data that make searching, browsing and quick look-ups simple and painless. These valuable resources cover a broad range of categories such as education, health, business, jobs, culture, and recreation, among others.

When preparing to go off to college, the *Michigan Education Directory*, *America's Best Colleges and Graduate and Professional Schools in the U.S.* will help with deciding on where to go. Numerous directories for financial aid give sources of where to find money for the schooling.

If continuing education is not for you, then try some of the vocational directories, such as *Directory of Jobs and Careers Abroad*, *Guide to America's Federal Jobs or Free and Inexpensive Career Materials: A Resource Directory*.

INFORMATION CENTRAL



Investing can be risky so it is important to make sure you know what you're getting into with a particular company. Business directories like *LexisNexis Corporate Affiliations: "Who Owns Whom"*, *Michigan Business Directory*, *D&B Regional Business Directory* or *International Directory of Company Histories* are great places to begin researching. They list lots of potential companies to invest in and some give background information, as well.

If you aim for greater refinement, there are several directories listing local and national cultural institutions.

The *Official Museum Directory*, *American Art Directory*, *Michigan History Directory: Historical Societies, Agencies and Commissions* and *American Library Directory* all offer the names of

where you can go to expand your knowledge. Travel and recreation information can also be obtained through directories. *Great Lake Lighthouses*, *American & Canadian: A Comprehensive Directory/Guide to Great Lakes Lighthouses*, *American & Canadian, National Directory of Theme & Amusement Parks: 400 Fun-Filled Attractions for the Young and Young at Heart*, *Alternative Travel Directory* or any of the various Woodall's campground directories supply places to go for leisure and play.

Whatever your researching needs might be, directories at the William P. Faust Public Library of Westland are great resources to start with that make information seeking a whole lot easier. So you can stop by at the reference desk, call us at (734) 326-6123, or remotely search our catalog 24 hours a day at www.westland.lib.mi.us.

Highlighted Activities

Living to 100 and Loving It: 7 p.m. March 12.

Join us for the third installment of our medical lecture series hosted

by The Doctor's Speaker Bureau and featuring Dr. Brian K. Brackney. Learn ways to feel your best and live your life to the fullest.

Independent Movie Night: 7 p.m. March 13.

Join us for a showing of the 2003 Spanish film *Carol's Journey* (approximately 100 minutes, not rated and in Spanish with subtitles).

"Carol, a Spanish-American 12-year-old girl brought up in New York, travels with her mother to Spain for the first time in the turbulent spring of 1938, to meet her mother's family..." (from the film description). All are welcome (children age 10 and under must be accompanied by an adult).

Internet 101: 2 p.m. March 15.

A beginner's guide to the Internet - how do I get around a Web site, what is a Web site. No registration is required. Walk ins are welcome.

Information Central is compiled by reference librarian Andrea Perez of the William P. Faust Public Library, 6123 Central City Parkway, Westland. Call (734) 326-6123.

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For example, bring in 10 items and get 20 coupons during our special one-day-only preview event. So clean out your closets and gear up to stuff the truck!

Continue to shop our Goodwill Sale Thursday, March 15 through Monday, March 26, and receive one 20% off coupon for each item donated.

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District stresses need for juniors to take state tests

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER

Usually, it's a building problem or a snow day when a school district tells parents to keep their kids home, but that's not the case for Tuesday-Wednesday, March 12-13, in the Wayne-Westland Community Schools.

Parents of ninth-, 10th- and 12th-graders have been told not to send their students to school those two days. However, the message for parents of 11th-graders is: Make sure your students report to school to take the Michigan Merit Exam.

"We're doing everything we can to bring them through the test the first time," Deputy Supt. Charlotte Sherman said. "We've mailed a letter home to the parent of every junior, stressing that they need to be there. This is a requirement for graduation."

This is the first time high school juniors around the state will be taking the MME, which replaces the Michigan Educational Assessment Program tests at the high school level.

In January, the Wayne-Westland school board approved changes in the district's graduation policy, requiring that students take the merit exam in their junior year in order to graduate.

"They don't have to attain a particular score on the test, they have to make a good faith effort to be there and take the test," Sherman said. "The graduation requirement is that they have to take it

during their junior year. They can take it again in their senior year to improve their ACT score, but it has to be taken as a junior to graduate."

On Tuesday, the district will administer the ACT college entrance test, and on Wednesday, students will take the WorkKeys, a work skills assessment program, in the morning and supplemental state tests in math, science and social studies in the afternoon.

Students who miss this week's test dates can make them up Tuesday-Wednesday, March 27-28. With more than 900 11th-graders in the district, Sherman is hoping the number taking the make-up tests will be small at best.

"We're doing everything we can to have them there the first time, so we don't have to worry about a second test," Sherman said. "Hopefully, it will be a small number of students (absent) that we can take to an isolated area in the schools. We're brainstorming that right now."

The district decided to cancel classes for the two days, in part to accommodate "very specific rules" for administering the ACT. Its high schools — John Glenn, Wayne Memorial and Tinkham Center Alternative — are ACT test sites.

"It would be very difficult to hold school and test under approved rules," Sherman said. "We can't have bells ringing and you can only have so many students in a room. We need a pretty good chunk of the school to do the test."

Each classroom will have one test coordinator and two or three proctors.

Teachers at the schools will serve as the assistants during the tests.

Under ACT rules, the district will not be allowed to serve students lunch.

The test takes about four hours and students will get short bathroom breaks. Snacks are allowed and will be available in hallways during the testing. Students will be dismissed at 12:30 p.m. Tuesday.

There's no such limitation for Wednesday's testing, so there will be a lunch break.

Students can bring their lunches or purchase from a limited menu in the cafeteria. While the merit exam is a graduation requirement, it's also important for students planning to attend college. Taking the test can mean receiving a Michigan Promise Scholarship.

Students who receive qualifying scores on the test get \$1,000 a year for each of their first two years of college and \$2,000 after completing two years and having a 2.5 grade-point average.

Students who don't get the qualifying scores could get up to \$4,000 after completing college and having a 2.5 grade-point average.

"Either way, it's important to take the test and earn money for college from the state," Sherman said.

As for the two days off, no makeup days will be needed. According to Sherman, canceling classes to do the testing was factored into the school calendar during contract negotiations last year.

"We program those days into the total number of days students need to be in school," Sherman said. "We were proactive in that regard."

smason@hometownlife.com
(734) 953-2112

Coffee Hour

State Rep. Richard LeBlanc, D-Westland, will hold his next local coffee hour 9-10:30 a.m. Monday, March 12, at the Westland Big Boy, 6360 N. Wayne Road at Hunter, Westland.

Citizens are welcome to visit with LeBlanc and discuss issues and/or concerns. The local coffee hour takes place on the third Monday of each month.

Anderson meeting

State Sen. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland, will hold his local coffee hour 9-10 a.m. Monday, March 12, at the Westland Big Boy, 6360 N. Wayne Road at Hunter, Westland.

Then, he will move to Redford for another Monday coffee hour 10:30-11:30 a.m. at the Redford Community Center, 12121 Hemingway.

Constituents who would like to address an issue with Anderson but are unable to attend may contact him by mail at P.O. Box 30036, Lansing, MI, 48933; by phone at (517) 373-1707; or by email at SenatorAnderson@senate.michigan.gov.

St. Patrick's Day

Join Michigan troubadour Neil Woodward for a family friendly evening celebrating the contributions of Irish folk music 6 p.m. Saturday, March 17, at the Bailey Recreation Center, 36651 Ford, Westland.

Sponsored by the Westland Parks and Recreation Department and the Grange No. 389, the evening includes an Irish style dinner and dessert served during intermission of the 7:30-9:30 p.m. concert.

Tickets cost \$12 for adults, and \$7 for children ages 12 and under. Seating is limited. Tickets are available at the Bailey Center. For more information, call (734) 722-7620 or by e-mail at mmartin@ci.westland.mi.us.

A 'Wild' skater

Residents are invited to skate with Mayor William Wild 5-6:30 p.m. Saturday, March 24, at the city's Mike Modano Ice Arena, 6210 N. Wildwood.

Admission is free, but Wild is asking participants to donate money for the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life event,

AROUND WESTLAND

coming this summer.

Wild has organized a team called Wild's Walkers, which has a theme of "Take A Walk On The Wild Side."

Anyone who donates to Relay for Life during the skating event will receive a complimentary Wild's Walkers T-shirt.

Open House

St. Damian School will hold an open house noon to 2 p.m. Sunday, March 18, at the school, 29891 Joy, Westland.

Enrollment is being accepted for all classes — prekindergarten (ages 3-4), full day kindergarten and grades 1-8. For more information, call (734) 427-1680.

Irish dinner

A corned beef and cabbage dinner will be served 6-8 p.m. Saturday, March 17, in the barroom of AMVETS Post 171, 1217 Merriman, south of Cherry Hill in Westland. The cost will be \$5 per person. For more information, call (734) 721-9440.

Easter Egg Hunt

The Easter Bunny is coming to Westland Shopping Center Saturday, March 17, and Co-op Services Credit Union is partnering with the mall to provide an Easter Egg Hunt to children ages 12 and under.

Youngsters should gather at 10:15 a.m. in the East Court of Westland Shopping Center at Warren and Wayne Road in Westland. The hunt is scheduled to start promptly at 10:30 a.m.

"This will be a great day for family fun and an early 'welcome to Spring' event," said Lisa Fawcett, marketing director for Co-op Services Credit Union.

There will be a chance to win prizes, visit candy stations throughout the mall, take pictures with the Easter Bunny and enjoy a performance of Westland's John Glenn High School Marching Band.

Art, silent auctions

The Wayne Rotary Club and Wayne Parks and Recreation Department will host their fifth annual Art Auction and Silent Auction at 6 p.m. Friday, March 23, at the Wayne Community Center, 4635 Howe, Wayne.

Proceeds will benefit the Boundless Playground Project which will feature play structures that are handicapped

accessible to allow the physically challenged youngsters to play alongside their able bodied friends and parents.

Admission is \$10 per person and includes door prize, wine and cheese, hors d'oeuvres, dessert and coffee. A cash bar will be available.

The auction includes art in all media and price ranges. For ticket information, call (734) 721-7400.

Psychic Fair

AMVETS Post 171 will hold a Psychic Fair noon-6 p.m. Sunday, March 18, at the post, 1217 Merriman, south of Cherry Hill in Westland. Admission will be \$2 plus the cost of a reading. There will be healing, numbers and card readings available.

Easter activities

CrossWalk Community Church of the Nazarene will hold a Easter Eggstravaganza 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 31, at the church at 38600 Palmer Road between Hix and Newburgh in Westland.

The event is for families, especially children ages 3-12. Children through age 6 will need adult supervision. There will be an Easter egg hunt, crafts, games, prizes and snacks.

The suggested donation is \$1 per child, adults are free of charge. For more information, call (734) 721-5545.

Open House

Willow Creek Cooperative Preschool will have an open house 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, March 13, at 36660 Cherry Hill, west of Wayne Road. The preschool offer parent/Tot, 2-year-old, 3-year-old, 4-year-old programs and an enrichment program for 4-year-olds. The preschool have been in operation for 35 years and has affordable tuition, certified teachers and a parent-involved environment. For more information, call (734) 326-0078 or visit the Web site at

www.willowcreekpreschool.com

The preschool also will hold its fourth annual Silent Auction Saturday, March 24, at Pvt. John Lysskawa VFW Post 7546 at 6828 Waverly, Dearborn Heights. Doors open at 7 p.m. Cost is \$20 per person.

Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property.

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, **PS Orangeo, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc.** will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage located at 3650 Enterprise Dr. Allen Park, MI 48101 (313) 441-8117 3/27/2007 at 11:30 am. Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due.

Personal property described below in the matter of

- B003 - Byron Burbank - pool table, refrigerator, 2 bikes
- B023 - Geneva Joubert - television, dresser, ac unit
- B035 - Stephan Koons - ac unit, 25 bags, 25 boxes
- B087 - Ruth Ensley - misc. items
- B118 - Robert Smith - dryer, entertainment center, 2 end tables
- B200 - James Edwards - 20 boxes, 2 refrigerator, 2 television
- B233 - Gloria Prim - TV, clothing, bags
- B289 - Carol Boissonault - upholstered chair, couch
- B314 - Clayton Echols - 2 suitcases, 2 totes, 6 boxes
- B319 - Antoine Brand - universal gym, leather chair, boxes
- C002 - Melissa Offord - lawn mower, bike, couch
- C013 - Ted Konesky - stereo, television, dresser
- D006 - Celestine Henry - television, bags, bikes
- D014 - Rhonda Jackson - washer, dryer, refrigerator
- F018 - Bradle Moscarello - 5 tool boxes, 8 totes, 2 bikes

Publish: March 11 & 18, 2007

CE08511792

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

CITY OF WESTLAND WESTLAND DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY WESTLAND TAX INCREMENT FINANACING AUTHORITY

LANDSCAPE AND IRRIGATION MAINTENANCE

Sealed proposals for Landscape and Irrigation Maintenance for The City Of Westland Downtown Development Authority and Tax Increment Financing District will be received by the City Of Westland, until 10:00 a.m., December 20, 2005 at Westland City Hall, Department Of Purchasing, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan 48185. Sealed bids shall be taken to the Purchasing Department where they will be opened and read aloud at 10:15 a.m. No Faxed or unsealed bids will be accepted.

The project involves Landscape and Irrigation maintenance work for Ford Road Streetscape (Central City Parkway to Wayne Road), Ford Road West Entrance, Westland City Library, and Central City Parkway and Nankin Boulevard. Work shall be as defined within the specifications and drawings and shall include, but not be limited to the following: mowing, fertilization, disease and insect control, edging, annual and bulb bed preparation and installation, general maintenance, maintenance inspection and follow up reports.

Copies of the Contract Documents may be obtained beginning November 22, 2005, after 12:00 p.m. from the office of the Project Landscape Architect, Beckett & Raeder, Inc., 535 West William, Suite 101, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48103, 734.663.2622, upon making a payment to the City Of Westland in the amount of \$55.00. No plan deposits shall be refunded.

Annual Maintenance Contract Start Date: April 1, 2006
Annual Maintenance Completion Date: April 1, 2007

Each bidder shall file a statement signed by, or on behalf of the person, firm, association, or corporation submitting the bid, certifying that such person, firm, association, or corporation has not, either directly or indirectly entered into any agreement participated in any collusion, or otherwise taken any action, in restraint of free competitive bidding in connection with the submitted bid.

A certified check or bid bond in the amount of five percent (5%) of the base bid must accompany each bid.

The Owner reserves the right to accept any proposal, reject any proposal, and waive irregularities in proposals.

Work by subcontractors shall not exceed 25% of the total contract amount.

No proposals may be withdrawn for a period of sixty (60) days after receipt of bids.

Publish: March 11, 2007

CE08511898

CITY OF WESTLAND WESTLAND POLICE DEPARTMENT

The following vehicles have been deemed abandoned and will be sold at public auction March 20, 2007 at 11:15 a.m. The auction will be held at Westland Car Care Towing, 6375 Hix Rd., Westland, MI 48185. The vehicles will be sold as is, starting bid is for towing and storage.

YEAR MAKE	BODY STYLE	COLOR	VIN
1996 Dodge	Neon	2-Dr	1B3ES42C3TD634786
1988 Chrysler	New Yorker	4-Dr	1C3BU6637JD235866
1992 Buick	LeSabre	4-Dr	1G4HP53L5N1432248
1993 Ford	Probe	2-Dr	1ZVCT20A4P5203945

Publish: March 11 & 15, 2007

CE08511786

Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property.

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, **PS Orangeo, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc.** will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage located at 20080 Allen Rd. Trenton, MI 48034 (248)263-3880 3/27/2007 at 1:30 pm. Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due.

Personal property described below in the matter of

- 1019 - Lisa Tarolli - box spring, mattress, love seat
- 1101 - Lashunda Miller - bike, boxes, computer
- 1118 - Tina L. Stafford - mattress, boxes, TV
- 1126 - Willie F. Hodge Jr. - mattress, boxes, couch
- 124 - Eric Ringley - dresser, speakers, stereo
- 126 - Stephanie Gestrich - folding chairs, power tools, snow blower
- 348 - Mali Yodsoongnean - couch, love seat, stove
- 514 - Dean Burnett - mattress set, dresser, tv
- 524 - Debra Higgins - boxes, fishing equip., totes
- 805 - Jeremy McCray - computer, sofa, stereo
- 912 - Angela Dilaura - vacuum, toys, bikes

Publish: March 11 & 18, 2007

CE08511978

WESTLAND HOUSING COMMISSION 32715 Dorsey Westland, Michigan 48186 (734) 595-0288

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Westland Housing Commission (WHC) has developed the fiscal year 2007 Annual Plan in compliance with the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998 and applicable regulations issued by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The plan reflects the goals and objectives of the agency and the administration of housing and community development programs. The Agency Plan and supporting documentation is available for public review for a period of not less than 45 days at the Westland Housing Commission's administrative office located at 32715 Dorsey, Westland, Michigan 48186.

The Commission's hours of operation are 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday. The comment period will end on April 12, 2007. The WHC Board of Commissioners will conduct a public hearing at 6:00 pm, Thursday, April 12, 2007 at the Housing Commission's Administrative Office located at 32715 Dorsey. The purpose of the public hearing is to obtain citizen comments on the Agency Plan, which will be submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development no later than April 16, 2007.

Terry Carroll, Director
John Franklin, President
William R. Wild, Mayor

Publish: February 27, 2007

CE08511608

CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

ON MARCH 20, 2007 the Westland Police Department will conduct a public auction of impounded, abandoned vehicles. The auction will begin promptly at 11:00 a.m. at Westland Car Care, 6375 Hix Rd., Westland, MI, County of Wayne, where the following vehicles will be offered for sale to the highest bidder.

YEAR MAKE	BODY STYLE	COLOR	VIN
2001 Ford	Explorer/SUV	Tan	1FMYU60E81UC62389
1989 Ford	F-250/PU TK	Blue	1FTHF26HXKLA35401
1995 Ford	T-Bird/2 Dr	Blue	1FALP62W7SH155099
1987 Olds	Cutlass/2 Dr	Gray	2G3GR11YXH2321293
1994 Ford	Aerostar/Van	White	1FMDA31U2RZB08206
1987 Ford	F-150/PU TK	Brown	2FTEP14Y6HCA08225
2003 Ford	Windstar/SW	Blue	2FMAZ52453BA10927
1997 Chevy	Mt Carlo/2 Dr	Green	2G1WV12X6V9226409
1994 GMC	Sierra/PU TK	Maroon	1GTFC14ZXRZ555915
1991 Chevy	Lumina/2 Dr	White	2G1WL14T7M9103075
2006 Chevy	Silverado/PU TK	Gray	1GCFC19Z762117499
1999 Ford	Taurus/4 Dr	Red	1FAPP53U0XG248175
1988 Chevy	GMT-400/PU TK	Blu/Whi	2GCF29K9J1286907
1997 Chevy	Mahibu/4 Dr	Maroon	1GLND52T3V6138093
1990 Dodge	D-150/PU TK	Brown	1B7GE06Y2L8750845
2000 Ford	Focus/4 Dr	Silver	1FAFP34POYY256488
1990 Mercury	GR Marquis/4 Dr	White	2MECM74F8LX628132
1995 Pontiac	Grand AM/2 Dr	Purple	1G2NE15DXSM597683
1998 Dodge	Intrepid/4 Dr	Gold	2B3HD46R9WH239654

All vehicles are sold in "as is" condition. Bidding on all vehicles will start at the amount due for towing and storage. Vehicles may be deleted from this list at any time prior to the start of the auction.

Publish: March 11, 2007

CE08511785

College fair helps students sort out their options

BY HUGH GALLAGHER
STAFF WRITER

Hundreds of Detroit-area high school students jammed into Burton Manor in Livonia Thursday. They were on a quest.

College recruiters from as far away as Alaska and Hawaii and as near as Madonna University and Oakland University were on hand to make their pitch and help the students navigate their way through the college admissions process. The college fair in Livonia is one of several spring fairs around the country sponsored by the National Association of College Admission Counseling.

"The purpose of the fair is to give students a good start, not just on finding out about colleges in general but about colleges that are right for them," said Patrick O'Connor, director of college counseling at Roper School and an organizer for the event.

This year, 123 colleges participated. Detroit, Flint and other school systems brought busloads of students to the Thursday fair. Students could check out each college booth, talk with admission counselors and pick up literature. In addition special programs were presented on NCAA athletic eligibility, financial aide, minority opportunities and preparing for the ACT.

