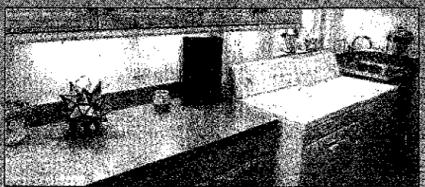


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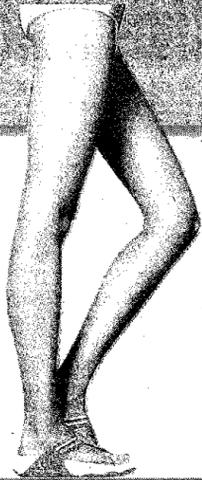
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## Police crackdown aims at drunken drivers

BY DARRELL CLEM  
STAFF WRITER

Westland police today will launch a special initiative aimed at catching drunken drivers and rounding up violators who have warrants for alcohol-related tickets they've ignored.

The latest offensive, part of the national You Drink, You Drive, You Lose campaign, will continue through Labor Day, police Sgt. Ron Kroll said Wednesday.

Police officials will double the number of offi-

cers — from two to four — assigned to patrol city streets to watch specifically for motorists who drive drunk.

"There's no specific area they'll be watching," Kroll said. "They'll be patrolling the entire city."

Other officers also will watch for drunken drivers as part of their general duties of patrolling city streets to combat crime.

Special emphasis will be placed on the hours of 11 p.m. to 5 a.m. The latest initiative will be paid by federal dollars filtered through the Michigan Office of Highway Safety.

Aside from nabbing drunken drivers, officers also will be arresting motorists wanted on warrants for ignoring earlier alcohol-related tickets. Kroll said he has a list of hundreds of violators.

Local officers will mostly focus on arresting drivers here and in neighboring communities.

"We're going to stick mainly to the Westland, Garden City and Wayne area," Kroll said.

Chris Raymond, chief probation officer for Westland 18th District Court, lauded the latest offensive.

"I think it's an excellent program," he said.

"We do not want the burden for public safety to fall on the taxpayers. The people who commit the crimes should be the ones who pay the costs for law enforcement."

By arresting drivers for outstanding warrants, Raymond said revenues can be brought in to help pay for public safety while also warning motorists against driving drunk.

"It's cost-effective," he said, "and it's also sending a message."

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



TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Margot McCormack of Westland pulls piles of ragweed out as she weeds the grow zone along a drainage way on the northern edge of Central City Park.

## Naturescapers keep grow zone alive

BY SUE MASON  
STAFF WRITER

It was day to get dirty and that's what the Rouge Friendly Naturescapers of Westland did last week, pulling weeds and vines from a grow zone along a drainage area at the eastern edge of Central City Park.

"We're happy to be here," said Lillian Dean, Rouge education consultant for the city of Westland.

Originally planted by fourth-graders from two Wayne-Westland schools in the spring of 2006, the grow zone had been off-limits to tender loving care since January, when the park was fenced off amid concerns about lead

contamination.

The fencing was moved in June to accommodate the annual Westland Summer Festival, providing access to the grow zone.

John Barile, an expert plant specialist, lead gardener Margot McCormack,

Please see NATURE, A3

## Disabled challenge use of roundabouts in federal lawsuit

BY SARA CALLENDER  
STAFF WRITER

Oakland County has no plans to stop construction of roundabouts despite a lawsuit filed Tuesday by three disabled citizens, including a Westland man.

"The bottom line is they save people's lives," said Craig Bryson, spokesperson for the Road Commission for Oakland County. "Safety for pedestrians and drivers is the single biggest benefit of roundabouts."

Farmington Hills Attorney Richard Bernstein filed the lawsuit in U.S. District Court in Detroit, seeking an end to what he claims is a failure to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Bernstein said the roundabouts under construction in West Bloomfield as part of the Northwestern Connector lack a safe mechanism for blind and disabled pedestrians to cross local roads.

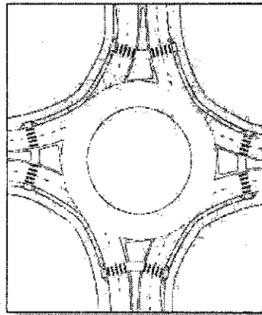
The three plaintiffs filing the lawsuit are: Garret Gersin, 18, of Oak Park; Jason Turkish, 20, of Huntington Woods and Westland resident Michael Harris, a military veteran who uses a wheelchair and is deeply concerned about the proliferation of "roundabouts" across Michigan and the nation.