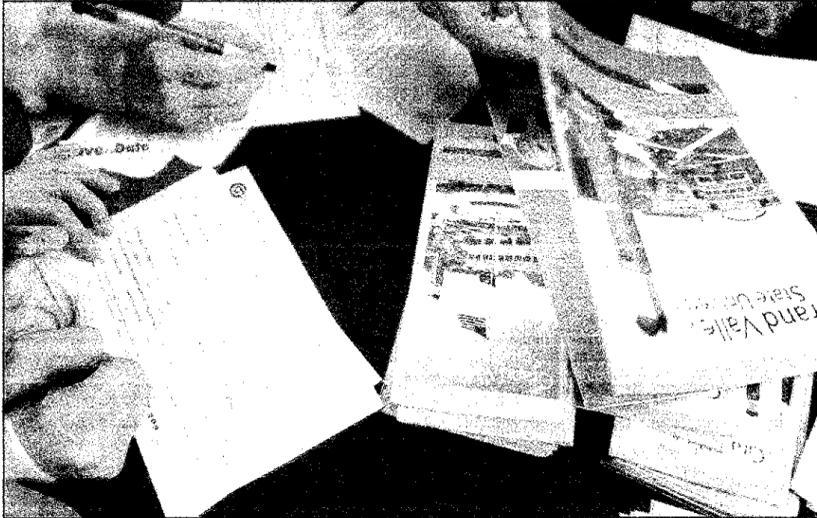
"We know from the college merit exam that they have the skills to go college and because of the Michigan Promise, they'll have some money to go to college, but it's not just about going to college but about going to a college that's right for them," said O'Connor.

The fair provided a wide range of possibilities for the students on their quest for just the right college, from tech schools to art academies, large public universities to small private liberal arts colleges, and military academies to business schools.

Livonia Churchill High School junior Michelle Emmanuel was looking to sort out which of those schools would fit her needs.

"I wanted to know which schools have the major I'm interested in, which is physical therapy," she said. "I'm not sure about all the specific questions I wanted to ask, I just wanted to know which colleges were there."

The fair also provides help in sorting out how to get into the college that fits the students' needs.



Students fill out information cards for Grand Valley State University during the college fair.



PHOTOS BY TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Students fill the aisles gathering information on various colleges during the college fair held at Burton Manor Thursday.

"I wanted information to know what requirements I needed to get into college or the program of study I'm interested in," said Marcin Rivera, a junior at Churchill interested in pursuing a nursing degree. The college counselors were there to sort it out.

PROVIDING A ROAD MAP

"We try to provide a road map of what the process looks like, encouraging them to explore their options," said Michael Guy, associate director of admissions outreach for Central Michigan University.

He said the college fairs help students narrow down their options.

"We encourage them to do more than just grab the material, take the time to ask good questions, get more materials, take time to do research on the Web and as summer goes on, have a goal of making applications to at least three-five schools," he said.

Guy, who has been with CMU for 20 years, said students are becoming more savvy about the often complex admissions process.

"But it's a double-edged sword, with so much information out there it becomes overwhelming. This is a process to make more sense of it all," he said.

For Richard Duncan, an admissions counselor for the Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago, it's all about defining what makes his college appealing for Michigan students living in an economically challenged area.

"Students come to work and stay in Chicago and get the experience of living in a different city, a much larger one, more on the upswing and bring it back to their home area," he said.

He said not all students want a big city environment but that IIT has a lot of selling points.

"We're a small school, so they get to go to a small school in a big city. We have two major train lines through our campus. There are all the shows and sports centers. The Sox play across the street from us," he said.

In addition, he said the school offers a focused technological education.

The process is different at the United States Military Academy at West Point. Tom Lynch, a 1982 West Point graduate who lives in Bloomfield Hills, is a field force representative for West Point's admissions office. He said the military academies are not for everyone.

"Academics are important but the biggest thing is that West Point is looking for well-rounded individuals - 60 percent is academics, 30 percent is activities and sports and 10 percent in a physical test we give them," he said.

He said applicants need to understand that the academies are a big commitment as they pay students to attend to receive an education valued at up to \$300,000 but require a five-year post graduation commitment. Students must be nominated by a member of the U.S. House or Senate.

SMALL BUT STRONG

A different educational model is represented by small, competitive Kalamazoo College.

"We make sure they know we're small so they're not shocked by the 1300 students we have," said Hillary Teague. "Mostly I try to get a feel for what the student is looking for and tailor what I tell them based on their interest."

For many students, Kalamazoo and other private colleges might seem out of their financial reach, but the fair offered students an opportunity to learn about financial aid.

"I wanted to learn about more colleges than the University of Michigan and Michigan State," said Asia Hawkins, a Detroit Crockett Career High student, who is interested in studying to become a pharmacist.

The fair gave her a good lead on financial resources.

"At Howard University, I'm eligible for a presidential scholarship because of my GPA," she said.

For some the fair was reassuring that the quest might not be so difficult.

"I was surprised," said Michelle Emmanuel. "I thought you had to have a high GPA to get into all the schools and some schools were much lower than I expected."

hgallagher@hometownlife.com
(734) 953-2149

Humane Society names new board members

The Michigan Humane Society recently announced the addition of three new members to the board of directors.

David L. Bialosky serves as the executive vice president and general counsel for TRW Inc. in Livonia. Elizabeth Correa, first vice president of Comerica Bank, is a resident of Birmingham. Tina Ford is a resident of St. Clair Shores and also serves as a board member with the Children's Center of Wayne County. Each will serve a three-year term.

For more information about the Michigan Humane Society, call (866)MHUMANE.

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2 Westland residents volunteer during Alternative Spring Break

Two Westland residents are among 14 metro Detroit volunteers who are giving at least a week of their time volunteering for United Way's Alternative Spring Break 2007.

Brandon Hannah and Kristen Lewis will be in Lake Charles, La., to help in the long-term recovery efforts to rebuild the Gulf Coast area still devastated by the 2005 hurricanes. United Way for Southeastern Michigan is taking the volunteers to Lake Charles, La., for one week - March 10-17.

Alternative Spring Break is sponsored by FedEx and GameStop/EB Games. MTV is serving as the media partner, promoting the program and filming a documentary called "The Amazing Break," which will air the weekend of March 23.

Hannah, 24, of Westland, is a foster care case manager with Catholic Social Services. He received a degree in social work from Madonna University in 2005 and works closely with children. He and his wife are expecting their first child in July.

Hannah feels a special connection with those impacted by the hurricane's devastation, since he has family living in New Orleans and the Louisiana area.

"Everyone knows somebody who was affected by the hurricanes," said Hannah. "We cannot forget that this is a long-term project to help rebuild the lives of many who were displaced during the hurricane. I feel that everyone can help in some way and Alternative Spring Break is my opportunity to give back."

This is not the first time Hannah volunteered out of state. He volunteered in Morelia, Mexico, for two weeks while in college, working in a soup kitchen and pro-



Hannah



Lewis

viding play therapy at the local Children's Hospital.

"I would hope that if anything happened to me, someone would be there to help. I would like to do the same."

Lewis, 20, of Westland, is a sophomore at University of Michigan-Dearborn. She is excited to join Alternative Spring Break, saying she has always wanted to make a difference in someone's life.

"United Way is committing to making a difference and seeks out the best college students," she said. "Their dedication to helping others is what attracted me to the opportunity."

Lewis is studying political science and public relations and works as a cashier at Best Buy. In her spare time, she is the service coordinator for her sorority, Delta Phi Epsilon, and teaches catechism classes at St. Dunstan's Church in Garden City.

Some 300 college students from across the country will be participating in Alternative Spring Break during March. Its goal is to inspire young people to engage in community service during their spring vacations.

This year's volunteers will clear debris, restore local schools and nature trails, and repair some of the more than 1,700 homes that still have blue roofs, which are temporary FEMA tarps that prevent further damage. United Way of Southwest Louisiana will provide volunteer housing and project support.

"United Way's Alternative

Spring Break is a great way to engage young people to make a lasting difference in our country," said Michael J. Brennan, president and CEO, United Way for Southeastern Michigan. "Families affected by the 2005 hurricanes are still recovering from the devastation. The progress that will be made by the collective action of these committed volunteers, and the lives they will touch through their efforts, is an amazing example of what can be done when we work together."

This is the second year for Alternative Spring Break. In 2006, United Way of America partnered with thinkMTV to create Storm Corps to help those directly affected by the 2005 hurricanes. Nearly 100 volunteers traveled to Biloxi, Miss., and Foley, Ala., to remove debris from yards, repair porches and roofs, tear out walls and rebuild a youth recreation center.

"I never knew I could learn to do so many things to help make a big difference," said Brian Sawyer, who participated in last year's efforts and will be returning this year as a team leader. "It was the greatest experience and the most inspiring of my life. I learned that anyone with determination and passion to make a difference can."

"This year I hope to gain the commitment of other young adults like me to come back motivated to build our own communities stronger."

"You don't have to go far to make a difference," Brennan said. "There are lots of opportunities to give back right here at home. What you get in return is the priceless gift of helping others."

To learn more about year-round volunteer opportunities, go online to www.uwsem.org/ and click on "Get Involved" or call United Way's 2-1-1.

Named to the honor roll for the second marking period at Adams Middle School were:

Erika Akubeno, Nicole Alt, Angela Altimus, Adjane Anderson, Elliot Arnold, Cayla Ball, Sydney Ball, Ryan Bartz, Dianne Joy Basco, Mintoria Battle, Elaine Bazan, Kyle Bearden, Sabrina Bizon, Chelsea Blackburn, Paul Bobin, Holland Boertje, La'Rashel Borom, Cassandra Bowen, Marlee Bowser, Timothy Boyer, Jezanna Bugaski, Isabella Bullock, Brianna Burgess.

Kara Rose Burton, Matthew Callahan, Stephen Callahan, Ashley Carey, Ronnie Carrington, Katherine Chuong, Taylor Coleman, Margarita Cortes, Pedro Cortes, Justin Coshatt, Victoria Craven, Damon Crews, Kayleigh Crumme, Sheldon Crumme, Ericka Daniels, Robert Davidson, Diamond Davis, Mark Dennis, Sheila DeShazer, Brandon Dombrowski.

Dylan Dottor, Alex Draper, Austin Dykes, Anthony Ewing, Eric Farnstrom, Aldreana Fikes, Taurrek Fikes, Jessica Fischer, Michael Frey, Amber Frost, Darian Furtaw, Alexis Gable, Derek Galvan, Jaasmeen Gill, Vickrant Gill, Delaney Gloger, Chelsea Godette, Alexandria Gossett, Austin Gottman, Melissa Grasela, Morgan Greig, Taylor Grondy, Felicia Guenther.

Micaela Guenther, Bailey Hart,

ADAMS HONOR ROLL

Zachary Hawkins, Mikaylah Heffernan, Sharif Hegazi, Dajanay Hines, Rayona Hines, Breana Hix, Zandra Holland, Trisha Holloway, Courtney Hooper, Justin Hooper, Kimberly Hooper, Shelby Hooper, Demarius Horn, Stephanie Hyams, Sierra Ingram, Jasmine Ivey, Kevin Jensen, Ashley Johnson, Eddie Johnson, Kristen Johnson.

Carlita Jones, Dakota Kane, Adam Kay, Donald Keiper, Brandon Keller, Tawni Kenyon, Samantha Kilburn, Coty Killen, Shane Kommer, Charles Kuder, Amber Ladd, Tiffany Lancaster, Jenna Langston, Heather LeBlanc, Samantha LeBlanc, Alec Lee, Danny Lees, Madeline Lefler, Kateland Leong, Samantha Leopardi, Morgan Lewis, Elizabeth Lizyness, Remaila Lloyd.

Kassandra Lodge, Briana Lucas, Dustin Malloy, Jessica Marshall, Jacob Massey, Jillian Matheson, Julia Matheson, Le'Chrisa Mathews, Randolph Mathis, Chelsye Mauricio, Jessica McClue, Christopher McCowan, Tyler McCurry, Meghan McGowan, Kenneth McKay, Paris McLeod, Jeremy Mills, Tyler Mitchell, Chelsea Morneau, Wayne Murphy.

Kathy Newborn, Kevin Newborn, Zachery Nichols, Chinyere Nkwocha, Chantell Nolden, Charles Oatten, Nicole Odom, Cynthia Oestreich, Leah Palmer, Alyssa Paraski, Jared Parker, Zachary

Pechin, Kristian Peters, David Petosky, Elizabeth Phelan, Brooke Pietruszka, Lyndsey Potter, Adam Pugh, Tiffany Ralph, Nicole Rau, Delano Reams, Brandon Revell, Michael Ringholz.

Demetrius Robinson, Chelsey Roe, Mark Rowland, Douglas Rutan, Kyle Saavedra, Aarti Sajani, Matthew Scaggs, Christopher Schmidt, David Schutzer, Janelle Schwartz, Kaily Sparks, Khiry Sparks, Kristina Sparks, Samantha Sparks, Jeffrey Spearman.

Jason Spurlock, Travis St.Clair, Jessie Starr, Lorenzo Stevens, Sean Stewart, Arthur Straw, Akeem Sulaimon, Kyle Szalai, Callee Tatro, Amber-Rose Taylor, Lawrence Tennille, Jamie Thayer, Larry Thomas, Rachael Thomas, Autumn Thornsberry, Nina Tolentino, Stephanie Tomlin, Jennifer Troost, Brandon Tykoski, Zachary Tykoski, Margaret Van Dyke.

Jessica Vandenbrook, Leo Veloz, Jennifer Vinson, Kailey Vowles, Kali Wadsworth, Savannah Walker, Ashley Weddie, Edward West, Ashley Williams, Briana Williams, Kenneth Williams, Nicholas Williams, Jarret Williamson, Zachary Williamson, Barbara Wilson, Shane Wilson, Brianna Winn, Zachary Wiper, Kaylynn Wright and Andrew Zander.

Frye retires after 26 years with Air Force

After moving 13 times, Nancy Frye has decided to set down some roots in Livonia.

Frye, the daughter of Harold and Georgianna Frye of Westland, has retired from the U.S. Air Force. A colonel, she moved 13 times and was assigned to 12 Air Force bases in the country during her 26-year career.

Frye is a graduate of John Glenn High School, which honored her as its Distinguished Alumni Award in 2000. She entered the Air Force in 1980 after graduating from the University of Michigan with a bachelor of science degree in natural resource management.

She earned a master's degree in logistics management from the Air Force Institute of Technology at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, in 1988 where she was a distinguished graduate. She also has a master's degree in



Frye

strategic studies from the Air War College at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala.

She also attended every level of Air Force professional education, graduating with honors from all of the schools.

During her career, Frye worked in weapons systems acquisition, personnel and aircraft maintenance. Primarily and aircraft maintenance officer, she served as Office in Charge of maintenance branches and flights.

She also directed the maintenance of several aircraft maintenance units supporting F-4G Wild Weasels and RF-4C tactical reconnaissance aircraft.

She was the maintenance

supervisor at Elmendorf, Alaska, supporting F-15 and C-130 aircraft; commanded the Component Repair Squadron at Cannon Air Force Base in New Mexico where they were flying the F-16 aircraft.

Frye also served as the deputy group commander at Offutt Air Force Base in Nebraska, providing all of the back shop maintenance and logistics support to the RC-135 and E-4B aircraft.

She finished out her career as the commander of the 552d Maintenance Group at Tinker Air Force Base, Okla. The 1,600-person group was responsible for providing all of the maintenance and logistics support for the Air Force's fleet of W-3B AWAC aircraft.

As part of her retirement, Frye was awarded the Legion of Merit award for her contributions to the defense of the United States.

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Nonprofits sure to suffer as corporations flee Michigan

Pfizer. Chrysler. Comerica. Recent news that these three Michigan corporate mainstays are closing up shop, up for sale, and moving its corporate headquarters, respectively, was a major punch in the gut to our state's already fragile economy.

And in the cases of Pfizer and Comerica, the announcements also dealt a major blow to Gov. Jennifer Granholm's efforts to transform the state's economy.

Many of the impacts of these continuing job losses are apparent: More people will leave Michigan in search of jobs; less disposable income will hurt the service industry; state revenue from income tax, sales tax and property taxes will squeeze state spending even further.

There is another aspect that is not as obvious, but which will have an equally devastating impact: Corporations, and their employees, contribute millions of dollars and donate thousands of volunteer hours to the state's network of nonprofit and charitable organizations.

With corporate donations already reduced and the state's economy tanking, local charities already were finding it more and more difficult to meet their fund-raising goals.

Pfizer and its employees were major supporters of the greater Ann Arbor community, and the true impact of those 2,000 lost jobs won't be felt fully for a few years.

And if Daimler ditches Chrysler and it is broken up into several smaller companies, it could prove to be doomsday for the region's many cultural institutions, from the Detroit Institute of Arts to the Chrysler Art Beats and Eats festival, that have benefited greatly from the company's generous support over the years.

And even though Comerica has pledged that it will not abandon the metro area when its corporate headquarters migrates to Texas, it is logical to assume that, eventually, the philanthropic efforts will follow where the headquarters goes.

What's at stake? Last year alone, Comerica reportedly pumped \$8.3 million into the coffers of some 1,300 metro Detroit organizations, while bank employees donated some 20,000 community service hours in metro Detroit.

Only time will tell which scenario proves true.

Quiet, please! Next week, high school juniors throughout the state will be taking the new Michigan Merit Exam. The exam (think the ACT on steroids) replaces the old 11th-grade MEAP test and comes with a considerable financial carrot for those who do well on the test: A \$4,000 state grant to be used at any Michigan higher learning institution.

There are other benefits to the new MME as well for students and their parents. The ACT is a test required by most four-year universities as part of the application process, historically has

been given on a Saturday, and costs students \$40. Now, the ACT portion of the MME can be used for the application process, is free and students and their parents don't have to give up a Saturday to take it.

So what's the problem?

If my daughter's high school is typical of what is happening next week — and I suspect it is — a whole lot more students than just the juniors are being impacted by the testing.

The ACT portion of the test is scheduled to be administered statewide Tuesday, with additional components taking up portions of two additional school days.

Apparently to limit distractions for those kids taking the exams next week, my daughter's school district saw fit to cancel classes all day Tuesday for the rest of the student body, and scheduled half days the other two days. In effect, everyone loses the equivalent of two full school days.

Add those days on top of a lost day and a half this week for teacher conferences, a full week of mid-winter break just a few weeks back, a couple of recent snow/ice/cold days and spring break just around the corner, and I start to worry about how all of the broken weeks of learning are affecting the educational process.

I hope the decision to provide a nice, quiet environment for the juniors to take the new test pays off.

Losers become winner. You have to love politics. It might be the only environment where even those who lose elections are rewarded handsomely for their efforts.

Consider the political fortunes of former state Sen. Laura Toy, R-Livonia, unsuccessful congressional candidate Nancy Skinner and unsuccessful state Senate candidate Andy Levin. In a matter of weeks following their losing bids for office, all three were able to land on their feet, and land jobs inside the political bureaucracy.

Levin, a Democrat who narrowly lost his state Senate bid to John Pappageorge, R-Troy, was rewarded for his valiant effort with a job in the Granholm administration. Toy, who lost her state Senate seat to Democrat Glenn Anderson, is now in the employ of her former fellow Senate Republicans.

And Skinner, a liberal radio talk show host who moved back to Michigan to challenge (and almost beat) venerable U.S. Rep. Joe Knollenberg, R-Bloomfield Township, was recently named chief of staff for First Gentleman Daniel Mulhern.

I am not sure why the spouse of the governor needs a chief of staff, but I am sure that Skinner will do a fine job of doing whatever it is she will be doing.

There is an old saying that "to the victors go the spoils." But in Michigan politics, even the losers appear to be winners.

Joe Bauman is managing editor for the *Eccentric Newspapers*. He welcomes feedback at jbauman@hometownlife.com or call him at (248) 901-2563.

Sunshine Week puts focus on accountability in government

When you first hear about this being Sunshine Week, your thoughts might turn to spring break plans or perhaps a trip to Lakeland for some spring training fun (something my brother-in-law and his family recently did).

This Sunshine Week, observed March 11-17, is more serious but no less deserving of attention. It pertains to government secrecy and the right of citizens to know how their government governs.

I recently got my National Federation of Press Women newsletter, which regularly opines on openness in government. It's important to note, however, that concerns about open government shouldn't just be a media concern. They're germane for all of us.

Information's available at www.sunshineweek.org, and it's not all that encouraging. According to the Web site, Americans increasingly suspect the federal government has become cloaked in secrecy, a concern they don't have with their local and state governments.

People overwhelmingly believe that their federal leaders have become sneaky, listening to telephone conversations or opening private mail without getting court permission, according to a survey of 1,008 adults commissioned by the American Society of Newspaper Editors for Sunshine Week.

The poll, conducted by Scripps Howard News Service and Ohio University, found that concerns about federal secrecy are rising.

Twenty-five percent believe the federal government is either "very open" or "somewhat open," while 69 percent said it's either "somewhat secretive" or "very secretive."

That's a shift from a similar poll last year, when 33 percent thought the federal government was open and 62 percent thought it was secretive. About 6 percent and 5 percent were undecided in the 2007 and 2006 polls, the Web site notes.

Lisa McGraw, public affairs manager for the Michigan Press Association, is the point woman for the effort here. "This year, it's gone all over North America. It includes Canada and Mexico, too," McGraw said. There's a lot in Spanish on the Web site.

"For the most part, yes," McGraw said of Michigan's track record on government openness being positive. There's "always room for a little improvement" in Michigan.

She agreed the week isn't just a media one (in fact, librarians have been at the forefront of this issue, along with others).

"I think that's the purpose of this week to promote why it's important to everyone," McGraw said. MPA papers have always participated, "showed examples of why it's important."

The effort pertains to openness both in gov-

ernment meetings and documents. McGraw's happy to answer questions and can be reached at (517) 372-2424.

When I was at the University of Missouri in the early 1980s, I was lucky enough to have a teaching assistant's job at the Freedom of Information Center. I worked with Dr. Paul Fisher, a longtime expert on government accountability, and others to answer questions and provide printed information on openness (this was before the Web, of course).

Those lessons have stayed with me, and it's good to see that Sunshine Week is still going strong. This year, journalists Ben Bradlee, Tom Brokaw and Judy Woodruff are the honorary chairs of Sunshine Week. Bradlee is former executive editor and now vice president at large of *The Washington Post*. Brokaw is former anchor and managing editor of NBC Nightly News and now a contributing reporter and producer for NBC News documentaries. Woodruff is special correspondent for the NewsHour with Jim Lehrer and anchor of Conversations with Judy Woodruff on Bloomberg Television.

Those are substantial names in media circles, but they're not fighting this fight alone.

The gap in what those survey respondents believe about the Bush administration's tendency to secrecy, as contrasted with state and local governments, is noteworthy. Certainly large questions have loomed about lack of accountability by Bush and his top leaders in the Iraq war.

The issue of weapons of mass destruction, or lack thereof, as a justification for war has put Bush in the hot seat. The furor over the Patriot Act, and its allowing government to spy on private citizens for questionable reasons, remains as well and has been an issue for librarians who have fought the good fight.

Local and state governments are closer to the people, and thus it's harder to cover things up. (I like to think an aggressive press is a factor here as well, recognizing its watchdog role.) If you're going to run into the mayor and council members, or someone from your school board, while shopping at the grocery store, they're going to have a harder time keeping secrets.

Of course, many public officials recognize the value of openness in government and have concerns about voter apathy as well. It would be unfair to characterize all as trying to keep secrets from the public.

Sunshine Week's worth noting in schools and elsewhere this week, as we teach our future leaders about the importance of openness in governing. Granted, schools have a lot to teach but a little time on this timely topic is worth it.

Take some time, too, to think about how you can encourage openness (and interest) in how our nation is governed. A lot of things compete for our time, but Sunshine Week's a good time to remember this particular topic.

Julie Brown of Plymouth Township is presentation editor for the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers* and interim editor of the *Mirror*. She can be reached at (248) 901-2536.



Joe Bauman



Julie Brown

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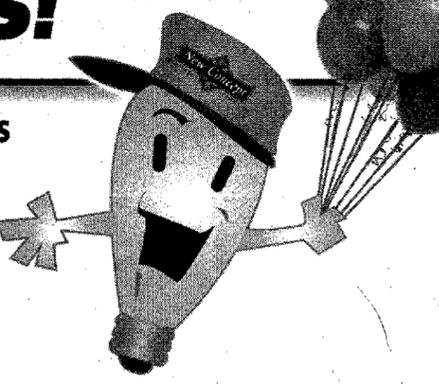
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Take time to learn about investing and invest wisely

I have just inherited a substantial amount of money and I would like to invest it. I have never invested before and would like some ideas. I saw on the Internet an investment opportunity where you can double your money in a year. What do you think?

Paul

First, I would run as fast as I can from that Internet ad. As far as I am concerned, ads and solicitations such as these are meant to do one thing and one thing only and that is to separate you from your money. No one who is responsible in the investment world will tell you that you can double your money in a year.

Before you invest one penny of your money, you need to decide your goals and objectives for that money. In other words, are you looking for current income or are you investing for long-term growth? Until you define what you are looking for from your money, you cannot begin to invest.

Since you are a new investor, I recommend that before you invest you begin to learn a little about investing. An investor who understands even a little bit about the investment world will be a better investor. Whether that individual uses a professional or not, the more you understand the investment process, the better investor you will be.

If you decide to use a professional to manage your money, you need to make sure that the adviser is working for you and only you and that you can communicate with them. Unfortunately, too many people in the financial world are what I refer to as financial salespeople as opposed to financial advisers. My recommendation is to consider a firm that is fee only who will charge you for their service and will not get involved with investment products that have commissions. Unfortunately, commissions create a conflict of interest and tend to make the adviser more of a salesperson than an adviser. The bottom line when it comes to investing is take your time, don't rush and make sure that you have an overall game plan that fits your situation.

I heard an ad on your station about return of premium term life insurance policies. I am thinking of purchasing a term life policy. Do you think the return of premium is a good option?

Stephanie



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

I love the fact that you are thinking of buying term insurance as I believe for the great majority of people term insurance is the best type of

insurance to purchase. However, I am not a big fan of the return of premium option. In looking at the return of premium option, it certainly sounds enticing. What this feature provides is that if you purchase a policy, for example a 20-year term policy and you pay premiums for 20 years, if you were still living at the end of the 20 years you receive your premiums back. If you pass on during that 20-year period you receive the death benefit. Therefore, in principal this policy seems like you can't lose. However, as always, the devil is in the details.

The first issue you need to consider is the cost you are paying for the return of premium option. In many situations, you are increasing your yearly premiums substantially. When I run the math on this option, the rate of return is relatively minor. What I recommend is to take the difference between what you are paying for the return of premium option and what you would pay for normal term policy and invest that money using some low-cost mutual funds. If you have the discipline to invest the savings on a regular basis, at the end of the term period you will have substantially more money than on the return of premium option. In addition, if you can, invest in a Roth IRA that money grows tax-free.

Another downfall of the return of premium option is if you decide to cancel the policy for whatever reason, you typically take a substantial hit on the return of premium. In fact, in some situations you would get nothing back. Therefore, all you've done is pay higher premiums for no benefit.

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. *Observer & Eccentric* readers can submit questions at money@hometownlife.com. For more information, visit his Web site at www.bloomassetmanagement.com. You can hear Rick noon to 3 p.m. Sundays on WDTK 1400 AM.

Rouge alliance hires director

BY KURT KUBAN
STAFF WRITER

The fledgling Alliance of Rouge Communities (ARC), formed last year to deal with stormwater issues in the Rouge River watershed, took a huge step in its evolution last week when the body hired its first executive director.

Ridgway

Jim Ridgway, who has been involved with Rouge River restoration efforts since the mid-1970s, when he helped the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG) write the original watershed plans required by the federal Clean Water Act.

"I am thrilled to have this assignment," said Ridgway, 55, who is a resident of Grosse Pointe Park.

ARC is a unique alliance formed to provide watershed-wide cooperation and mutual support to meet water quality requirements and restore beneficial uses of the Rouge River.

The group hired Ridgway and his firm, Environmental Consulting & Technology (ECT), to provide leadership and a number of services to help accomplish those goals. Among these services is to administer federal grants from the Rouge River National Wet Weather Demonstration Project, as well as develop stormwater permits and public education programs.

According to Canton's Tim Faas, who heads the group's finance committee, the ARC budget for 2007 is \$650,000. The contract with ECT and Ridgway will consume about \$170,000 of the budget.

At a meeting in Dearborn last week, ARC members expressed relief that they finally filled the position, especially someone with Ridgway's experience dealing with Rouge River issues.

"I would like him to look closely over the next year and see what are the most important issues for this group, and begin to establish some goals," said Jim Anulewicz of Plymouth Township.

Ridgway, who is also a board member for Friends of the Rouge, was instrumental in the efforts to create ARC. He said the group, which needed a change in state law to come to fruition, is on the cutting edge in watershed restoration efforts. The group can pool its resources, as well as apply for grants and seek other funding sources.

"This is an excellent example of institutional arrangement. If we can make it work, it could be a model for the rest of the country," Ridgway said.

Ridgway said one of his first chores will be to help ARC communities develop new stormwater pollution prevention initiatives that are required by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality.

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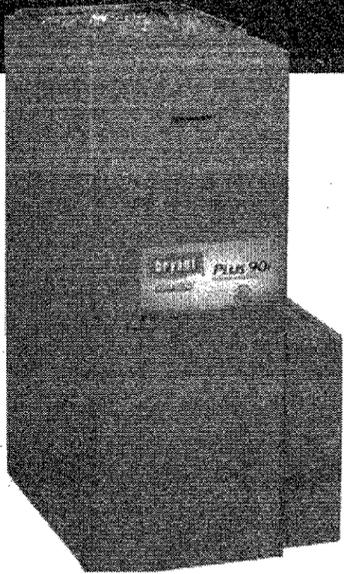
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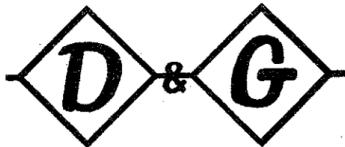
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SPORTS

B (LW)

Sunday, March 11, 2007

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

Brad Emons, editor (734) 953-2123, bemons@hometownlife.com

www.hometownlife.com

Stevenson celebrates 1st district title since '89

BY BRAD EMONS
STAFF WRITER

The last time Livonia Stevenson hoisted a district boys basketball trophy was 1989, the year the Berlin Wall came crashing down.

Names like Glenn Szeman and Ron Baran may be a distant memory, but on this night they were replaced by Luke Knochel and Chris Mulcahy, who led the Spartans to a 66-56 win Friday over visiting Redford Thurston.

The senior guards scored 24 and 23 points, respectively, to pace the victorious Spartans, who move into the Class A regional semifinals to face the winner of Saturday's Detroit Central district final between Southfield and Detroit Henry Ford.

Stevenson will take an 8-15 record into the game, which tips off at 7 p.m. Tuesday at Detroit Cass Tech.

"They were told it's been awhile since they won a district," Stevenson first-year coach Brad Miller said. "It's just amazing. It feels good, especially for the five seniors, and it's also good that the younger kids could experience this. I'm happy for the program and the kids. It's a great feeling."

Stevenson jumped out to a 7-2 advantage, but Thurston closed the gap to 15-13 after one quarter.

Miller employed a zone defense to slow the quicker and more athletic Eagles.

"We thought it was important to start quickly in order to gain some confidence," the Stevenson coach said. "It was a match-up. We didn't think we could match up in a man. We wanted to keep



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Stevenson coach Brad Miller and player Kendal Snow show their emotions as the final seconds tick away, giving the Spartans their first Class A district basketball title in 18 years.

PLEASE SEE STEVENSON, B4

Sidelines

Blazer icers fall

Bloomfield Hills Kingswood ended Livonia Ladywood's run in the semifinals of the Michigan Metro Girls High School Hockey League playoffs with 5-2 triumph Thursday at Livonia's Edgar Arena.

Ladywood ends its season at 17-3-1 overall under coach Bruce Peck.

League champion Plymouth-Canton-Salem then knocked off Kingswood in Friday's championship game, 5-2, thanks to Katie Zimmerman's hat trick and one assist.

Kristie Kowalski got the shutout in goal as the Penguins defeated Ann Arbor in Thursday's other semifinal, 2-0, also at Edgar.

P-C-S finishes the year 22-0-2 overall, while Kingswood bows at 14-5-1 overall.

Help CHS baseball

Max & Erma's in the Laurel Park Mall will donate 20 percent of its restaurant proceeds to the Livonia Churchill High baseball program from opening to close on Monday, March 12.

To participate in the fund-raiser, you must obtain a coupon via e-mail from Churchill varsity baseball coach Ron Targosz at rtargosz@livonia.k12.mi.us.

M.S. track clinic

Livonia Stevenson High School will stage two sessions of a track and field clinic for middle school students from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. (includes shot put, long jump, hurdles and high jump) and 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, March 17 at the fieldhouse.

The cost is \$20 for each session. You can pay on-site.

For more information, call Kelly Graham at (248) 939-2824.

Cage workshop

The Basketball Workshop is offering shooting and post-play clinics for males and females from 1-3 p.m. Sundays during March and April at Livonia Ladywood High School, located on 14680 Newburgh Road.

Middle school, high school and collegiate-level players are invited.

The registration fee is \$50. Enrollment is limited.

For more information, call Paul Tripp at (248) 563-0858.

Join women's golf

The City of Livonia Department of Parks and Recreation will host a nine-hole women's spring golf league with tee times at 8 a.m. Fridays at Whispering Willows Golf Course, located at 20500 Newburgh Road. For more information, call Bernie Hillebrandt at (734) 425-1575.

The 18-hole Livonia Women's Golf League begins its 20-week season at 8 a.m. Thursday, May 3 at Whispering Willows.

The cost is \$25 per week (includes greens fees and cart). Non-residents.

For more information, call Kathy Konkel at (248) 476-3991.

Satisfying finals finish for Livonia teams

BY BRAD EMONS
STAFF WRITER

There were no surprises in Friday's team competition of the MHSAA girls gymnastics finals hosted by Troy Athens.

Holt, which entered as a heavy favorite, lived up to that billing as the Rams captured the '07 championship with a 148.325 points.

Grand Ledge placed runner-up with 146.700 followed by Athens, 145.200; Grand Rapids Forest Hills, 144.225; Livonia Blue, 143.900; Livonia Red, 143.300; Farmington, 142.700; Canton, 142.600; Northville, 141.550; Portage, 138.125; Rochester Adams, 137.400; Rockford, 137.100; and Brighton, 133.175.

GIRLS GYMNASTICS

Livonia Blue and Livonia Red were neck-and-neck all night seeking to secure a top five finish.

Blue, bolstered by strong efforts from Laura Nomura, Meghan Powers and Emily Quint, was able to edge out its city rivals.

Quint, a Division 1 participant, posted a 37.425 all-round that featured a 9.525 on floor and 9.45 on vault. Powers, also Division 1, totaled 36.725, while Nomura recorded a 35.5 in Division 2.

Andrea Pisani, Paula Guzik and Alicia DiMauro came away as Livonia Red's top performers. Pisani's 37.55 all-around in Division 1

was topped by a 9.5 on floor. Guzik scored 37.050 in Division 1, thanks primarily to a 9.5 on beam and 9.475 on vault, while DiMauro finished with a 34.1 all-around in Division 2 with an 8.875 best on floor.

"The girls did awesome, we're proud of both teams," Livonia Red coach Kelly Grodzicki said. "Just to make it here was a great accomplishment. We hope to make it back and do it again next year."

Meaghen McWhorter of Grand Ledge, competing in Division 1, emerged as the meet's top gymnast, taking the top spot on vault (9.775), bars (9.725) and floor (9.700) and placing second on beam (9.525).

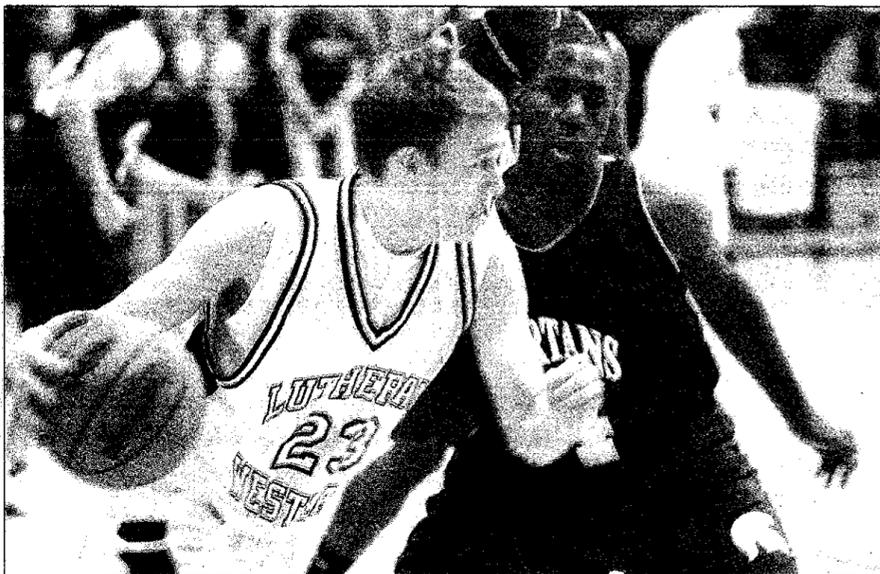
The state individual finals in Division I and II were held on Saturday.

GIRLS GYMNASTICS
STATE TEAM FINALS
March 9 at Troy Athens

TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Holt, 148.325 points; 2. Grand Ledge, 146.700; 3. Troy Athens, 145.200; 4. Grand Rapids Forest Hills, 144.225; 5. Livonia Blue, 143.900; 6. Livonia Red, 143.300; 7. Farmington, 142.700; 8. Canton, 142.600; 9. Northville, 141.550; 10. Portage, 138.125; 11. Rochester Adams, 137.400; 12. Rockford, 137.100; 13. Brighton, 133.175.

INDIVIDUAL RESULTS (Livonia Blue)
Vault: Emily Quint, 9.45; Meghan Powers, 9.05; Laura Nomura, 8.9; Allison Gilley, 8.3; Kelly Tapella, 8.1. Total (top 4 count): 35.7.
Uneven bars: Quint, 9.15; Powers, 8.95; Dalia Shafie, 8.8; Nomura, 8.6; Tapella, 8.525. Total: 35.5.
Balance beam: Quint, 9.3; Powers, 9.25; Nomura, 8.725; Meredith Albers, 8.15; Shafie, 8.05. Total: 35.425.
Floor exercise: Quint, 9.525; Powers, 9.475; Nomura, 9.275; Tapella, 9.0; Katie Bridges, 8.85. Total: 37.275.

(Livonia Red)
Vault: Paula Guzik, 9.475; Andrea Pisani, 9.275; Alicia DiMauro, 8.8; Margarita Lazarevska, 8.55; Brittany Swazey, 8.45. Total (top 4 count): 36.1.
Uneven bars: Pisani, 9.4; Guzik, 8.8; DiMauro, 8.225; Alyssa Gonzales, 7.9; Mandi Bourlier, 8.3. Total: 34.725.
Balance beam: Guzik, 9.5; Pisani, 9.375; Lazarevska, 8.9; Gonzales, 8.25; DiMauro, 8.2. Total: 36.025.
Floor exercise: Pisani, 9.5; Guzik, 9.275; DiMauro, 8.875; Swazey, 8.8; Lazarevska, 8.675.



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Lutheran Westland's Josh Haller (left) gets pressured by Covenant Christian's Greg Lowe.

Torched

Summers nets 49 as Covenant clips Lutheran Westland in finals

BY TIM SMITH
STAFF WRITER

Durrell Summers and his Redford Covenant Christian teammates are geared up to take a serious run at a Class D basketball championship.

But first, the Spartans had to ward off pesky Lutheran Westland in Friday's district final at Covenant. With Summers registering 49 points - 30 in the first half - the Spartans fought off the Warriors, 79-65.

Covenant (18-4) will now face Lansing Christian in a Class D regional semifinal 7:30 p.m. Tuesday at Hillsdale

Academy. The win wasn't easy as the Spartans and Warriors tied 20-20 after one stanza.

"It was a wake-up call, to let us know it ain't going to be easy," said Summers, following his final home game. "After the first quarter, we had a little talk on the side and figured we had to come out much stronger."

Giving the Spartans difficulty was 6-foot-6 senior power forward Alex Edwards (14 points, 14 rebounds), who clogged up the low post.

When Edwards wasn't in the way, the Warriors were knocking down outside shots from

PLEASE SEE COVENANT, B4

Brown steps down after 1 season at S'craft

BY BRAD EMONS
STAFF WRITER

Mike Brown's stint as the Schoolcraft College men's basketball coach was an abbreviated one.

Brown, who took over one of the nation's top junior college programs from Carlos Briggs, resigned Wednesday after just one season.

Brown, who guided the Ocelots to a

COLLEGE HOOPS

23-10 record, said he was going to pursue "another opportunity full-time in coaching," preferably at a four-year school.

"I chose coaching, but from a financial standpoint, it put a strain on me," said Brown, who resigned from a human resources position at an execu-

tive search firm to devote more time to his squad. "There was a practice slot that I had to keep in the middle of my work day, which was tough to work out from a time standpoint. I love the game, being able to work with young men and help them grow as people. I'd like to do it (coaching) full-time, but at Schoolcraft it was not a full-time position."

Under Brown, Schoolcraft captured

the Michigan Community College Athletic Association Tournament title and was beaten by rival Flint Mott CC for the third time this season in the semifinals of the NJCAA Division II-District 8 playoffs, 84-69.

He becomes the latest coach at Schoolcraft to depart the athletic program under second-year athletic direc-

PLEASE SEE BROWN, B2



Midget B champs

Dan Yaquinto tallied the game-winning goal with 1:08 left in regulation to break a 4-all tie and give the Livonia Kings a 5-4 victory over the Port Huron Grizzlies in the Michigan Amateur Hockey Association Midget B Division championship game March 4 at the Monroe Ice Arena. The Kings finished 5-0 in tournament play including a 5-3 win over Mackinaw City in the semifinals. The Kings also scored victories over Iron Range (4-2), Monroe (11-1) and Wyandotte (2-1). Members of the Kings, who finished 36-1-4 overall this season include: Mike Aja, Michael Alonzi, Josh Andaloro, Colin Beck, Mike Campenella, Ryan Edmonds, Nick Gilliland, Kurt Gruska, Wayne Hawkins, Steve Hofmeister, Matt Hope, Ryan Jason, Ryan Lubanski, Mike Padgen, Adam Proctor, Zack Schuit, Kyle Schwarz and Yaquinto, the game MVP. Tim Jason is the head coach, assisted by Don Schwarz and Mark Yaquinto. The team managers are Bill and Dawn Lubanski. Team sponsors include Beck & Boys Custom Apparel and Bellweather Consulting, Inc.