"There are going to be a bunch (of roundabouts) built here," Turkish said. "We are trying to be proactive and set a precedent. We want these to be accessible to everyone."

The lawsuit seeks an injunction to either halt construction or improve the design to include safe mechanisms for the disabled to cross at roundabouts. Three possibilities suggested by Bernstein are:

- Build a pedestrian bridge
- Build a pedestrian tunnel
- Install traffic signals

Bryson said the roundabouts were designed according to requirements of the Federal Highway Administration.



Modern traffic circles do not have signals. Pedestrians must wait until traffic clears before crossing.

The design standards dictate proper location and angles for crosswalks and the RCOG complied with those requirements, said Bryson.

According to the FHA roundabouts reduce pedestrian fatalities by 90 percent.

The roundabout at Maple and Drake is expected to open sometime during the week of Labor Day. Then construction of the second roundabout at Maple and Farmington will begin.

"We're going to keep working until the judge tells us to stop," said Bryson.

According to the FHA, there are an estimated 40,000 modern roundabouts worldwide, and more than 200 have been constructed in the United States. Most of these have been built within the last 5 years.

A roundabout was constructed several years ago between Stoney Creek High School and Hart Middle School in the Rochester School District. District spokeswoman Debra Hartman said there have been no incidents with pedestrians since the roundabout at Tienken and Sheldon roads opened.

"(The roundabout) was built to alleviate traffic in that area because it was quite congest-

Please see ROUNDABOUT, A3

## Carnival raises money to fight slavery

BY DARRELL CLEM  
STAFF WRITER

Youngsters involved in a Westland church's youth group have spent much of their summer tackling a weighty issue — slavery.

Their efforts at St. John's Episcopal Church will culminate Sunday with a special carnival aimed at raising money and drawing attention to the world problem of slavery.

Youth group leader Jessica Clark, 22, learned how widespread the problem of slavery is after her Adrian College chapter of Alpha Sigma Alpha sorority became involved in the international, anti-slavery Not For Sale campaign.

Clark, a senior majoring in Japanese studies and theater, brought the issue back to her church at 555 S. Wayne Road at Bayview. The youth group she oversees

enthusiastically took up the anti-slavery cause.

"Out of 27 million slaves in the world, 13 million of them are children, so it really is a child's cause," Clark said Wednesday.

Even in the United States, even in suburban communities, some guardians have forced children to drop out of school and to serve as slaves, Clark said. Sometimes, she said, the problem involves sexual abuse.

Clark had to carefully teach her youth group, ages 8 to 16, about the problem of slavery.

She consulted church leaders to determine what was appropriate — and what was too graphic — for the children.

As a result, the youth group has organized a Not For Sale carnival from noon to 6 p.m. Sunday at the church. The event will help raise money for the International Justice Mission, which fights slavery and other issues of oppression.

"Every single penny we raise is going toward the International Justice Mission," Clark said.

The carnival will include a taco bar by Qdoba Mexican Grill, music and entertainment, a moon walk, a pie-throwing contest, a cake walk, Imagine Theater passes, T-shirts, a dunk tank and many more activities.

Despite all the fun, the carnival will have a sobering message about slavery, with youngsters passing out fliers and engaging carnival-goers in conversations to teach them about the problem, Clark said.

She urged anyone who wants more information to go online to the Not For Sale campaign at www.notforsale.org or to the International Justice Mission's Web site at www.ijm.org.

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INDEX

APARTMENTS	B3
AUTOMOTIVE	C5
CROSSWORD PUZZLE	B7
HOMETOWNLIFE	D1
JOBS	B10
MOVIE GUIDE	E14
OBITUARIES	A14
OPINION	A10
PINK	D4
REAL ESTATE	B3
SPORTS	C1

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# Rivera honored for efforts to bridge Detroit's divide

BY ALEX LUNDBERG  
STAFF WRITER

Oswaldo "Ozzie" Rivera has been working his entire career to bring people together across the gulfs of race, economics and ethnicity. He was honored for his work recently by New Detroit at its annual Closing the Gap awards dinner in June.