PREP MAT RESULTS

MHSAA INDIVIDUAL STATE WRESTLING RESULTS
March 8-9 at Palace of Auburn Hills DIVISION I

Chad Dunn, 103 pounds, Wayne Memorial: decided by Tyler Bunting (Rochester Adams), 8-4 (overtime); won by major dec. over Zach Worthing (Utica Ford), 10-2; dec. by Andrew Brackins (Waterford Kettering), 4-3.

Jamie Preiss, 119, Wayne: pinned by Zach Johnson (Rockford), 1:43; dec. Rick Musyneburg (L'Anse Creuse), 6-5; dec. Jonny D'Anna (Northville), 1-0.

Josh Billiau, 125, Livonia Franklin (finalist): dec. Trevor Gillison (Traverse City West), 6-0; dec. Ben Sasamoto (Holland West Ottawa), 9-2; dec. Christian Cullinan (Wyandotte Roosevelt), 3-2.

Greg Roberts, 130, Livonia Churchill: dec. Eric Sway-Tin (Troy Athens), 10-6; p. by Jeff Shutich (Rockford), 1:34; dec. Jordan Belous (Lincoln Park), 12-8.

Jim Wood, 140, Westland John Glenn: dec. by Austin Brown (Bay City Central), 10-3; dec. Kyle Omell (Sterling Heights Stevenson), 6-3; dec. by Jesse Bain (Hartland), 5-2.

Nate Turco, 152, Franklin: pinned by Alex Murray (Rockford), 5:06; won by major dec. over Nick Licari (New Baltimore Anchor Bay), 12-1; dec. Colton Tweed (Clarkston), 6-5.

Ziad Kharbush, 160, Livonia Stevenson: pinned Matt Miller (Bay City Central), 5:05; dec. by Justin Root (Howell), 8-3; dec. by Rebar Yusuf (Warren Mott), 2-1.

Pat Roumayah, 171, Franklin: dec. Joe Ceravolo (Warren Mott), 15-8; pinned by Adam Lauzun (Clarkston), 5:40; dec. Jeff Elswick (Wayne), 4-3.

Jeff Elswick, 171, Wayne: dec. by Thornton Carter (Grosse Pointe South), 5-4; won by major dec. over Kyle Summerfield (Hartland), 10-2; dec. by Pat Roumayah (Franklin), 4-3.

Andrew Hein, 171, John Glenn: dec. Dan Martinez (Troy Athens), 12-5; pinned by Jordan Richardson (Grandville), 0:34; lost by technical fall to Matt Skrzypczak (Bay City Central), 18-3.

Shamir Garcia, 215, John Glenn (finalist): dec. Sam Ameel (Waterford Kettering), 11-6; dec. Justin Childers (Okemos), 2-1; dec. Brett Correll (Utica Eisenhower), 6-4 (OT).

DIVISION IV

Stephen Kemp, 152, Lutheran Westland: pinned by Ryan Confer (New Lothrop), 1:51; pinned by Travis Buskirk (Martin), 3:39.

BROWN

FROM PAGE B1

tor Sid Fox's watch joining Briggs, Tom Teeters (women's volleyball), Bill Tolstedt (women's soccer) and Dominic Scicluna (men's soccer).

Only women's basketball coach Karen Lafata remains on Fox's original staff.

In a release sent to the local media Wednesday by Schoolcraft Director of Marketing Marty Heator, Fox praised Brown for what he achieved with a roster of just eight student-athletes.

"His team was highly motivated, remarkably prepared and tenacious in their play," Fox said. "In my experience, I have never witnessed a team that competed any harder on such a consistent basis as the men's basketball team did this year. It is a direct credit to Michael's commitment to excellence and dedication within the basketball arena. I wish him the very best in his professional pursuits."

Brown, who played at both Siena Heights and Wayne State universities, spent one year as a varsity assistant at Belleville High under Mike Krogel.

He also served one year as an assistant under Briggs, who was forced to resign following the 2005-06 season under an severance agreement with Schoolcraft presi-

dent Dr. Conway Jeffress.

Briggs, a former Schoolcraft All-America, transformed the Ocelots from a laughingstock in the MCCA into a national power.

He took the Ocelots to three Division I national tournaments while sporting a gaudy overall record to 247-36. But in his last two seasons, Schoolcraft was excluded from postseason play because of NJCAA rules violations.

Despite having two transfer players who started for Purdue last season - Korey Spates (signed with Kent State) and Nate Minnoy - Schoolcraft struggled in the Eastern Conference of the MCCA under Brown with a 13-5 record, while finishing five games back of Mott.

His top recruit, Belleville's Leon Freeman, arguably one of the state's top five prep players last year, could not be admitted to Schoolcraft after lacking enough credits to graduate from high school. Freeman eventually wound up at a prep school, Boys to Men Prep Academy in Chicago, Ill.

Brown also lost two other high profile recruits and did not have the 6-foot-4, 260-pound Minnoy eligible until late December. The first-year Schoolcraft coach was also saddled with a couple of key losses to ineligibility and injury.

"I took over at a transitional

time, which was tough to do," Brown said. "We hit more bumps than I anticipated. We wanted to win the conference. We did win the state championship, and we fell short four minutes from getting to the region championship game against a very good Mott team."

"We won 23 games with no returning players. For various reasons we played eight players or less. We had a stretch where we had seven games in like 11 days. Yes, I thought we'd win more games, but the kids did everything they could to be successful. Sometimes the ball just bounced in the other direction. Not having more guys available hurt us as far as depth."

Brown, who was named MCCA Coach of the Year, has no regrets about his lone season at Schoolcraft.

"I'm leaving on good terms," he said. "I think I took a big step in the learning process. I think I've figured out what it takes to be a success. This season helps me tremendously. There were a lot of things I could have done better looking back. I learned so much from the situation and the players. Wherever God will have me to be, I'll end up."

The Schoolcraft press release on Brown's resignation also stated that a timeline has not been set for posting the job or seeking a replacement.

Crusaders assured of winning mark on trip

With Saturday's game against Fisher College (Mass.) the last one to be played before heading back home, the Madonna University baseball team assured itself of a winning trip thanks to Friday's split of a twinbill against Judson College (Ill.).

Madonna entered the Saturday game with a record of 7-5, and will now be idle until a 1 p.m. home double-header Saturday against Malone College (Ohio) at Ilitch Ballpark in Livonia.

MU scored four runs in the top of the seventh to open up a comfortable lead in the lidlifter, enough to withstand a two-run rally by Judson.

Junior catcher Garrett Ignasiak went 2-for-3 and drove in three runs, two coming in on his first-inning double to center.

Also with two hits was sophomore second baseman Ryan Morrow.

Pitching into the seventh

COLLEGE BASEBALL

and scattering six hits while striking out seven was winning pitcher Ryan Bardoni, a junior righthander.

Judson (4-6) blanked the Crusaders 3-0 in the nightcap, behind the four-hit pitching of Kyle Neubauer (Owensville, 7 strikeouts).

Junior first baseman Dave Herrick had two singles in three at bats while Morrow and senior left fielder Manny Alvarado (Southfield) also singled.

On Thursday, a five-run fourth sparked Madonna's 10-6 win over Urbana (Ohio).

Freshman catcher Zach Flavin led off the frame with a homer to left-center and the Crusaders also scored on run-scoring singles by senior right fielder Tony Luttman (Farmington), Ignasiak, a sacrifice fly by Herrick and a

wild pitch. Luttman (3-for-5, five RBI) cleared the fence in the third for his fourth of the season.

Collecting two hits in the win were Morrow and senior shortstop Kyle Fedorka, helping give starting and winning pitcher Eric Wendling plenty of offensive support.

Wendling went six innings, giving up three runs on five hits before giving way to junior John McCracken for the final inning.

Purdue-North Central ripped Madonna pitching on Wednesday, compiling 13 runs and 14 hits in the 13-5 victory.

On the bright side for MU was a 14-hit performance, featuring three hits by Herrick and two each by freshman center fielder Rikco Rhoades, Ignasiak, Luttman and Alvarado.

Homering for the Crusaders were Ignasiak, Luttman and Herrick.

MU women sweep 2 from Iowa school

The Madonna University women's softball team came from behind in Game 2 to sweep their way last week out of Tucson, Ariz., 8-7, over William Penn (Ia.).

Madonna got a game-winning RBI single from Brittney Scero (Canton) in the bottom of the eighth to come back from a 7-0 second-inning deficit.

The Crusaders scored five times in the fifth and twice in the seventh to force extra innings. Using the international tie-breaker rule, MU escaped the William Penn

COLLEGE SOFTBALL

eighth after watching the bases become loaded with nobody out.

MU got out of the inning with a line-out and 1-2-3 double-play then watched as Scero delivered the game winning single, scoring Kathleen, Smiley. Scero and Danielle Richardson each extended their team high hitting streak to 11 games.

In Game 1, Madonna got off to a good start and built a 5-0 lead heading into the seventh.

Judson would come back to tie the game on MU hurler Liz Ballinger who surrendered five runs in the seventh, including a three-run homer.

In the bottom of the seventh, the Crusaders saw Heather Richardson (Canton) reach base and then score on an errant throw by the shortstop to give MU the 6-5 victory.

Ballinger (4-2) picked up the win, going the distance. She surrendered five earned runs while striking out five and scattering eight hits.

With the sweep, MU returns to Livonia with a 7-4 record.

Whalers continue hot pace with 5-1 OHL win

The Plymouth Whalers outskated Erie, 5-1, Friday night to pad their Ontario Hockey League-leading record to 47-14-1-3.

Vern Cooper opened the scoring with 6:18 left in the first period off assists from Wes Cunningham and Daniel Ryder. Andrew Fournier's goal from Evan Brophrey and Chris Terry 4:47 into the second period increased the Whalers' lead to 2-0. After Erie's Michael Liambas scored from Shayne Taylor to make it 2-1, Terry lit the lamp with 5:09 left in the second period. Steve Ward and A.J. Jenks tallied insurance markers in the third period for the winners.

Michal Neuvirth earned the victory between the pipes for the Whalers with 36 saves.

Win over Spitfires

Daniel Ryder scored two goals and an assist and linemate Dan Collins added a goal and three assists as the Whalers defeated the Windsor Spitfires, 6-3, in an OHL encounter Thursday before

3,127 at Windsor Arena.

With the victory, Plymouth (now 46-14-1-3, 96 points) moved into a first-place tie with London (also 46-14-1-3) as the top team in the OHL.

Plymouth swept the season series with Windsor, winning all eight games this year.

Ryan McGinnis (6), Andrew Fournier (18) and rookie Jordan O'Neill (first-ever OHL goal) also scored for the Whalers. Kevin Hudes (12), Josh Bailey (21) and Adam Henrique (19) replied for Windsor. Plymouth outshot Windsor, 48-41. Whalers goaltender Jeremy Smith stopped 38-of-41 shots as the game's third star and his sixth win against Windsor this year.

After Hudes tapped home a rebound at 4:16 of the first period to give Windsor their only lead, Plymouth tied the game on Ryder's first goal of the night at 39th of the year at 10:29 to tie the game at 1-1. On the play, Collins passed to Cooper from the left wing to the right hashmark and Cooper found Ryder

on the left wing lip of the Windsor crease. Ryder gave Plymouth their first lead on a power play at 18:19 of the period when he threaded a shot from the right wing that beat Windsor goaltender Andrew Engleage on the short side post.

Plymouth pulled away with two unanswered goals in the second period to lead 4-1 after forty minutes. Collins scored on a stuff from the right wing goal line at 1:32 and then McGinnis scored on a power play at 3:12 when his high shot from the right wing pinballed around Engleage.

Fournier (rebound at 4:29), O'Neill (shot from the left faceoff circle at 10:12) and Henrique (backhand shot right wing at 18:49) completed the scoring in the third period.

Plymouth returns to action at 2 p.m. Sunday at home to host the Sault Ste. Marie Greyhounds.

Tickets are available by calling the Compuware Sports Arena at (734) 453-8400 or by going to Ticketmaster at www.ticketmaster.com.



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District champs

Michael Kutek racked up five goals, including a penalty shot in the second period and a natural hat trick in the third as the Livonia Bantam Flyers recently defeated Canton No. 1 in the Michigan Amateur Hockey Association District 4 finals, 8-4, Feb. 10 at Edgar Arena. Charlie Kuder scored twice and Kyle Wagei also scored in the championship game. The Flyers, coached by Gary Dowd, went 7-1-1 during their tournament run while outscoring their opponents, 53-29. Leading the Flyers defense was Jeramy Stover, Austin Dowd, Danny Donahue, Victor DeFlorio, Eric Cipparone along with goalie Mike Fredendall. Rounding out the Flyers team is Storm Chester, Kevin Elkins, Michael Gambino, Matt Gremaux, Colin Kelly, Jake Meadows, Ethan Rackley and Michael Sexton. Assistant coaches included Dan Fredendall, Bill Hamilton, Phil Sexton and Chris Meadows. The team sponsor is OHM Engineering Advisors.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

C'ville spring tryouts

Livonia Clarenceville High School has announced its spring 2007 athletic tryout schedule for the following sports:

Boys baseball - 2:45 p.m. Monday, March 12 at the gymnasium. Contact Mike Korczyk at mkorczyk@clarenceville.k12.mi.us.

Boys track and field - 2:45 p.m. Monday, March 12 at the gymnasium. Contact Dean Bergeron at dbergeron@clarenceville.k12.mi.us.

Girls track and field - 2:45 p.m. Monday, March 12 at the gymnasium. Contact Brady Gustafson at bgustafson@clarenceville.k12.mi.us.

Girls softball - 5 p.m. Monday, March 12 at the gymnasium. Contact Joe DeCaire at kmurphy@clarenceville.k12.mi.us.

Girls soccer - 2:45 p.m. Monday, March 12 at the gymnasium. Contact Trevor Johnson at tjohnson@clarenceville.k12.mi.us.

All athletes must have a valid physical on file (conducted after April 15, 2006) in order to try out.

For more information, call the Clarenceville athletic office at (248) 919-0408, Ext. 217.

FHS spring tryouts

Livonia Franklin High School has announced its spring 2007 spring athletic tryout schedule for the following sports beginning on Monday, March 12:

Baseball (varsity) - 7-9:30 p.m. at the fieldhouse;
Baseball (JV) - 2:30-4:30 p.m. at the fieldhouse;
Boys tennis - 2:30-4:45 p.m. at the YWCA tennis courts (all players must wear appropriate clothing, bring a racket, water and non-marking soled tennis shoes);

Girls track and field - 3-5 p.m. (indoor track);
Boys track and field - 3:30-5 p.m. (court 3/fieldhouse);

Girls golf - 3:15-5:15 p.m. (including Monday-Tuesday, March 12-13) at the Oasis Golf Dome (cost \$5 per day for range balls);

Girls soccer (varsity and JV) - 6:30 p.m. (registration at North cafeteria); tryouts, 7-9 p.m. (all players must bring a ball, water and wear shin guards);
Girls softball (varsity) - 5-7 p.m. (competitive gym);
Girls softball (JV) - 5-7 p.m. (fieldhouse).

All players must turn in a physical form before being allowed to try out or participate on any high school team. Physical forms are available in the FHS Business Office.

For more information, call Franklin athletic director Ron Hammy at (734) 744-2655, Ext. 476117.

CHS spring tryouts

Livonia Churchill High School has announced its spring 2007 athletic tryout schedule for the following sports:

Boys tennis - 2:45 p.m. Monday, March 12 at the gymnasium.

For more information, contact Reid Friedrichs at rfriedri@livonia.k12.mi.us;

Competitive cheerleading - 6 p.m. Monday, May 7 at the gymnasium. Contact Heidi Richardson at richard@livonia.k12.mi.us;

Girls golf - 3 p.m. Monday, March 12 at the Oasis Golf Dome. Contact Gary Harper at gharper@livonia.k12.mi.us;

Boys baseball - 2:45 p.m. Monday, March 12 at the fieldhouse. Contact Ron Targosz at rtargosz@livonia.k12.mi.us;

Boys track and field - 2:45 p.m. Monday, March 12 at the gymnasium. Contact Rick Austin at raustin@livonia.k12.mi.us;

Girls track and field - 2:45 p.m. Monday, March 12 at the gymnasium. Contact Keith McDonald at kmcdonal@livonia.k12.mi.us;

Girls softball - 5 p.m. Monday, March 12 at the fieldhouse. Contact Meghan Misiak at misiakm@wayne.edu;

Girls soccer - 2:45 p.m. Monday, March 12 at the gymnasium. Contact Dave Hebestreit at dhebestr@livonia.k12.mi.us.

All athletes must have a valid physical on file (conducted after April 15, 2006) in order to try out, in addition to a Livonia Public Schools \$100 participation fee.

For more information, call the Churchill athletic office at (734) 744-2650, Ext. 46117.

Colt-Palomino signup

Registration for Livonia Baseball-Softball Association Colt (ages 15-16) and Palomino (17-18) baseball will be from 10 a.m. until noon, Saturday, March 31; and from 6-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 18, at the Livonia Civic Center Library.

Two divisions of play will be formed. It includes a highly competitive select division for those members of their high school baseball teams along with a non-select division for youths currently not playing for their respective high school squad.

Rosters may be limited. Early registration is encouraged and forms are available in the high school business offices. Coaches are also wanted for both divisions.

For more information, call George Coram at (248) 478-5071 or Curt Kreutzfeld at (734) 522-5413.

Football signup

Registration for St. Michaels Grade School 2007 Catholic Youth Organization fall football will be from 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, March 13 at school's cafeteria, located at 11441 Hubbard (midway between Merriman and Farmington roads, south of Plymouth Road).

Registration is open to boys entering grades 4-8 and is a member of the following parishes or schools: St. Michael, St. Maurice, St. Genevieve, St. Aidan, St. Damian, St. Robert Bellarmine, St. Sabina, St. Thomas a'Becket, Divine Savior, St. Theodore, St. Bernardine and St. John Bosco.

For more information, call John Widmer at (248) 471-6767, Ext. 11; or e-mail jwidmer@frohmwidmer.com.

Girls fastpitch

Registration for the 2007 Westland Lightning girls fastpitch softball program (ages 8-16) is being held from 7-9 p.m. Wednesdays and 10 a.m. until noon Saturdays at the Westland Youth Athletic Association Compound, 6050 Farmington Road, Westland.

Birth certificates are required. For more information, call

(734) 421-0640; or visit www.wyaa.org.

The Livonia Storm girls fastpitch softball team is seeking more players to fill current and new teams to attend tryouts on Saturday, March 24 (location and time to be determined).

For exact times and locations (based on weather), visit www.livoniastorm.com. For more information, call Ken Jewell at (734) 266-9109; or e-mail kjewell@livoniastorm.com.

AAU volleyball

Tryouts for the Thunderbirds Volleyball Organization (TVO) for girls ages 10-18 will be Saturday and Sunday evenings throughout the month of March.

Space is limited, but new and experienced players are welcome.

To register for tryouts, call TVO club coordinator Gary Smart at (734) 432-5959; or e-mail smart5959@sbcglobal.net.

Soccer signup

Registration is underway for the Livonia YMCA spring soccer for boys and girls ages 3-8, along with boys and girls under-9, -10 and -11.

The season runs April 14 through June 2 and fees vary.

For more information, call (734) 261-2161.

The Livonia Soccer Club is accepting spring registrations.

For more information, call (734) 464-8575; or visit www.livoniasoccer.org.

WYAA registration

Registration for the 39th season for Westland Youth Athletic Association baseball and softball is underway and runs through March 31 at the WYAA's Lange Compound, 6050 Farmington Road (north of Ford Road).

The WYAA offers programs including: T-Ball (ages 5-6), Coach-Pitch with machine (7-8), Mustang (9-10), Bronco (11-12), Pony (13-14), Colt (15-16), Palomino (17-18), along with girls slow-pitch and fastpitch softball.

For more information, call (734) 421-0640 during normal business hours or 10 a.m. until noon Saturday and 7-9 p.m. Wednesdays; leave a message).

You can also visit www.wyaa.org.

WWSL meeting

The Wayne-Westland Soccer League will stage an informational mandatory meeting for coaches to pick up packets and photo signup at 8:15 p.m. Monday, March 12 at the Bailey Recreation Center (upstairs), 36651 Ford Road, Westland.

For more information, call Rhonda Gates at (734) 728-6100, Ext. 128.

CHS Hall of Fame

The Livonia Churchill Athletic Patrons will stage their fifth annual Hall of Fame dinner 6 p.m. Thursday, March 22 at Italian-American Club in Livonia.

Among the honorees are former basketball standout Ken Landini, boys basketball coach Pat Montagano and the 1972 undefeated Charger football team coached by Ken Kaestner. Several members of the '72 football team still need to be located.

For more information, or to reserve a spot at the banquet, call the Churchill Athletic Office at (734) 744-2650, Ext. 46117.

Desert experience offers new bowling perspective

On the road again, this time it was a few weeks in Arizona where I traded some single-digit Michigan temperatures for the 70s with lots of bright sunshine in the Phoenix area.

I visited the AMF Shea Lanes to watch the locals have the usual fun associated with bowling. There are plenty of ex-Michiganians in that area who bowl, and I was wondering to myself

whether they have an organized league of their own. The local TV late news featured a bowler, Arthur Iola, who celebrated his 100th birthday with a party at one of the nearby lanes.

The TV crew had some nice highlights as Arthur rolled up a 160 score.

He began his bowling career in 1933 and still has the ability to deliver a pretty good shot.

Desert TV viewers can also find a show, Country Fried

Home Videos, which I stayed up late to watch. It's silly stuff on the order of America's Funniest Home Videos.

One segment featured "Shotgun Bowling."

In this scenario, a full set of bowling pins was the target for a bunch of guys armed with shotguns. They were blasting away at the pins and keeping score just like regular bowlers would in league play.

They apparently use discarded pins that are not likely to last very long in these conditions. Don't try this at home. Arizona is a nice place to visit, but I'll still take our state, which is a great place to live.

All of the hootin' and holerin' for the high school varsity bowling season is over. And the local area kids did quite well although they did not come home with a state team title.

Livonia Clarenceville's Danielle Fecso, who was a Division II singles competition quarterfinalist, will be headed to North Carolina-Fayetteville next fall with a full ride bowling scholarship.

And coach Pam Jones says of her team, "Wait 'til next year."

For details on the past high school bowling season, stats,

names and records, log on to mhsbca.com.

Bowldetroit.com announces a partnership between WrestleMania 23, the Make-A-Wish Foundation and Community Bowling Centers to bring the Bowl with Bobby Lashley charity bowling event.

The Make-A-Wish Foundation is a participant in the WWE Circle of Champions program, which is scheduled for Saturday, March 31 at Skore Lanes in Taylor.

You can be a part of the WrestleMania weekend madness at an exclusive party with WWE superstars to help raise money for Make-A-Wish.

Here are several package options available, call (313) 291-6220 or e-mail Fran Wood at fwood@bowldetroit.com.

Eight bowlers remain this season in the Mayflower Senior Men's Classic to bowl a perfect game as Al Messecar of Westland rolled the fifth 300 of his career.

Al Harrison is a resident of Livonia and a member of the Bowling Writers Association of America. He can be reached at (248) 477-1839 or email: tenpinalley@sbcglobal.net

Lutheran Westland whips Westside

Lutheran High Westland bolted out to a 27-point half-time lead en route to an 81-60 boys basketball victory Thursday Detroit Westside Christian Academy in the Class D district semifinals hosted by Redford Covenant Christian.

Senior guard Kyle Ramthun scored a team-high 21 points for the Warriors, who led 47-20 at intermission.

Senior center Alex Edwards added 16, while Josh Haller contributed 12.

Westside Christian (5-11) was led by senior guard Martez

Washington's 22 points.

"It was a nice effort, we played good defense," Lutheran Westland coach Dan Ramthun said.

Covenant 70, Huron Valley 15: Michigan State University recruit Durrell Summers led a balanced scoring attack with 17 points

Thursday as host Redford Covenant Christian (18-4) rolled to a Class D district semifinal victory over Westland Huron Valley Lutheran (2-19).

Covenant jumped out to a 34-4

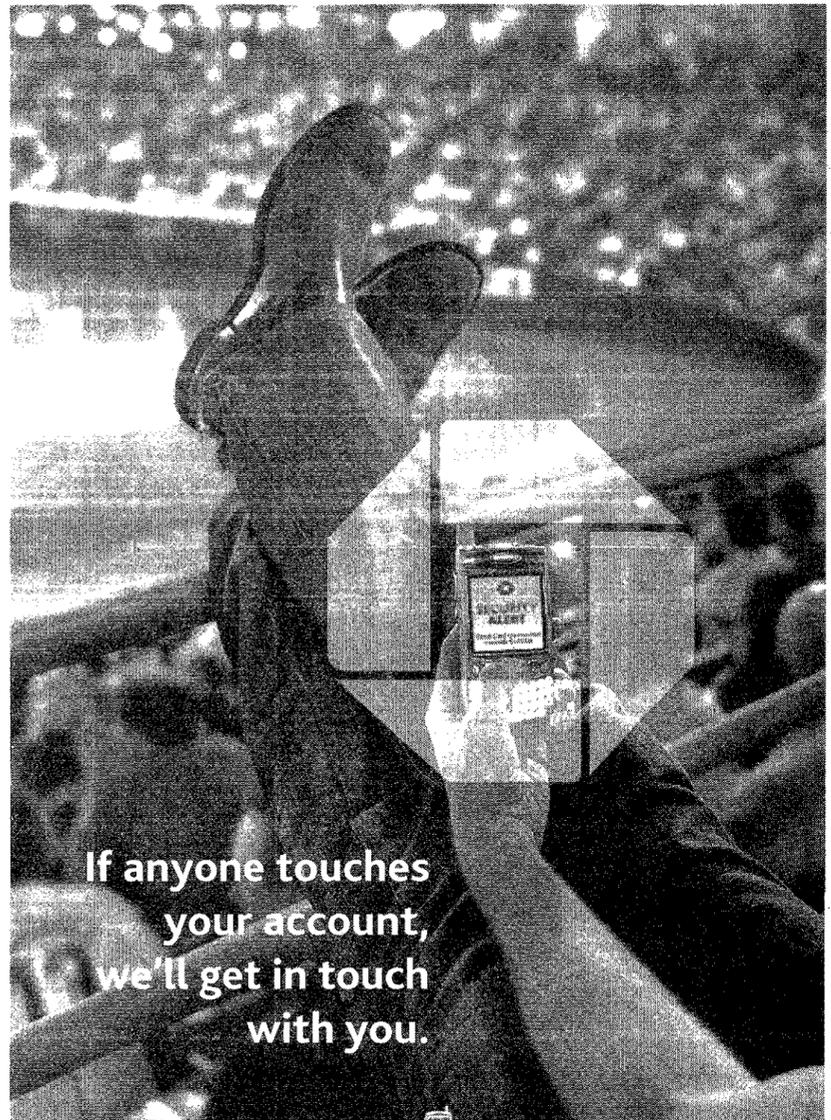
first-quarter lead and cruised the rest of the game.

Jamonne Chester and Greg Lowe added 11 and 10, respectively, for the Spartans.

Kyle Tacia scored four for the Hawks.

"They are way more experienced than we are and way more athletic than we are," Huron Valley coach Jim Ott said. "We broke their press enough to keep the score somewhat respectable in the first quarter, but couldn't score when we did."

"What can you say about Durrell? He's a very athletic basketball player that seems to dunk any chance he gets. It will be neat to see how Tom Izzo changes him next year. They'll go as far as Durrell can take them."



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Stevenson's Chris Mulcahy (left) applies pressure and traps Thurston's Kyle Crockett in the corner during Friday's Class A district final.

STEVENSON

FROM PAGE B1

them in front of us, challenge the outside shot and secure the rebound. I thought Ryan Aneed was great the first half. He was all over the boards."

Senior forward Derek Severson added 12 points, including two big three-pointers at the end of the first half to stake Stevenson to a 35-28 advantage.

"The first half we were able to lock and load, but at half-time I told our guys not to fall in love with the 'three,'" Miller said. "We wanted to continue to attack and eventually we got them in foul trouble."

After halftime, Thurston went scoreless for 6 minutes and 18 seconds before Gregory Morgan hit a free throw. During the period, the Eagles were outscored 13-3 and made just 1-of-17 shots from the floor.

"I kept looking and looking up at the scoreboard, and we haven't scored yet," said Thurston coach Brian Bates, whose team finished 17-6 overall. "And we're usually a good shooting team."

"We did not run our zone offense. Usually we should eat up a 1-3-1 (zone). We just didn't do what we were supposed to do offensively. We dribbled too much, didn't make cuts when we were supposed to, and we didn't look for other people. We didn't execute."

Despite trailing by as many as 19, Thurston cut the deficit to seven twice in the final quarter, only to have the 5-9 Knochel connect on 11-of-12 free throws to prevent any ideas of a Thurston comeback.

Junior Jarmel Bloodshaw led the Eagles in scoring with 14 points, while Morgan and Delmichael Youngblood added 12 each. Rashad Harvey had nine.

"We did not play well," Bates said. "But they (Stevenson) did a nice job with their zone and they deserved to win. They shot the ball very well. We did a nice job on Luke (Knochel), but their other kids stepped up and shot the ball well."

Knochel came into the district final averaging 22.8 points per game. He was hounded by a slew of Thurston defenders while trying to bring the ball up the floor. He eventually got to the foul line, hitting 13-of-15.

The 5-11 Mulcahy, meanwhile, made 8-of-17 shots

from the floor, none bigger than his driving layup down the center of the lane with 1:56 remaining to give the Spartans a nine-point cushion, 61-52, and help secure the win.

Mulcahy and Knochel have been longtime teammates and adversaries, dating back to grade-school days. Both were members of Stevenson's Division I state runner-up boys soccer team.

"When Luke handles the ball, it's easy to beat that pressure," Mulcahy said. "They (Thurston) were bringing two and three guys at him, but we were able to get them in foul trouble and it opened up opportunities for him to hit free throws and put some distance on them."

"They (Thurston) are a team like us. Usually we play against teams a lot bigger inside, but we might have been as tall or a little bit taller."

"We've been playing basketball against each other in the Ljal since the third grade. And we've played baseball and soccer together all that time. We're comfortable together. We can read each other's minds."

Although the Spartans will be an underdog again in Tuesday's regional semifinal, they were able to savor their first title in over 18 years afterwards.

"It feels real good," Mulcahy said. "Basketball hasn't been in the spotlight lately around here. It's good to open some doors. It makes it more special."

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BOYS HOOPS

2006-07 ALL-WESTERN LAKES ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION BOYS BASKETBALL TEAMS

All-Conference: Alvin Storrs, 6-1 Sr. G, Northville; Luke Knochel, 5-9 Sr. G, Livonia; Stevenson; Ryan Waldmann, 6-7 Sr. F, Canton; Earl Hardison, 6-1 Jr. G, Westland; John Glenn; Grant Stone, 6-4, Jr. F, Salem; Mike Lee, 5-9 Jr. G., Wayne Memorial.

All-Lakes Division: Stefan Marken, 6-3 Jr. G, John Glenn; Keshawn Martin, 6-0 Jr. G, John Glenn; Cody Rzeznik, 6-3 Jr. F, W.L. Central; Matt Guldán, 6-4 Sr. F, W.L. Central; Chris Mulcahy, 5-10 Sr. G, Stevenson; Ryan Rosenick, 6-2 Jr. F, Churchill; Ryan Bahnmiller, 6-4 Sr. G-F, W.L. Northern.

All-Western Division: Bret Spencer, 6-3 Sr. F, Northville; Dan Kirkpatrick, 6-5 Jr. F, Northville; Neil Sharma, 6-4 Jr. F, Canton; Josh Butler, 5-11 Sr. G, Canton; John Hill, 6-2 Jr. F, Wayne; Quinton Cooper, 6-2 Soph. F, W.L. Western; Brandon Roberts, 6-0 Jr. G, Plymouth.

Coach of the Year: Dan Young, John Glenn.

HONORABLE MENTION

Northville: Mike Rogers, David Burke; **Canton:** Eric Thornton, Devarone Jackson, Ryan Langdon; **Wayne:** Jeremy Lovelady, Robert Woodson; **W.L. Western:** Eddie Vushaj, Sean Armstrong; **Plymouth:** Jake Hager, Dan Jeong; **Franklin:** Tyler Canyock, Alex Reid, Gary Cobb, Matt Mills, Andy Ring; **John Glenn:** Rob Jones, Austin Anderson; **W.L. Central:** Joe Marshall, Bryan Peterson, Brandon Joseph; **Salem:** Ross Davis, Dan Cassidy; **Stevenson:** Derek Severson, Nate Wilson, Ryan Aneed; **Churchill:** Brad Evans, Ryan Whitum; **W.L. Northern:** Robert Johnson, Steve Knurick, Tim Ferenc.

ALL-METRO CONFERENCE

First team: Steve Doerflinger, Jr., Macomb Lutheran North; Rich Beebe, Sr., Lutheran North; Samia Keliani, Sr., Lutheran North; Bobby Gibson, Sr., Harper Woods; Xavier Fowler, Sr., Harper Woods; Chris Rencher, Sr., Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook; Xander Strek, Jr., Cranbrook (at-large); Kyle Ramthun, Sr., Lutheran High Westland (MYP); Jeff Beauregard, Sr., Rochester Hills Lutheran Northwest; Byron LeFlore, Sr., Hamtramck; Lonnie Fairfax, Sr., Livonia Clarenceville; David O'Connell, Sr., Clawson.

Second team: Brad Budchuk, Jr., Lutheran North; Drew Dennison, Jr., Lutheran North (at-large); Dexter Jackson, Sr., Harper Woods; Matt Broder, Jr., Cranbrook; Adam Morris, Sr., Cranbrook; Sean Vandenbrink, Sr., Lutheran Westland; Josh Haller, Sr., Lutheran Westland; Jeremy Simmons, Sr., Lutheran Northwest; Raed Alsabahl, Jr., Hamtramck; Jeremy Gainer, Soph., Clarenceville; Carlton Snyder, Sr., Grosse Pointe Woods University-Liggett.

Coach of the Year: Gary Gutenkunst, Lutheran North.

COVENANT

FROM PAGE B1

the likes of senior guard Kyle Ramthun (18 points) and senior guard Sean Vandenbrink (11 points).

"Defensively we came out flat but offensively we matched them pound-for-pound, shot-for-shot," Covenant coach Durand Shepherd said. "I just thought it was just a matter of time for the guys who were hitting shots for them to stop hitting them."

"They did a remarkable job, don't get me wrong. The big fella (Edwards) and the guards played well for them. But I just knew we've got Durrell Summers and they don't."

According to Lutheran Westland head coach Dan Ramthun, whose team finished 14-8, it was a case of not having enough overall size to handle 6-5 Summers and the rest of Covenant's lineup.

"Alex played a good game, we knew he'd have to step up," Ramthun said. "But we just don't have enough big bodies to match their big bodies. "But they (Warriors) played hard, I can't complain at all. It was a great effort."

The Warriors actually held a 22-20 lead in the opening minute of the second quarter, following a bucket by sophomore forward Sam Ahlersmeyer (six points).

That's when Summers became a one-man wrecking crew, scoring 13 points in a three-minute span to give the Spartans a 35-22 margin.

Summers stormed in for two layups, canned a short jumper and then coaxed a triple try from beyond the top of the arc to fall through the rim.

"He was motivated tonight," said Shepherd, with a sly grin.

Covenant padded the lead to 44-30 at halftime. Freshman guard Carlos Carter (eight points, five rebounds, five assists) stripped the ball at mid-court and went in for a layup and subsequently connected on a jumper from the top of the key.

Early in the third, Spartans senior center Stephen Chester (10 points, eight rebounds) scored back-to-back buckets in the paint to open up a 48-33 lead.

But the Warriors didn't give up, chipping the lead down to eight points (56-48) before the end of the



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Redford Covenant senior guard Durrell Summers reacts after throwing down a dunk during the first half of Friday's Class D district final against Lutheran Westland.

frame thanks to a 6-0 run. Scoring four of the points was Vandenbrink with the other bucket going to senior forward Kyle Wilson (eight points).

Covenant essentially put the game away with a 10-4 surge to open the fourth.

Just for good measure, however, Summers hit all four free throws near the end of the final stanza, giving him 12-for-12 in the game.

Also scoring eight points for the Spartans was senior guard Jacory Morning.

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Family support and food journals

Family and friends can be a great source of support while you're trying to lose weight. However, making dramatic lifestyle changes can cause tension even among the closest families.

Some family members, or even close friends, may be unsupportive. Some may be resentful, while others may feel uncomfortable eating around you. Some, often those who need to lose weight, may be jealous of your weight-loss progress and try to sabotage your efforts.

If you find your loved ones are unsupportive, try to remain positive. They may not want you to change simply because they fear change. Don't we all at times? When they see the positive results healthy weight loss has on your attitude and appearance, they may want to join your efforts.



Linda Aubuchon

In the meantime, if relatives encourage you to eat high-calorie foods at family gatherings, try to be polite and refuse. You can respond by saying, "No thanks, I ate so much of that delicious chicken, I have no room for cake."

You might want to avoid gatherings for a little while, until you're more comfortable asserting yourself. You cannot become a hermit, though. A very important part of successful, long-term weight loss is being able to handle social situations, since you're obviously not going to avoid them forever.

You can also try asking for help. Sometimes all it takes is letting someone close to you know how important and helpful their support is in helping you achieve your goals. Good support is a common trait among successful dieters.

Another common trait is food journaling. At times, when the weight doesn't seem to be coming off, or staying on track seems difficult, keeping a food journal is very beneficial. If you don't keep track of your diet using food journals, now's the time to start. Write everything down, and carefully examine those times when you strayed and had a little extra.

Are you noting accurate portion sizes? If you're not, then you're probably not weighing and measuring, which will ensure proper portions and teach you how to judge portion sizes when eating out. Just 100 extra calories a day will pack on 10 pounds in a year.

Look for times when you ate too little, as well. For example, you may notice that you tend to skip breakfast often. Breakfast jump-starts your metabolism for the day.

Even if you don't skip breakfast, take a closer look at your food choices. Are you eating protein at breakfast? Protein gives you energy and makes you feel full longer. Selecting good protein sources, such as skim milk, yogurt or eggs, combined with complex carbohydrates like whole wheat bread or high-fiber fruit, will give you a great boost to start your day.

Also, look at your meal times. Are you consuming three meals with no snacks, or one large meal with several snack times? Try to spread your food out evenly among four to six meal and snack times. This will help boost your metabolism, help your body burn calories more efficiently, and prevent energy dips during the day.

You should also examine your food selections. Are you consuming high-fiber selections? Fiber is important when trying to lose weight as it makes you feel full and curbs your appetite between meals. It's also important for your overall digestive health as well, regardless of whether you're trying to lose weight.

Finally, look at the last time you ate. Are you snacking late at night? Is there a big gap between your last meal and your first? Again, spreading out meal and snack times will help keep your metabolism humming along and burning calories, and will keep your appetite in check.

Furthermore, make sure you get about eight hours of sleep each night. Not only will you have low energy levels from too little sleep, research shows people tend to compensate for a lack of energy with food. Keeping track of what you eat doesn't just help keep you aware of what you're eating. It allows you to examine your eating habits so you can have a clearer picture of where you can make significant changes to promote and maintain weight loss.

Linda Aubuchon is the owner of Diet Center of Canton, a provider of personalized weight loss solutions. She can be contacted via e-mail at Linda@DietCenterofCanton.com or call her at (734) 414-9200.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Amy Watts (left) and Jackie Dostine look over materials from the library that tell groups how to start a book club.

Avid

Book clubs bring literature lovers together

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

Holly Bedour admits the book she selected for the Canton club to discuss in February is a trashy, historical romance novel, but all of the members seemed to love learning about Mary Boleyn, a mistress of Henry VIII in *The Other Boleyn Girl* by Philippa Gregory.

The book was on the Canton Public Library list of must reads as part of the Book-Club-in-a-Bag kits that include eight copies of a specific title, discussion questions, a biography of the author, and any reviews.

The Canton library lends 60 different titles regularly to the nearly 40 clubs it's registered, including the as-yet-unnamed one that meets at Panera Bread on Ford Road in Canton. Founded in June 2005 by Michelle Grytzelius, the club varies in size with about 12 members who are neighbors in Fellows Creek subdivision. The women, ranging from their mid-30s to early 50s, meet about every six weeks and take turns selecting books.

"Most of the members are working moms of small children, friends and neighbors of Michelle," said Bedour. "Most reviews are done at Panera except for *Memoirs of a Geisha* when we met at a Japanese restaurant. It's

PLEASE SEE BOOK CLUBS, C4



The Canton library's Book-Club-in-a-Bag kits consist of eight copies of a specific title, discussion questions, a biography of the author, and any published reviews.

readers



Canton librarian Ellen Pare joined the women in a neighborhood book club for a discussion of 'The Other Boleyn Girl' at Panera Bread.



Jackie Dostine (left), Holly Bedour, librarian Ellen Pare, Michelle Grytzelius and Amy Watts discuss 'The Other Boleyn Girl,' historical fiction by Philippa Gregory, at Panera Bread in Canton.

Catholic conference inspires men of all ages

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

Not everyone goes on to join the seminary like Jeff Allan did, but participants do leave the annual Catholic Conference for Men feeling inspired about following Christ.

Sponsored by the Archdiocese of Detroit, the event takes place from 8 a.m. (doors open at 7 a.m.) to 3:30 p.m. Saturday, March 24, at University of Detroit Mercy, Calihan Hall, 4001 W. McNichols, Detroit.

Cost is \$40 in advance, \$50 at door, \$25 students, and includes box lunch. For information, call (734) 459-9558 or visit www.christschosen.com or www.mensfellowship.com.

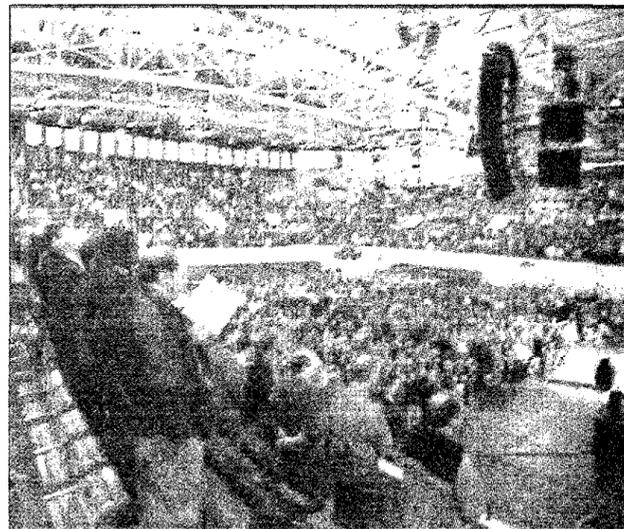
The day features speakers and a 2:30 p.m. Mass. Confession is available throughout the event.