Rivera is the director of multicultural affairs at Madonna University and is in charge of developing programs that bring people of diverse backgrounds together. He's been active for a very long time. In 1976 he founded the Youth Activities Center to meet the needs of Latino youth through recreation, cultural activities and education. He was also the president of Latino Family Services, which worked to bring the communities of southwest Detroit together focused on AIDS, mental health and organizing youth.

He was also a cultural figure as the Latin-Caribbean musical host of "Caribe Serenade" for 15 years on WDTR. As a member of New Detroit's Cultural Exchange Network, he helps plan the organization's multicultural leadership programs as well as the annual Concert of Colors.

New Detroit President and CEO Shirley Stancato said Rivera was chosen for his long



Oswaldo "Ozzie" Rivera, director of multicultural affairs at Madonna University, was honored by New Detroit with a Closing the Gap Award. Rivera said only a perpetual conversation between different groups can help unite a widely segregated metro Detroit area.

association with causes and organizations trying to bridge the racial divide in metro Detroit.

"He has dedicated his personal and professional life to opening doors and getting people of

all colors to work together," she said. "Throughout his entire career he's brought people together and shown that one person can make a difference."

Rivera won the award as an individual. Awards were also

given out to organizational and corporate entities.

New Detroit also honored food relief organization Forgotten Harvest and DTE Energy with Closing the Gap awards this year.

**'He has dedicated his personal and professional life to opening doors and getting people of all colors to work together. Throughout his entire career he's brought people together and shown that one person can make a difference.'**

SHIRLEY STANCATO, New Detroit President and CEO

Rivera said the big problem in the metro Detroit area is segregation, both economic and racial.

"There's a big disparity in economics," he said. "The fault lines are race, ethnicity, economic, educational and in housing."

He said the hardest part is getting the ball rolling. The problems he laid out are long-standing and a lot of people are convinced that there's no way to even get started. Almost worse, he said, is that a lot of people expect there to be a magic bullet.

"With music, you can start the discussion but it must be an ongoing discussion," Rivera said. "If people don't interact on a regular basis they'll never know what life for the other is like."

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## AROUND WESTLAND

### Unity in the Community

The Lutheran Church of Our Savior is sponsoring "Unity in the Community" 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 24, at the church, 29425 Annapolis, Westland.

Aimed at "building the community" and "strengthening families," there will be free food, gospel music, free clothing drive, T-shirts, games and rides and health services. For more information, call (734) 728-3440.

### Rummage sale

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church will hold a tent and rummage sale 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 8, at the church, 37775 Palmer, one block west of Newburgh, Westland.

Rent space under the tent for \$20 or rent space with our table for \$35. Inside the church, there will gently used clothing for the family at \$2 a bag.

For further information call Mary Rose, at (734) 722-4363 or Barb at (734) 722-3233.

### Cat Show

The Midwest Persian Tabby Fanciers and the Just Cat'n Around Cat Fanciers will hold a Cat Fanciers Associated-affiliated all breed cat show Saturday, Aug. 18, at the Wayne-Ford Civic League, 1645 N. Wayne Road, Westland. The show will feature all breeds (long hair and short hair) and household pets. Admission will be \$5 for adults, \$4 for senior citizens and \$3 for children. More information is available by calling (248) 393-1986 or sending an e-mail to cihawley@earthlink.net.

### In concert

Diran Kochyan will direct the Novi Community Concert Band at 7 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 19, at Westland Library Performance Pavilion located behind the William P. Faust Public Library. The band will perform popular music featuring the swing and jazz era, as well as marches. There is no charge for the concert.

Concert-goers are encouraged to bring chairs or blankets to the free concert that will be rescheduled in the event of rain. The library is at 6123 Central City Parkway, north of Ford Road and south of Warren.

### Golf Outing

The Glenn Wrestling Program will hold its 10th annual golf outing fund-raiser Saturday, Sept. 29, at Warren Valley Golf Course. The cost is \$85 for golf, lunch and dinner, \$65 for golf and lunch and \$25 for dinner only. Prizes will be awarded for best team score, longest drive and closest to the pin. A raffle also will be held. Reservations are due by Sept. 15. For reservations or more information, call Judy at (734) 634-4595.