"There's always something special when 3,000 to 3,500 men come together to celebrate Christ and their faith, and learn from one

another," said Allan, a 28-year-old first-year seminarian at Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit. Allan, a former Livonia resident, hopes to be ordained a priest in five years.

"Attending the past conferences impacted and influenced me just how the Lord is working in the lives of men. There's something special happening in men's fellowship here and around the world. Men are being faced with a lot of challenges — family life, work, different distractions like media, pornography, alcoholism, drugs. Conferences like this can make men accountable and helps to find answers to some of those questions."

The Rev. John Riccardo opens the conference by challenging men to be Courageous Companions of Christ, the theme of this year's event. Riccardo is the 41-year-old pastor of St. Anastasia Parish in Troy. This is his fifth consecutive



PLEASE SEE CONFERENCE, C7 In 2006, 3,200 men attended the conference sponsored by the Archdiocese of Detroit.

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day with Irish food, music, dance

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

Corned beef and cabbage are traditionally found at the Irish Fest every St. Patrick's Day in Westland, but this year Mick Gavin is expanding the menu to provide an authentic taste of the Emerald Isle.

Gaelic beef stew, Dublin-style fish and chips, Ulster clam chowder, and delicious Irish desserts are among the items offered at the 22nd annual St. Patrick's Day Irish Fest at the Hellenic Cultural Center, 36376 Joy Road, east of Newburgh.

Tickets are \$10 at the door (with food sold separately). For more information, call (313) 537-3489 or visit www.detroitirish.org.

Gavin is one of the musicians that will be playing Irish music when the doors open at 2 p.m. Saturday, March 17.

"It's going to be a good day. We're going to give them the best value for their money," said Mick Gavin, an Irish fiddler who every year plays with

his sons Sean and Michael, and several of his students. Gavin moved to the U.S. from Ireland in 1974.

"Dublin is famous for fish and chips. After the pubs close at midnight people head for the fish and chips shop and just eat them on the street. That was your carryout in those days."

Along with the food, authentic musicians and dancers will create a wee bit of Ireland. All-Ireland champion harpist Siobhan McKinney and the McKinney Family Band, Midwest flute champion Phillip Rufles of Indiana, Detroit's favorite Irish ballad singer Eddie McGlinchey, the Heinzman School of Irish Dance, members of the Birmingham Celtic Pipes and Drums Corps, Midwest fiddle champions Holland Raper and Kelsey Lutz, champion step dancer Bridget Belvich of Plymouth, and a special guest singer and pianist David Bowen of the Detroit Ceili Band perform.

"We're opening an hour



Mick Gavin leads a group of singers, dancers and traditional musicians at Irishfest on St. Patrick's Day.

earlier at 2 p.m. so seniors might like to come and get home before dark and see the step dancers and hear the musicians and have a beer,"

said Gavin. "We're the first ones to cater to families from grandmother to the baby with real music and real dancing continuously, and desserts

and soda bread, and hot dogs for the kids."

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St. Patrick's Day is an enchanted time when we think green and welcome spring. It's also a time when people across the country open their hearts and participate in an American tradition to support the Muscular Dystrophy Association's fight against neuromuscular diseases.

Now through March 17, millions of Americans will purchase \$1, \$5 and \$10 green, gold and platinum Shamrocks mobiles to hang inside local businesses including Mike's Marketplace on Ann Arbor Road at Ann Arbor Trail in Livonia. MDA's Shamrocks Against Dystrophy program is the nation's largest charity-related fund-raiser associated with St. Patrick's Day.

Last year, Shamrocks brought in more than \$13 million for MDA's research, services and education programs. These programs include 225 MDA clinics, MDA summer camps for kids, and assistance with the purchase of wheelchairs and other equipment. For more information, about MDA visit www.mda.org.

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Tickets still available for Shakespeare production

The Schoolcraft College Theatre and Drama Department presents its winter production, *Shakespeare's Measure for Measure*, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 23-24 in the Liberal Arts Theater,

and as a dinner theater 6:30 p.m. March 30-31, and April 6-7.

Theater-only tickets are \$12, dinner theater tickets are \$24, and available through the campus bookstore at (734)

462-4596. Schoolcraft College is at 18600 Haggerty, between Six Mile and Seven Mile roads, Livonia.

It is the 50th production staged and directed by James Hartman, the college's theater and communication arts professor. To show appreciation for theater patrons support over the years, each member of the audience will receive a

commemorative gift marking Hartman's 50th production.

Hartman spent two years editing Shakespeare's *Measure for Measure* in order to make it more accessible and understandable for today's audiences. This particular production will be staged in a very unusual and creative way.

Hartman has set the play in the disco period.

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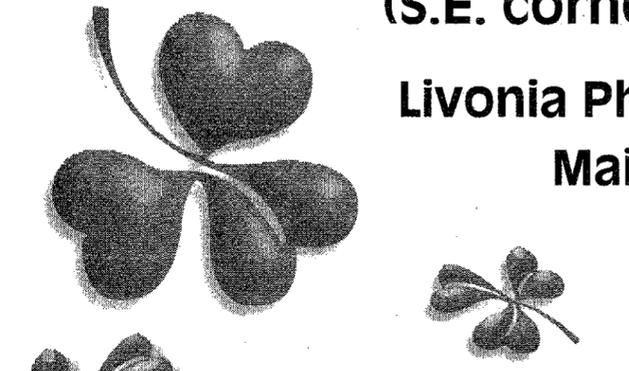
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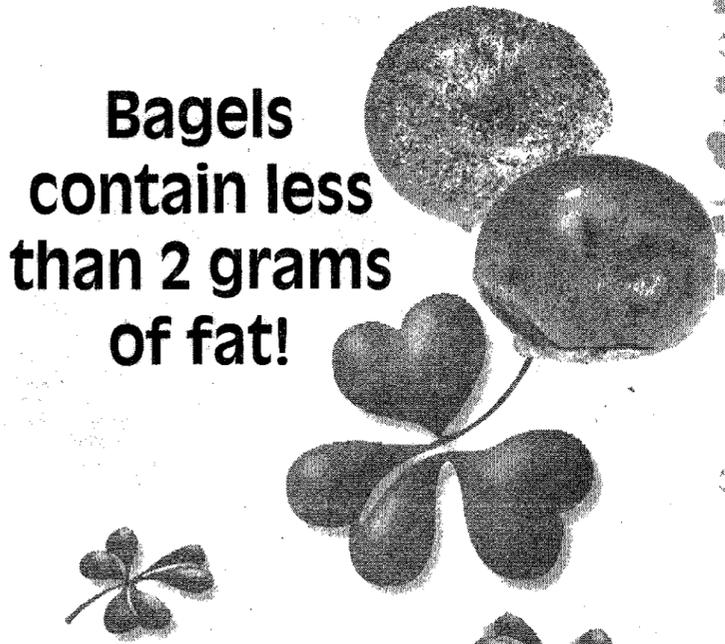
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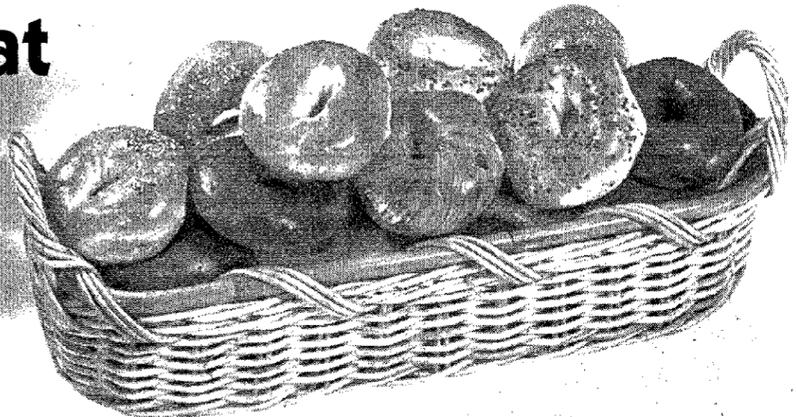
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BOOK CLUBS

FROM PAGE C1

certainly a good time to get together with friends and we all like to read."

Jackie Dostine of Canton is reading four books at a time. All of the women are avid readers. They came together after Grytzelius sent a flier announcing the book club to 99 homes in her subdivision.

"It's a fun night out," said Grytzelius, an engineer at Ford. "It's interesting to hear other points of view. It's a good way to broaden your horizon. I like the book club because it promotes a sense of community in our neighborhood."

"I really enjoy reading. I have a 4-year-old and a 1-year-old. I used to read all the time before I had kids."

Grytzelius researched the history of Mary Boleyn and Henry VIII of England on www.wikipedia.com while reading the book about the girl who at age 14 became Henry's mistress. Later, her sister, Anne, seduces Henry while Mary is recovering from childbirth.

"This book was interesting," said Grytzelius. "You wanted to know what was real and not. It was based on history."

"I was drawn in on the first page or part of the book," said Dostine. "The book begins and ends with a beheading. I said I have to read more."

Amy Watts enjoyed reading about Anne who becomes drunk with power and was beheaded for treason.

Becky Schmitz doubted the validity of the book because she never heard of Mary Boleyn until she went online to read about her.

STARTING A CLUB

Canton librarian Ellen Pare is fairly quiet during the book club meeting until asked how books are selected for the kits.

Pare is one of the adult services librarians who called Grytzelius for information when the library's fiction committee was writing the brochure

How to Start a Book Club in 7 Easy Steps which became available last fall. Tips include how to search for members, cost and organization, choosing a time and place for meetings, what to talk about, and selecting future books.

Only recently the library began offering clubs the option of having a librarian present to assist in the discussion and answer questions such as how to select a book.

"We usually wait until they're in paperback except for large print which only comes in hard-back," said Pare. "I admit we've picked dogs."

Among the librarians' current favorites are the nonfiction *A Life in Two Genders* by Jennifer Finney Boylan, *Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting By in America* by Barbara Ehrenreich, and *Blink: The Power of Thinking Without Thinking* by Malcolm Gladwell. Favorite fiction titles includes *Interpreter of Maladies: Stories by Jhumpa Lahiri*; *My Sister's Keeper* by Jodi Picoult, and *Plainsong* by Kent Haruf.

Canton librarian Kim Brandow says even if readers don't like a book, they can learn from it. Brandow serves on the library's fiction committee and helped write the brochure.

"We're not the first library to put together such a resource," said Brandow. "We recognize these book clubs are a phenomena."

Starting a club is not brain surgery. It's relatively easy. We give them simple steps on how to start a book club and let them know what resources we have as a library.

"We do encourage them to have a few people with different beliefs and perspectives and obviously to pick a good book. That is a bit of an art, but sometimes books you don't like generate the best discussions, and book clubs generate books you might not pick yourself."

Brandow says book clubs today meet at a variety of interesting places including Internet cafes, churches, Canton's Summit recreation center and

other community centers, and homes.

The Canton library offers a number of clubs including their Lunch and a Book group, teen and children's book groups, and the Adult Contemporary Book Discussion.

For information, visit www.cantonpl.org.

PEOPLE WANT TO SHARE

"For a lot of people it's a social outlet. Primarily women belong to clubs but men too," said Brandow. "Homes and restaurants are the two most popular places to meet."

"It can be fairly inexpensive if you get your books from a library. It's a fairly inexpensive way to get together."

Canton librarian Rebecca Havenstein-Coughlin has watched the book club phenomena grow over the last 27 years.

"They seem to be more popular now," said Havenstein-Coughlin. "People are listening to books on tape as well as reading it. It gives it another dimension. A lot of books are made into movies."

"People read and want to share. That's the main incentive for book clubs. They want somebody else's perspective."

Pare is especially excited about the new Family Book Talk group the Canton library is starting for children in fourth to sixth grade with their parents. Online registration begins March 12.

"They read the same book and come together and discuss it," said Pare. "I'm the mother of daughters, 10 and 11. When I first heard about the concept of a mother-daughter book group I thought it would be a wonderful opportunity for us to discuss things and get to know each other better. I worked for two years to get a mother-daughter book club off the ground. It turned out people were just too busy, but I think book clubs have been growing steadily since I started (at the library) in 2001."

For more information, call the Canton library at (734) 397-0999.

Book clubs offer opportunity to share

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

Book clubs are springing up all over, many in conjunction with local libraries, but some run by individuals.

At the Alfred Noble Library in Livonia, Carol Harrison always welcomes new members 1:30 p.m. on the fourth Thursday of the month. For details, call (734) 421-6600. March's book is *Mermaids Singing* by Lisa Carey, a novel about three generations of women. It is set partly in Ireland.

"We try not to do things from the best seller list," said Harrison, branch librarian. "We try to find authors they might not know of to introduce them to new authors. Because we've been meeting for quite a while people are comfortable with one another and frequently move on to other topics."

WESTLAND LIBRARY

The Westland library caters to a range of tastes and ages. For information, call (734) 326-6123 or visit www.westland.lib.mi.us.

Barbara Given, children's associate, especially is excited about Beginning Bookies for kindergarten to second grade. The club meets 2 p.m. Sunday, March 18.

"It's literature-based," said Given. "We talk about the book and then do some kind of fun activity. March they'll learn to read a thermometer and make their own froggy thermometer. The third- and fourth-grade book club also read and do some kind of craft or activity. Kids register and get a book to read and at the meeting discuss the book and socialize."

Given leads the fifth- and sixth-grade book club which reads a variety of genres.

"We read a book about a magician and the kids made wizard hats," said Given. "This month we're reading *Chasing Vermeer* and will be doing something with geometric shapes. We're trying to broaden their horizons hopefully so they'll look at all sorts of books - science fiction, historical fiction."

Bridget Sturdy, the teen

librarian, leads the anime-manga (Japanese animation or comics) group. This summer, she hopes to start a teen discussion club for sixth-through 12th-grade students who like to read supernatural fiction about vampires, werewolves or books like *The Princess Diaries* and *Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants*.

Cathy Pense, adult services librarian, likes to pair books with movies. At 7 p.m. March 20, the selection is *The Other Boleyn Girl* by Philippa Gregory about the lesser known mistress of Henry VIII. The novel is set to be made into a movie in October.

"Anyone can come," said Pense. "We vote on the books to read and try to do a good variety, different cultures, some historical fiction, couple of nonfiction, maybe a biography a year so men and women readers both like it."

Science fiction is the newest club for adults in Westland. It meets at 7 p.m. on the last Wednesday of each month and draws readers ranging from their mid-20s to a retired science teacher.

"We started it about one year ago," said Jane Lowry, reference librarian. "It started taking off in November 2006 when I listed it on the Internet. We had four people come out right away and it's been growing ever since. We welcome just about anybody and don't require you to have a lot of background, just read the book and show up. Science fiction takes you out of everyday things. It's an easy way to get really lost in a book."

REDFORD TOWNSHIP LIBRARY

Children's librarian Karen Clinton is proud of the fact the Redford library offers book clubs for all ages, but especially teenage boys and girls. Call (313) 531-5960 or visit www.redfordlibrary.org.

"My daughter, Alison, is in the teen club," said Clinton. "She doesn't get an opportunity to read the kinds of things she likes to read. The club meets 7 p.m. the last Thursday of the month. You have to have a library card and be at least 13 and get to

keep the book. If you don't show up you won't get the next book."

Redford Readers, ages 9-12, meets 7 p.m. on the second Tuesday. New is the adult book club starting in April - Redford Recreational Readers - 7 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month. It will be lead by Linda Pride, an adult services librarian at the Redford and Plymouth libraries.

"I believe every library should have a book club to get readers together," said Pride. "One of the things I really enjoy about book clubs, you expand your horizons, read things you wouldn't read on your own."

Two years ago, Mark and Karen Sleboda formed The History Buffs Book Club that meets the first Monday of the month at the Redford library. For details, call (313) 255-7841 or send e-mail to slavmail_sleboda@yahoo.com. Two of the last books dealt with the development of U.S. railroads.

"We read every kind of history - American, European, Asian, and even Greek history," said Mark Sleboda, who's studying for a master's degree in history at Eastern Michigan University. "The nicest thing about the discussion group is everyone gets to articulate what they thought was interesting."

PLYMOUTH DISTRICT LIBRARY

Sue Patterson, adult services librarian, leads the adult Contemporary Books club that meets in the evening at the Plymouth library, which also offers a teen club and is discussing forming a tween club.

"We're always open to anybody, no obligation, just come when you can and enjoy good book talk," said Patterson.

Linda Pride leads the discussion of *The Year of Magical Thinking* by Joan Didion, the selection for the Brown Bag Lunch group at noon March 28.

"It's mostly female members, but we've had two guys," said Pride. "We have some retirees, stay-at-home moms, people who work an afternoon shift."

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ENGAGEMENTS

Brown-Morris

Rick and Nancy Morris, of Canton, announce the engagement of their son, Shane Morris, to Kelli Brown, of Des Moines, Iowa.

Shane is a graduate of Plymouth-Canton High School and Michigan State University. He has a bachelor's degree in economics. He works at the Des Moines Register as an advertising account executive.

Kelli is a graduate of the University of Missouri-Columbia. She works as a graphic designer in the Des Moines Register newsroom.

The couple met in Lansing, Mich., and now live in Des Moines.



Moines. They are planning their wedding in early September in Des Moines.

Walters-Hansen

Robert and Diane Walters of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Emily Elizabeth Walters, to Christin Julius Hansen, the son of Hans and Joyce Hansen of Canton.

The bride-to-be earned an associate's degree from Schoolcraft Community College and is currently a senior at Central Michigan University.

The prospective groom is a senior at the University of Toledo.

An August 2008 wedding is planned at St. Colette Catholic Church in Livonia.

**Bullock-Smith**

Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Bullock of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Jennifer Mary Bullock, to Eric Ryan Smith of Scottsdale, Ariz.

Eric is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Smith of Quincy, MI.

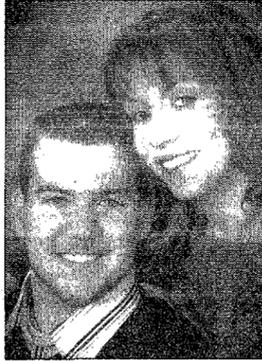
A spring 2008 wedding is planned at St. John's of Plymouth.

**Malaniak-Niemiec**

Gordon and Sandra Malaniak of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Melissa Marie Malaniak of Rochester, Minn., to Timothy Donald Niemiec of Westland.

Melissa Marie Malaniak is a 2001 graduate of Livonia Churchill High School and a 2006 graduate of Wayne State College of Nursing. She is employed at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn.

Timothy Donald Niemiec is the son of Donald and Frances Niemiec of Westland. He is a 1999 graduate of Livonia Churchill High School. He is currently pursuing doctor of pharmacy degree at Wayne State University.



A July 2007 wedding is planned for St. Theodore of Canterbury Church in Westland.

Londberg-Keyes

Kristy Marie Londberg and Joshua John Keyes are planning a March 2008 wedding at Kirk of Our Savior Presbyterian Church in Westland.

Kristy Londberg is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Jackson of Plymouth and Mr. and Mrs. Norman-Londberg of Allen Park. She is a graduate of John Glenn High School and the Henry Ford Nursing School. She is employed as a registered nurse at Henry Ford Hospital.

Joshua Keyes is the son of Russ and Cathy Keyes of Westland. He is a graduate of John Glenn High School and Eastern Michigan University and the Henry Ford Nursing School. He is employed as a registered nurse in trauma at Garden City High School.



A reception is planned for Laurel Manor. The couple will make their home in Garden City.

Herald-Rangaswamy

Kathy and John Herald announce the engagement of their daughter, Lesley Anne Herald, to Chetan Rangaswamy.

Lesley Anne Herald is a 1996 graduate of Canton High School and a 2000 graduate of Michigan State University with a degree in supply chain management. She is employed by Accenture Consulting in Chicago as a manager.

Chetan Rangaswamy is the son of Dr. and Mrs. B.V. Rangaswamy of Cambridge, Ohio. He is a 1999 graduate of Ohio University with a degree in engineering and business. He is employed by Accenture Consulting in Chicago.

A May 2007 wedding is planned in Plymouth with a



reception at the St. John's Conference Center. The couple will honeymoon in the Maldives and make their home in Chicago.

As space permits, the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers print, without charge, announcements of class reunions. Send the information to Reunions, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48170. Please include the date of the reunion, one contact person, and a telephone number.

REUNIONS

Berkley High School Class of 1987

A 20-year reunion is planned for Nov. 24, 2007. Looking for all current contact info for alumni from class of 1987. Contact Kim (DeWilde) Everingham at (734) 422-0087 or e-mail info to kimslisophia@gmail.com. Reunion website is www.BHSreunion1987.com for further information and details.

Bishop Borgess Class of 1987

A 20-year reunion, Sept. 15, 2007, at the Livonia Marriott. Contact borgess87@hotmail.com for more information.

Dearborn Fordson Class of 1977

A 30-year reunion, Friday, Aug. 3 to Sunday, Aug. 5, 2007. Contact Val Schulte (Wrenbeck) at msugrad81@cox.net with your current address and phone number.

Dearborn Edsel Ford Class of 1967

A 40-year reunion 7:30 p.m. Saturday,

Aug. 4, 2007, at Doubletree Hotel, Dearborn. Hors d'oeuvres and cash bar, approximately \$35. For information, call Cheryl Riske Brown at (313)336-0192 or e-mail efn567@yahoo.com

Detroit Chadsey Class of 1957

A 50th Reunion is being planned for Sept. 29, at Weber's Inn in Ann Arbor. Looking for January, June and Summer '57 graduates. If interested in attending or know of the whereabouts of other classmates, contact Pat Gorski-Zielinski, (989) 366-9288.

Detroit Cody Class of 1957

A 50th reunion at the Embassy Suites, Livonia

Oct. 5, 2007. Cost is \$90 per person, complete with dinner, open bar, memory book, CD, champagne toast and much more. This invitation is to all 50s' graduates. Deadline is June 25. Call 800-859-9502 or email lorel@wideopenwest for details. Cost is \$90.00 per person, complete with dinner, open bar, memory book, champagne toast and much more.

Detroit Cooley Classes of 1967, 1968

Reunion 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 29, 2007, at Laurel Manor, Livonia. Discounted tickets before March 1. Contact Dave Junquist at (810)667-9131, Website www.geocities.com/cooleyreunions67. All classmates are encouraged to register for inclusion in memory book at

www.classreport.org/usa/mi/detroit/cooley/1967

Detroit Denby Class of 1957

A 50th reunion is planned for Sept. 7, 8, and 9, 2007, at the Thomas Edison Inn, Port Huron. Seeking lost graduates, January/June classes. If you are not yet on the mailing list, please email maroonfowl@aol.com or call (248) 642-0249.

Detroit Girls Catholic Central Class of 1967

Searching for classmates of the class of 1967 for a 40th reunion this summer/fall. Contact Diane Kangas (Krok) at (586)446-9011 or Mary Mezzardi (Winowleck) at mmezzadri@hotmail.com.

Detroit Henry Ford Class of 1967

A 40th reunion will be held 6:30-11:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 8, at Laurel Manor Special Event Center in Livonia. Seeking January, June and summer graduates from 1967. For information, call Ellen (Neihoff) VanderRoest at (248)684-7705 or email chuckandelvan@comcast.net.

Detroit Holy Redeemer Class of 1957

A 50-year reunion. Oct. 12, 2007, at O'Kelley KofC Council, Dearborn. In interested in attending or know the whereabouts or former classmates, contact John Duff at oliverlynn@aol.com or phone (734)261-3346.

Detroit Mackenzie**Class of 1957**

Looking for graduates to attend a reunion scheduled for Oct. 19, 2007. Call Eleanor at (734) 425-8278.

Detroit Western Class of 1962

A 45-year reunion will be held in Sept., 15, 2007 at Warren Valley Country Club, Dearborn Heights. Seeking information on classmates from that year. All other classes welcome. Contact Helen Knights at (734) 285-4927 or Ralph Brighton at (734) 513-7499.

Detroit Southwestern Class of 1957

A 50-year reunion is being planned for September 2007. Looking for January and June graduates. If interested in attending or know of the whereabouts of other classmates, contact Angie (Conz) Maccani at (313) 532-4379 or Ken Suski at (313) 291-5450.

Ferdale Lincoln High Class of 1947 January and June

60th class reunion, Aug. 3, 4 and 5 at The Hilton Hotel on Crooks Road in Troy. For information or details contact: Treva (Powell) Hamill, 248-667-1601; bobtreva9@aol.com or Dick Reising, 248-623-9060, dreising@sbcc-global.net

Fordson High School Class of 1969

Planning a reunion for 2007. Please contact Kathy Nisun at (248) 363-5679 or e-mail: kaynini@aol.com or Kathy, Shoebridge @ Klivingston@nu-core.com.

VENUS MASSARELLO

Age 91, of Zeeland, died Wednesday, March 7, 2007 at an area care center. She was preceded in death by her husband, Jack Massarello, an infant son, Anthony Massarello and an infant grandson Ronald Hornback. She was a member of Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church. She is survived by her children: Paula and Gene Hornback of Ann Arbor; Jane and George Lomas of Livonia; Joyce and Richard Sanderson of Livonia; Jack and Cecelia Massarello of Canton; David and Shelly Massarello of Portland, Oregon; Michael Massarello of Plymouth; RoseMary and Frank Bishop of Zeeland; 26 Grandchildren; 39 Great grandchildren; Two Great-great-grandchildren; Sisters: Mrs. Frank (Effie) Massey of Grand Rapids; Mrs. Ralph (Rose) Huckins of Coral; Several nieces and nephews. Funeral services will be 11:00 a.m. Saturday, at Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church, 480 152nd Ave., Holland with the Rev. Phillip Nguyen officiating. Burial will be in Oakland Hills Cemetery in Novi. Visitation will be 7-9 p.m. with scripture services at 8 p.m. Friday at the Yntema Funeral Home, 251 S. State St. Zeeland. Memorial contributions may be given to Hospice of Michigan. An online registry is available at www.yntemafh.com

PH SLENZAK

March 6, 2007 of Troy. Husband of Jo Anne for 38 years. Dear father of Ronald (Ronny), Sharon McPhee (Michael) and David (Lantie). Beloved grandfather of Robin, Betsy, Michael and Dylan. Brother of Josephine Koziak and the late Adam, John (Enid) and Helen Scipione. Also survived by many nieces and nephews. Services were held privately. In lieu of flowers, memorial tributes may be sent to WWII Memorial Fund, Attn.: GR048, P.O. Box 96074, Washington, DC 20090-6074. A. J. Desmond & Sons 248-362-2500.

DAVID A. SOLOMON

Age 51, of Wayne, March 8, 2007. Beloved husband of Kathleen. Dear father of Angela (Adam) Moore, Michelle (Michael) Tyson and Laura Solomon. Loving grandfather of Dylan and Madeline. Dearest son of Pete and Stella. He is also survived by his sisters Marsha Holt and Kathy (Jim) Miller. He was preceded in death by his brother Pete W. Solomon. Funeral services are Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. at Michigan Memorial Funeral Home, (next to Michigan Memorial Park), 30895 Huron River Dr., Huron Twp., (734) 783-2646. Visitation is Monday, 1-9 p.m. Entombment in Michigan Memorial Park.

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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.)

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Anytime 6:30-9:30 p.m. Meets at the Main Lounge at Drakeshire Lanes, 35000 Grand River Ave. just east of Drake Road in Farmington Hills. Cash bar and reasonable priced dinner is also available off the menu. \$5/members, \$6/non-members.

Volleyball

Anytime 6:45-9:45 p.m. Drop-in volleyball in the gym and field-house of the Bloomfield Hills Middle School, 4200 Quarton Road, west of Telegraph. Cost is \$6. In the park, Farmington Hills, anytime 6:30 p.m. to dusk. Heritage Park, Farmington Road, between 10 Mile and 11 Mile. Cost \$2.

THE AMERICAN SINGLES' GOLF ASSOCIATION

Open House

Thursday, March 15 at the Bahama Breeze Restaurant, 19600 Haggerty Road (between Seven-Eight Mile roads on the east side of Haggerty.) Cocktails and mingling between 6-7 p.m. with announcements at 7 p.m. Dinner is optional and is off the menu. For more information contact Diane at (248) 347-0379 or stop by our booth at the Michigan Golf Show held on March 9-11 at the Rock Financial Showplace, 46100 Grand River, Novi.

BETHANY SUBURBAN WEST

Breakfast meeting

Saturday, March 17, at Leon's Family Dining, 30249 Ford Road, Garden City. For details, contact Kathy M. at (734) 513-9479.

Lenten Mass

9 a.m. Sunday, March 25, Felician Sister Chapel at Madonna University, 36600 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia. Use Newburgh exit. Breakfast to follow Mass, for details contact Kathy M. (734) 513-9479.

Together Dance

8 p.m. Saturday, March 31, at St. Robert Bellarmine, 27101 W. Chicago, Redford. Limited to 450 paid admissions only. Proper attire. \$12 admission. For more information, call Loretta from Bethany East at (586)264-0284.

PARENTS WITHOUT PARTNERS

Monthly dance

The Wayne-Westland chapter of Parents Without Partners sponsors a singles dance on the second Saturday of every month at the Dearborn Elks Club at 25000 Michigan Ave. 9 p.m.-1 a.m. Disc jockey, cash bar. \$6 members, \$8 nonmembers. Public invited. Information, Pat, (248) 478-8977, or Diana, (734) 751-7386.



ELMER H. EAST

formerly of Toledo, Ohio, died Wednesday, March 7, 2007 in Plymouth, Michigan, where he resided for the past ten years. Born in Akron, Ohio on April 23rd, 1912, he lived the early part of his life in Cincinnati, Ohio, moving to Toledo in his late 20's. He worked for the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad and later was a Certified Life Underwriter for Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company. He was a member of Ashland Avenue Baptist Church where he taught Sunday school, was a Deacon and was on the executive committee. He started Cub Scout units at Ashland Church, McKinley School, and Old Orchard School. He was president of Glass City Toastmasters and president of the Optimist Club. He coached students for the Optimist Club speech contests. Many of these contestants went on to State competition. Other memberships and activities in his rich life include Toledo Zenobia Shriners in which he was a past president of the "Drum & Bugle Corp Unit and a former ambassador to Wood County. In addition, he was a member in good standing with The Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, Lodge Council Chapter Consistory, Valley of Toledo; The Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Ohio, Ft. Industry Lodge; The Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Ohio, Ft. Miami-Calumet Chapter #191; Grand Council Royal & Select Masons of Ohio, Calumet Council #133; and Toledo Knights Templar. Mr. East was also a member of the Maumee, Ohio Elks Club and later, the Plymouth, Michigan Elks Club. For seven years, he was a director of the Jack Lake Association, Apsley, Ontario, Canada. This, and so much more, makes up the "dash" between 1912-2007. Preceding him in death was his wife, Dorothy (Derby) East. Surviving are his daughters, Sally (Gary) Galliers of Plymouth, MI, and Polly (Powell) Kingsley of Michigan; grandchildren, Powell Kingsley, Jr. of Michigan; Douglas Galliers of Plymouth, MI; Kelly (Kingsley) Hooton of Clarkston, MI; Michael Galliers of Plymouth, MI; Christy (Galliers) Rosebush of Pinckney, MI; Mindy (Kingsley) Tehero of Highland, MI; and David Kingsley of Plymouth, MI. There are also seven great grandchildren. The family will hold a private memorial service. Memorial contributions may be made to: ANGELA HOSPICE, 14100 Newburgh Rd., Livonia, MI 48154; SHRINER'S HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN, BURNS UNIT, 3229 Burnet Ave., Cincinnati, Ohio 45229-3095 or ASHLAND AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH, 2001 Ashland Ave., Toledo, Ohio 43620



DAVID CHARLES EMMETT

Age 64 of Superior Township, March 9, 2007. Beloved husband of Mary. Dear father of Brad (Jodie), Jodie Kelli. Dear grandfather of Wyatt Emmett. Dear brother of Karen (Dorothy) Vermuelen Funeral Home, 46401 W. Ann Arbor Rd (btwn Sheldon and Beck) Plymouth. Funeral service Tuesday, call Vermuelen Funeral Home for time and place (734) 459-2250. Mr. Emmett earned degrees in mechanical and electrical engineering from GMI, (now known as Kettering University), and worked for 21 years at General Motors from student engineer to Plant Manager at Hydromatic. He was also founder and President of Superior Controls of Plymouth, and lately as the owner of Plymouth Orchards in Superior Township. He was a member of the Kettering University Alumni Association and served for 12 years as a Superior Township Board Trustee. He enjoyed mountain biking, travel, body-building, wind-surfing, and running. He enjoyed piloting and enjoyed cars, as well as micro-biology. Interment will be at Glen Eden Memorial Park in Livonia. Memorial Contributions may be made to Children International, P.O. Box 219055, Kansas City MO 64121. www.children.org To leave a message of condolence, log on to: www.vermuelenfuneralhome.com.

JOHN P. GOSZ

of Slinger, Wisconsin passed away on Wednesday, March 7, 2007 at the age of 65 years. He was born in Manitowish, WI, March 23, 1941, the son of John and Helen Gosz. John married Karen Wagner in Theresa, WI on June 11, 1966. He is preceded in death by their daughter Jennifer Gosz, his father John Gosz and his nephew Jason Gosz. He is survived by his wife Karen and their daughter Jacqueline Gosz of New Berlin, WI; his mother Helen Gosz of Green Bay, WI; his brothers and sister, JoAnn Gosz, Robert (Sandy) Gosz; and Joseph (Monica) Gosz all of Green Bay. Also survived by nieces, nephews, other relatives and many friends. John served in the United States Army for 14 years and 11 years in the reserves. He served in the Vietnam Conflict and retired as a Lt. Colonel in the Army. After retirement from the Army, he worked for the Ford Motor Company as a supervising engineer in the light trucks division. John was an avid sports enthusiast. He was an outrageous Packer fan. John skied the Birkebeiner ten times! John participated in charity bike-athons and was an avid golfer. He enjoyed fly fishing in the mountains. John was on the board for Trout Unlimited. He volunteered for the Washington County Red Cross and was a master carpenter. John will be deeply missed by his wife and daughter, and his extended family. Visitation Sunday, March 11 at Bane's Funeral Home, 1521 Shawano, Green Bay, WI from 3-8 p.m. and at Old St. Joseph's Church at St. Norbert's College, 100 Grant Street, DePere, WI on Monday, March 12th from 9-11 a.m. Mass of Christian Burial Monday at 11 a.m. at St. Joseph's Church, Rev. Jim Nielson, O. Praem, and Rev. Tim Shillcox, O. Praem, officiating.

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ATTENTION MANAGEMENT TRAINEES Due to tremendous growth in business, large electrical appliance company needs to fill 57 permanent full-time positions from set-up & display thru management.

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AUTO DETAIL: Rub out & wax, interior shampoo & detailing. \$400-\$650/wk. \$40-\$50/car. Call after 4pm. 734-458-9088

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CABLE INSTALLERS Seeking installers for Low Voltage Cabling. A competitive wage & benefit pkg is available. Applications accepted 9:30-1 Mon. thru Fri. Fax resume to: 248-363-7096

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CALL CENTER INTERVIEWING ASSOCIATES Growing market research company has openings for Telephone Interviewing Associates in our Rochester area call center. You will conduct surveys over the telephone with consumers and businesses. There are no sales involved.

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EXPERIENCED LOCAL TANKER DRIVER HOME EVERY DAY! Growing Plymouth co. is currently looking for experienced Tanker Drivers.

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DRIVER needed for medical equipment company. CDL w/ HazMat endorsement & valid medical gas license required. Medical gas experience preferred.

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DRIVERS - CDL A & B CRIMBOLI NURSERY, INC. Phone: (734) 495-1700 Fax: 734-495-1131

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DRIVERS - CLASS A Clearpoint Resources. 2 yrs. exp. Medical card. Clean MVR & Background. Fast Certified Preferred!! Local Runs. All Shifts. (877) 277-2750

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CLAIMS ANALYST Needed to take leadership role in the processing of dental & FSA plans for a Farmington Hills PTA. Must have exp in interpreting ERISA plans.

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CLEANER WANTED Part time, evenings to clean busy doctors office in Farmington Hills. Please fax resume to Cindy 248-477-9370

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CNC LATHE OPERATOR Exp. Req'd. Apply at Quality Tool & Gear, 12693 Marlin, Redford, MI 48239 Or fax resume to 313-532-1699

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CNC OD GRINDER OPERATOR Exp. Req'd. Apply at Quality Tool & Gear, 12693 Marlin, Redford, MI 48239 Or fax resume 313-532-1699

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CUSTOMER SERVICE REP Customer Service & order processing for multi location flooring distributor. Seeks an outgoing highly motivated individual with good communication skills. Must be computer literate. Full benefits & 401K package.

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DRIVERS MOTORCOACH Experienced Indiana Title Join the Leader. Now Hiring Full-Time Year-Round Positions \$30,000-\$40,000

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DRIVERS PART-TIME Good driving record & pass driver test. Call Bob at Budget Car & Truck Rental (734) 427-3999

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DRY CLEANERS HIRING: Experienced Pressers, Dry Clean & Shirt Pressers. Full or Part-Time. Apply at: 200 S. Wayne Rd. Westland: (734) 844-8630

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FABRICATOR Structural Steel Must be able to read blueprints, do layout work and fabricate for our Commercial Division. Expert welding and cutting a must. Salary and benefits package competitive.

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DELIVERY/SALES \$775-\$1050/WK. 6 needed. Company vehicle. Training. Sales required. (248) 471-5200

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DENTAL ASSISTANT Looking for motivated, eager to learn dental assistant in a new dental practice in Plymouth area. Call (313) 443-1782 dent4kids@sbcglobal.net

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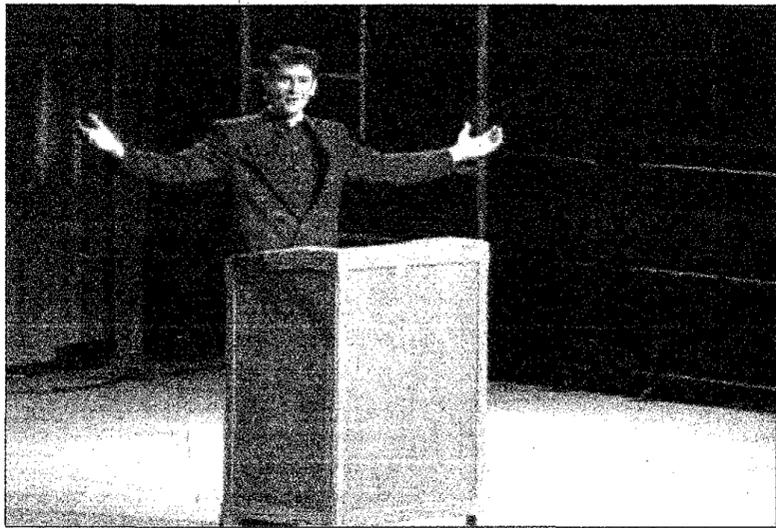
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The Rev. John Riccardo returns to open the annual Catholic Conference for Men on March 24. Riccardo is pastor of St. Anastasia Parish in Troy.

CONFERENCE

FROM PAGE C1

Troy. This is his fifth consecutive appearance at the conference.

"I set the tone for the conference, give the pep talk or the challenge of the day, the challenge of the theme, that what we desperately need is not just church, but a world of truly courageous men willing to go to battle for the right things — the family, their faith, part of it's a challenge. We're looking for noble, courageous, loving men," Riccardo said. "I'll contrast that with how we see men whether at a sporting event without any inhibitions, yet when it comes to faith, often times men clam up, for them not to be ashamed of the gospel."

While Ken Castel is excited about hearing Riccardo speak again this year, he especially is looking forward to an appearance by his father, John J. Riccardo, who served as chairman of the Chrysler Corp. during challenging times.

"I'm excited about the whole conference in general, but John J. Riccardo was chairman of the Chrysler Corp. in the late '70s and early '80s," Castel said. "He led Chrysler through very tumultuous times. It's so timely for the men to hear how John's faith helped him get through tough economic times. Men at Ford are facing the same problems right now."

Castel is also enthusiastic about a Youth Breakout Session led by Jim Beckman from the Denver archdiocese.

"I set the tone for the conference, give the pep talk or the challenge of the day, the challenge of the theme, that what we desperately need is not just church, but a world of truly courageous men willing to go to battle for the right things — the family, their faith, part of it's a challenge..."

the Rev. John Riccardo

"A number of families in his parish were directly impacted by (the shooting at) Columbine (High School)," Castel said. "We have room for up to 400 young people. He'll be giving them some tools to live in this difficult society as a young person."

Luke Popiel is finding it difficult to grow up in today's world. He plans to attend the conference for a third year to find inspiration.

"You have to be more open to Christ and give the Lord our total attention, and get some of the distractions, Internet, the TV, out of our lives," said Popiel, a 17-year old junior at DeLaSalle High School in Warren.

Like Popiel, Adam Smith will be attending his third conference. The 15-year old Farmington boy finds the event inspirational as well.

"I think it's moving because when they talk, I feel closer to God," said Smith, who's homeschooled.

BIRTH

Daniel Jacob Brockway

Donald and Ewa Brockway of Novi, formerly of Livonia, announce the birth of their son Daniel Jacob Brockway on Feb. 27, 2007.

He weighed 7½ pounds at birth and was 20½ inches long.

His grandparents are Gary and Ellen Brockway of Livonia. His great-grandmother is Mary Heitman of Livonia.



INTRODUCING THE NEW PREMIUM MONEY MARKET ACCOUNT

5.00% APY

BALANCES OF \$50,000 AND HIGHER

What could be more interesting than more interest?