### Flower program

Westland hosts Rouge River Connection Seminar - The Rouge River Connection is hosting "Native Wildflowers and Butterflies ... Making the Connection in Westland," at the William P. Faust Public Library of Westland 7-8:30 P.M. Wednesday, Aug. 22. The free event will feature guest speaker Suzan Campbell of Michigan Natural Features Inventory, native wildflowers will also be available for purchase from Designs by Nature's Vern Stephens. Space is limited for this workshop, so advance registration is required. Call the library at (734) 326-6123.

### Fund-raiser

Tammy's Heart Italian Dinner fund-raiser will be 6-11 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 8, at the Wayne-Ford Civic League, 1645 N. Wayne Road, Westland. Dinner will be served 7-8:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$20 for adults and \$15 for children 12 years and under for salad, mostaccioli, vegetable, roll, dessert and beverage. There also will be a disc jockey, cash bar and raffles 9-10 p.m.

Tickets are available in advance by calling (734) 788-8690 or (734) 765-0771. They also are available at the door.

Organizers will be collecting empty returnable bottles and cans at the event.

People who are unable to attend, but would like to make a donation, can send it to Tammy Henderson, P.O. Box 1584, Garden City, MI 48135.

# LPS meets curriculum changes with training

BY REBECCA JONES  
STAFF WRITER

New elementary math program, a sixth-grade strings elective and revised graduation requirements are among many changes in the Livonia Public Schools curriculum this year.

To keep up, teachers will be busy learning on curriculum day Aug. 30, before kids even head back to school on Sept. 5.

Sheila Alles, director of academic services for the district, discussed some of the changes at Monday's school board subcommittee meeting on curriculum.

LPS adopted Everyday Math earlier this year for kindergarten through fourth grade. Teachers will get three and a half days of professional development training for it, and each school will have its own parent night to explain the curriculum, Alles said.

Upper elementary and middle school grades use Connected Math. The district received \$219,000 in state funding to help improve fifth through eighth grade math scores. LPS has assigned a middle school math teacher to develop professional development sessions for teachers in this area.

Kindergarten reading and a vocabulary, spelling and word study in grades K-8 are other

areas of focus in elementary schools this year, Alles said. On Sept. 8, 200 elementary teachers will attend a workshop to improve student writing.

Sixth-graders will have another option for music class. When they go back to school, students will be able to choose from band, vocal music or strings twice per week.

Last year, strings instruction was offered as an after-school club, "which was very successful," said Charlotte Worthen, director of instruction.

Across the district, 175 to 200 students participated, mostly at Riley and Cooper upper elementaries.

After taking another look at scheduling, LPS officials were able to add strings class at no cost to the district, she said.

In January, Franklin High School announced plans to offer the International Baccalaureate degree.

However, principal Dan Willenborg now reports that the district's application will be put on hold while more staff members attend training sessions.

"We're still pursuing it," he said.

Seven staff members must be trained in the program, which takes a different approach to teaching in order to develop "globally minded" thinkers and award a diploma recognized

worldwide.

The International Baccalaureate Organization accepts applications in June and the district was not ready this year, Willenborg said.

As part of the application process, officials would visit Franklin to determine the school's eligibility. If approved, the program would be open to 25 juniors from across LPS beginning in the 2009-10 school year. It could be expanded from there.

Several students have inquired, Willenborg said.

"We've had several calls from throughout the LPS area about the selection criteria," he said. "There's some bona fide interest."

At a recent school board meeting, parent Brad Wolkan asked about adding Mandarin Chinese to the district's language offerings to help "keep ahead of the rest of the world and neighboring districts."

Alles said the district could look into that as an option. She wondered how many students would be interested.

Fourteen of 28 Oakland County school districts have agreed to implement a Chinese curriculum. Recently, South Lyon schools decided to phase out French in exchange for Mandarin.

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## NATURE

FROM PAGE A1

Dean and volunteer Pam DeLoye of Livonia quickly created waist-high piles of debris as they pulled weeds, revealing plants like purple coneflower, brown-eyed Susan, Joe-pye-weed, swamp milkweed and wild bergamot.