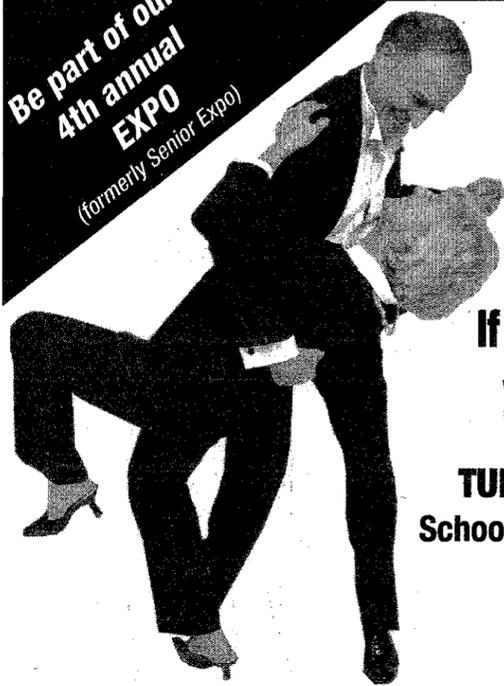
- Earn more interest.
- It's a limited-access account with the security of FDIC insurance.
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Visit your nearest branch, go to charterone.com or call 1-877-TOP-RATE.

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Member FDIC. Fees may reduce earnings. See a banker for FDIC coverage amounts and transaction limitations. Account cannot be accessed using an ATM or Debit Card. \$5,000 minimum opening deposit is required. Minimum transaction amount of \$5,000 for checks and withdrawals. Nonqualifying transaction fee of \$15 each for the first 3 transactions under \$5,000 in a statement period. All accounts and services are subject to approval. Premium Money Market Account Annual Percentage Yield (APY) based on collected balance for new personal accounts: 5.00% APY for balances of \$3,000.00 and greater, 5.00% APY for balances of \$1,000.00 to \$2,999.99, 5.00% APY for balances of \$250.00 to \$999.99, 5.00% APY for balances of \$75.00 to \$249.99, 5.00% APY for balances of \$50.00 to \$74.99, 4.75% APY for balances of \$25.00 to \$49.99, 4.75% APY for balances of \$10.00 to \$24.99, 1.60% APY for balances of \$2.50 to \$9.99, 1.60% APY for balances up to \$2.49. APYs accurate as of publication date and may change before or after account opening. Offer is valid in Michigan only.

Be part of our
4th annual
EXPO
(formerly Senior Expo)



FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

Mature Lifestyle EXPO

If your business or organization serves seniors you'll want to be part of this exciting event!

TUESDAY, MAY 22, 2007 9 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Schoolcraft College Livonia Campus in the VisTaTech Center
Haggerty Road between 6 and 7 Mile Roads

Exhibitor Package Includes:

- **BOOTH INCLUDES:** Covered table and two chairs, identification tent care, with ample space for your giveaways, demonstrations and promotional materials.
- **PRINT ADVERTISING:** Ad in our special Mature Lifestyle section distributed on Thursday, May 17, 2007
- **EXHIBITOR LISTING** on the center spread of Mature Lifestyle section and newspaper promotion of the event during April and May, 2007.
- **FOOD:** Continental breakfast plus two boxed lunches for exhibitors.

For more information about this popular Expo and to reserve your exhibit space, contact:
Frank Cibor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers Classified Manager
734-953-2176 or fcibor@hometownlife.com



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Reducing costs of health care and diseases

Bill encourages wellness programs in workplace

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

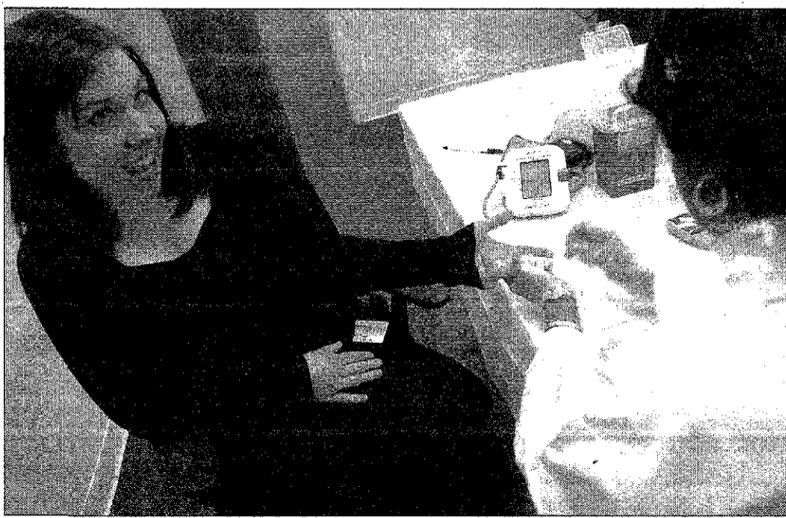
Joshua Kugelman would still be carrying around 270 pounds on his 6-foot-1 frame if Metaldyne hadn't launched its employee wellness program in early 2006. The product engineer has lost 52 pounds since the automotive supplier began partially subsidizing Weight Watchers at its facilities in Plymouth Township.

Kugelman's health benefits have far outweighed the minimal fee he pays to participate in weekly sessions. For months now he's been able to take only one blood pressure medication instead of his usual three.

"I don't think I would have done it otherwise," said Kugelman of Pontiac.

If U.S. Rep. Joe Knollenberg's Wellness and Prevention Act of 2007 is passed, more employees could not only reduce their risk for disease, but help lower health care costs. Studies have shown for years how unhealthy lifestyle choices lead to disease. The bill promotes screenings and prevention programs in the workplace by offering businesses a \$200 tax credit for employees who join their wellness program. At least 50 percent of employees must participate. Additionally, the act provides a \$200 tax credit for employees as encouragement.

H.R. 853 was introduced on Feb. 6 and referred to the House Ways and Means Committee and House Energy and Commerce Committee. So far it has received support from the American College of Preventive Medicine, American College of Occupation and Environmental Medicine, Beaumont Hospital, Henry Ford Health System, Detroit Medical



PHOTOS BY TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Human resources communication specialist Kara Kohls gets her finger pricked for a blood sample by Vivian Perkins, a registered nurse with Retail Health Network, during a health screening as part of the employee wellness program at Metaldyne in Plymouth Township.



Kara Kohls talks about her results during a health screening at Metaldyne as part of the company's wellness program.

Center, Pfizer, AARP, and Oakland County Wellness Coalition.

In addition to tax credits, the bill provides a \$20,000 loan forgiveness for individuals pursuing a preventive medicine specialty and achieving board certification between 2008 and 2012.

RETURN ON INVESTMENT

Knollenberg says, this is not the solution to the rising costs of health care, but does save the government Medicare money by preventing diseases.

"There's a payback here," said Knollenberg, R-Bloomfield Township. "You can deduct interest on the mortgage so you can own your own home so why not your health care. It encourages people to do something about their own health."

Knollenberg and his wife, Sandi, eat right, avoid fast food and exercise daily. Knollenberg, 73, was a runner for 35 years but now walks and lifts weights to maintain his 176-pound frame. Sandi, 67, does pilates, aerobics, spinning, yoga, and weight lifting.

"Twenty years ago I was trying to sell my aerobics program to companies," said Sandi Knollenberg, who owned Sandi's Fitness Firm for which she taught aerobics for 20 years. "Management didn't want to look at it. Now costs are skyrocketing. In the long run they'll see the benefits (of wellness programs) in lower costs and lower absenteeism."

Metaldyne spent \$200,000 on its wellness program in 2006, but hopes to lower its health care costs in three years, according to Debbie McCarthy, corporate benefits manager. The program makes it easier for employees to make life style changes by offering a free Smoking Quitline, online risk assessment, a Living Well Web site, lunch and learns, screenings, and chronic disease

PLEASE SEE WELLNESS, C9

Wellness bill gaining support of businesses

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

The Oakland County Wellness Coalition is supporting the Wellness and Prevention Act of 2007 introduced by U.S. Rep. Joe Knollenberg, R-Bloomfield Township, in early February, according to Michele Hodges, a coalition member and president of the Troy Chamber of Commerce.

The coalition formed in November 2005 to pioneer wellness in the workplace and ensure wellness is part of the solution in controlling health care costs. For details, visit www.oaklandcountywellness.com.

The coalition is in the process of creating an information clearing house for businesses on how to implement wellness in the workplace.

"We've elected to support the bill," said Hodges. "It's consistent with our goals and further promotes wellness and lower costs. It's more of a focus on prevention than management of disease."

Bill Parsons thinks the act is "wonderful." He says the only way to reduce health care costs is to keep people healthy. Miller Canfield established its wellness program 3 1/2 years ago to cover the law firms 600 U.S. employees. It includes lectures by the Visiting Nurse Association on how to eat better, offering incentives of \$100 if employees renew a gym membership after a year, subsidized Weight Watchers and personal training, and a Web site for health and fitness.

"It's good to have the incentive for the companies to do this," said Parsons, Miller Canfield director of administrative and human resources. Parsons is also involved with the Oakland County Wellness Coalition. "It's important to strike at the heart of the problem, to strike at bad health choices."

The Miller Canfield program is multifaceted and includes nurses who travel to each of the firms sites in Michigan and Canada to meet with each employee willing to participate. The nurses give them a mini medical exam or physical fitness assessment to identify risks.

"The fewer risks the more resistant people are to getting ill," said Parsons. "So far we have 70 percent of employees participating."

"The national statistics show that for every dollar you put in (to wellness programs) you save \$3 to \$5 dollars. In 2005 we had 7 percent more people in the health plan, yet health care costs went down 5 percent."

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Eat green for health this St. Pat's Day

St. Patrick's Day is a great time to think about adding more greens to your diet. In addition to the regular festivities surrounding St. Patrick's Day this month, consider adding a new tradition – more green foods to your diet.

"Green foods across the board are healthy in terms of their vitamin, mineral, water and antioxidant content," said Erica Wald, Registered Dietitian, a wellness coordinator with the MFit Health Promotion Division at the University of Michigan Health System.

"You want to incorporate lots of different intensities of green – all the various colors of green. The more varied the colors, the more varied your vitamin and mineral intake."

Wald also says that preparing them in a variety of ways, such as putting them in soups, stews and casseroles – even serving them raw – are great ways to incorporate more greens into your diet.

The following are Wald's seven healthy and delicious tips for eating green for your health:

- Increase fiber with broccoli. Broccoli provides many health benefits including soluble and insoluble fiber; vitamins A, C and E (important antioxidants for staying off

cellular damage from free-radicals); vitamin K for bone health; and a special antioxidant called sulforaphane, known for its powerful anti-cancer properties.

- Vary your leafy greens. Wald says it's important to remember that leafy green vegetables, such as lettuces, come in varying shades of green. The lighter the green, the less vitamins and minerals they contain. The darker the green, the higher the concentration of vitamins and minerals they contain, such as A, C and folate, which is good for preventing birth defects. Spinach, a dark leafy green, contains lutein which is good for eye health. Collard greens also contain sulforaphane and beta carotene.

- Choose vitamin K for increased bone health. While vitamin K isn't a substitute for a good source of calcium, eating green vegetables high in vitamin K is good for bone health. Choose vegetables like asparagus, green/herbal teas, spinach, kale, turnip, collard and mustard greens, broccoli, cabbage, endive, and brussel sprouts.

- Improve cholesterol with avocado, a good source of monounsaturated fats which can help lower your cholesterol. It's also a good source of

vitamin E. Consider tossing your dark-green, leafy salad with a few slices of fresh avocado and balsamic vinegar for added benefit.

- Alternate oranges with kiwifruit. If you're used to grabbing an orange to ensure you're getting your daily dose of vitamin C consider eating kiwifruit instead. Kiwifruit contain even more vitamin C than oranges and they're a great source of dietary fiber.

- Snack on green apples. While green apples offer about the same benefits as red or yellow apples, green apples are a great source of soluble and insoluble fiber which aid in digestion and heart health.

- Drink tea – green tea. If you like to drink tea, consider choosing green tea instead of black, oolong or other darker teas. Green tea – next to white tea – packs the biggest punch when it comes to antioxidants. It also contains flavonoids, a class of naturally occurring plant compounds that function as antioxidants that are good for the heart.

Whether you like your green vegetables raw or cooked, there are many ways you can incorporate them into your meals. But whatever you do, remember that variety is the key.

MARCH

Biblical perspectives on health

A seminar exploring how the principles hidden in the ancient Scriptures are being confirmed by recent scientific research 2:30-5:30 p.m. Sunday, March 11, at Plymouth Seventh-day Adventist Church, 4295 Napier, between Ann Arbor and Warren roads. Program concludes with a delicious meal based on the health principles. To register, call (248) 349-5683 or (313) 531-2179.

Migraines linked to scar tissue

Karen from Livonia suffers from severe migraine headaches. She e-mails for the latest research on their potential dangers.

Karen, startling new research shows that migraines may actually scar the tissue of the brain. The scarring indicates cell death and poor blood flow. It was first detected by MRIs and it is important to note that it hasn't yet been linked to loss of brain function. But the research shows that migraine sufferers are more likely to have so-called dead spots in the part of the brain that controls motor function. The new research

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

Benefit Skate-a-Thon

The Arctic Figure Skating Club in Canton is planning the skate-a-thon 7:30-9 p.m. Friday, March 30, at the Arctic Edge Arena, Canton, to benefit club member Natalie Salazar, 13, who was diagnosed with neuroblastoma (cancer) in summer of 2006. She has been treated at Children's Hospital and is now investigating stem cell transplant and experimental treatments at the University of Michigan. Donations can be sent to The Natalie Salazar Fund, c/o Arctic Figure Skating Club, 46615 Michigan Ave., Canton.



Peter's Principles

Peter Nielsen

may cause doctors to re-think the way they view migraine headaches. Scientists now think they should be viewed as a progressive problem with the potential to lead to long-term damage. Nearly 30 million Americans suffer from occasional to frequent migraine headaches.

Clarissa from Livonia suffers from type-2 diabetes. She e-mails for an all-natural way to help control the condition.

Clarissa, you are sure to find this new research easy to swallow. It shows that diabetes sufferers can lower blood-sugar and lipid levels with just a small amount of cinnamon

every day. Researchers assigned a group of patients to take between one and six grams of cinnamon per day. Another group got a placebo. Forty days later, every patient taking the dose of cinnamon had a drop in blood glucose, triglycerides and total cholesterol. The group taking the placebo showed no change. Scientists say the cinnamon appears to help body insulin work more efficiently. One gram of cinnamon is roughly equal to one teaspoon. When it comes to natural disease fighters, it doesn't get much sweeter.

If you have a health or fitness question you would like answered in the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers*, e-mail Peter through his Web site www.peternielsen.com. Contact him at Peter Nielsen's Personal Training Club in West Bloomfield or Nielsen's Town Center Health Club in Southfield.

WELLNESS

FROM PAGE C8

management by partnering with organizations such as the American Cancer Society, Weight Watchers, and its health care insurer Blue Cross/Blue Shield.

FEEDBACK POSITIVE

So far, management has received favorable comments from employees about the program that goes global to encompass all 7,000 of its employees this year. The program was initially offered only to its 4,500 U.S. employees.

"This year they get incentives. They get co-pays waived for office visits," said McCarthy. "And we're going to do the facility challenge again where they compete to earn the most points for participating in the wellness program.

Last year, our two Pennsylvania facilities tied for a \$5,000 check"

Gail Woodward especially enjoyed last year's Active for Life Team Challenge. Woodward and Cyndie Holbrook, an accounts receivable specialist, worked together to present in-place walking sessions and record the daily activity. As a result, Holbrook, 50, became more fit and lost weight. The walking increased Woodward's energy level.

"I feel like I can do more," said Woodward, accounts payable manager and a Canton resident. "We now do this everyday at lunch in a training room. We'd like to do this ongoing. The challenge gave us the motivation to go out and do it."

McCarthy says Metaldyne founded its wellness program before Knollenberg's bill was

introduced. She shared concerns about refining the requirements. Metaldyne's program was developed internally. The act says a company must have an experienced outside source to administer its wellness program.

"I think that anything supporting a company to have programming that enables employees to live a healthy, happier life and lowers our health care costs is good," said McCarthy.

TO YOUR HEALTH

Martin Ingman is one of the employees who underwent blood pressure and blood panel screenings provided by the Retail Health Network on Tuesday. Ingman always has an annual physical. During the Action for Life challenge, his team of mountain bikers rode local trails to acquire points. He'd like to see

Metaldyne provide more education on nutrition. He tries to eat healthy, stays away from fast foods and trains after work so when he returns home there's only time to make a simple stir fry of vegetables. He'd like to learn to cook a variety of meals quickly.

Like Ingman, Knollenberg said most people who work find it hard to have time to exercise or have a healthy meal. Business wellness programs would teach them how to change their lifestyle.

"The tax credit wouldn't be that much of an incentive," said Martin Ingman, a product development engineer who lives in Canton. "I'd do it anyway, but I could always find something to do with the extra money."

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ACHING ELBOWS

A painful elbow is not merely an irritation. Elbow pain can mean you cannot groom your hair, reach for a plate or undertake the numerous tasks that self care requires. Most elbow pain does not occur from a problem within the elbow joint.

Usually the pain comes from the muscles that originate at the elbow joint. The inside aspect of the elbow is the origin of the muscles that go into the wrist and palms. The outside bone of the elbow is the seat of the muscles going to the back of the wrist and fingers.

Bowlers elbow is the common name for the pain you experience at the inside of the elbow, while tennis elbow identifies the pain from the tendon originating at the outside. Both bowlers and tennis elbow occur because of the tendon strain.

Another source of elbow pain is in the triceps tendon where it anchors into the back of the elbow. Again the cause is strain.

I have deliberately not included olecranon bursitis as a condition causing elbow pain. Enlargement of the sac in back of the elbow is common. Inflammation of the bursa is rare.

The treatment for these tendon pains is injection. If you can determine what causes the strain, then it is in your best interest to take the time to remove the strain or learn a different way to deal with it. Otherwise you will face the same pain and need for therapy repeatedly.

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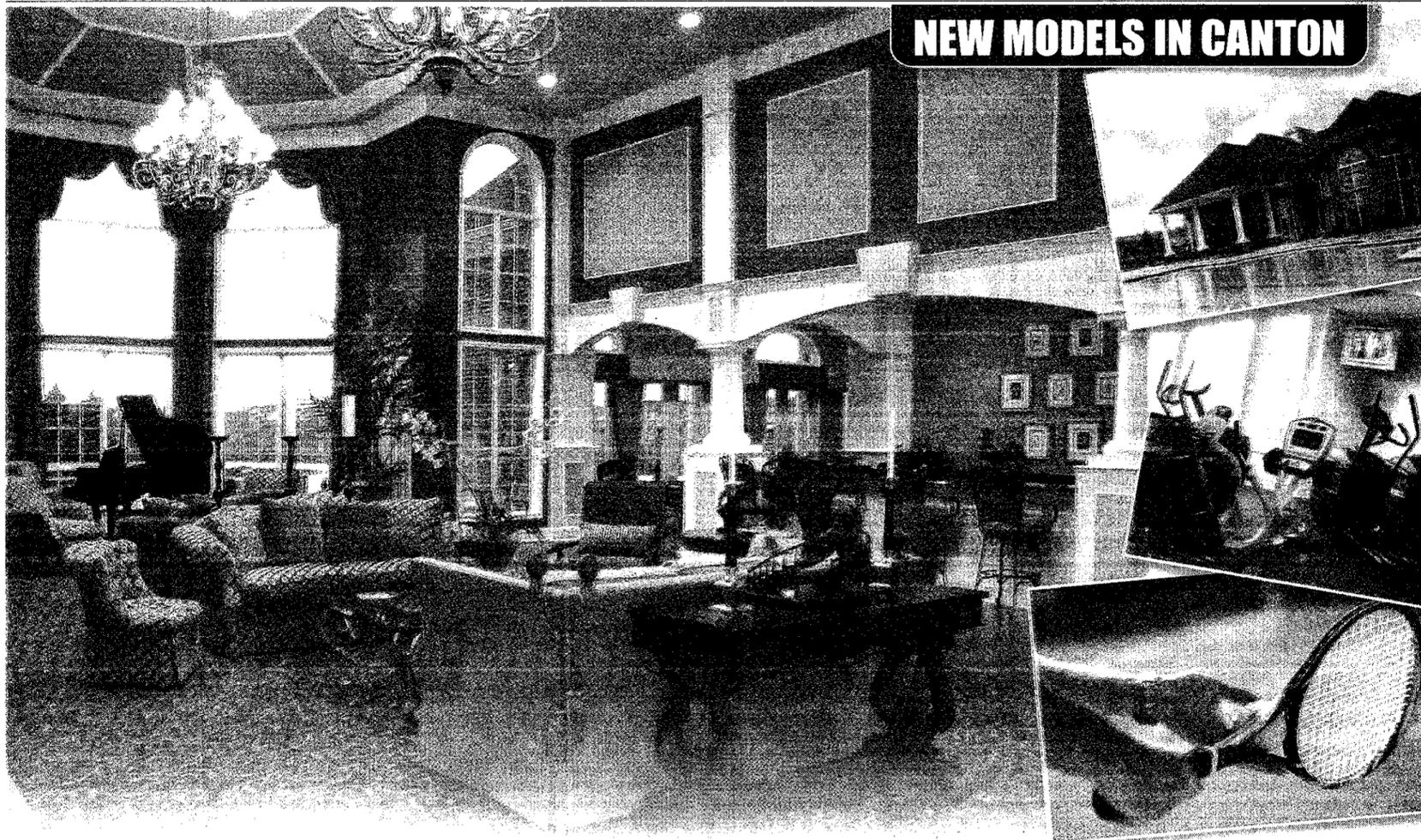
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