"It's a grow zone, but we'd like to think of it as a native garden," Dean said. "All the plants are nectar plants meant to attract butterflies."

The elementary students had planted more than 800 plants in the area that straddles the walking path and drainage area that separates Central City and Tattan parks. However, the Naturescapers had to replant much of the area after a dry summer killed off many of the plants.

"Nature abhors a vacuum," said Barile, using a small pitch fork to loosen the roots of the weeds. "I'm sure this is wild rye grass. It'll choke out everything. If it's wild rye, we didn't plant it."

Barile, who loves native landscaping and is interested in botany and native plants, worked his way through the garden removing the offensive weeds and pausing to identify this flower and that.

"We started with what we had and what we could grow



TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Naturescaper John Barile of Westland takes a close look at the unwanted plants that have cropped up in the grow zone, being careful not to pull out native plants.

in a garden," Dean said. "This is like what native wildflowers would have been before settlement. Westland was a prairie with some woodlands."

Stopping by to watch the work was reference librarian Janet Sowards, also a member of the Naturescapers. She got involved when the group was looking for volunteers.

"They need help planting and I thought it would be fun," she said. "Most of them are master gardeners."

Sowards is excited with a partnership between the city and the William P. Faust Library in presenting a program, "Native Wildflowers and Butterflies — Making the Connection in Westland," Wednesday, Aug. 22. The Naturescapers, a volunteer group sponsored by the city to care for the grow zone, is hosting the presentation.

"I've attended some of the programs in the past and enjoyed them, but it's really exciting to have a group so big at the library," Sowards said.

With the grow zone now open to the Naturescapers, plans are to keep the area well-tended. Barile estimates every two weeks will do.

"A little maintenance will keep it looking nice, otherwise we'll lose track of what we want growing here," he said.

Dean hopes people will come by and look at the grow zone. It can give them ideas of what might look nice in their gardens.

"A bit of chance and experiment went into this," she said. "I hope people will catch the spirit and joy of having butterflies come to their native plants."

"The added bonus is it attracts gold finches and hummingbirds," Barile added.

smason@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-212

## Program connects gardeners, wildflowers

People interested in native wildflowers can learn more about them and about attracting butterflies to their home gardens at a program Wednesday, Aug. 22, at the William P. Faust Public Library.

Suzan Campbell, a naturalist with the Michigan Natural Features Inventory and former naturalist at the Belle Isle Nature Center, will talk about "Native Wildflowers and Butterflies — Making the Connection in Westland" at the 7 p.m. program.

Campbell will report on the local ecology of western Wayne County, the life cycle of butterflies and spotlight native wildflowers that can be easily grown in a home landscape to attract butterflies.

Vern Stephens of Designs by Nature will also hold a sale of native wildflowers and grasses 5:45-6:45 p.m.

Stephens grows native wildflowers from southern Michigan for sale at events like next Wednesday's presentation.

Participants also can view examples of native plants at the

grow zone along the edge of Central City and Tattan parks on Carlson south of Ford.

The grow zone is being maintained by the city-sponsored volunteer Rouge Friendly Naturescapers of Westland, which is hosting the program. Members will be on hand at the presentation to provide planting instructions.

Native wildflowers benefit the Rouge River landscape in several ways.

The deep roots of prairie wildflowers encourage infiltration of stormwater, while the natural characteristics of the plants attract beneficial insects and reduce the need for pesticides.

While native wildflowers need some maintenance, they can be grown without synthetic fertilizers and pesticides.

The program is free to public, but seating is limited. Advance registration is required and can be done by calling the library at (734) 326-6123. The William P. Faust Library is at 6123 Central City Parkway, just north of Ford Road.

## ROUNDBABOUT

FROM PAGE A1

ed," Hartman said. "And it has worked. With anything new, there's a learning curve but we didn't have any problems."

A typical modern roundabout is an unsignalized intersection with a circular central island and a circulatory roadway around the island. Vehicles entering the roundabout yield to vehicles already on the circulatory roadway.

Motorists are also required to yield to pedestrians at crosswalks. But opponents of the roundabouts say it will still be difficult for pedestrians to cross without a signal.

"The best way to get a car to stop is to have a signal," plaintiff Michael Harris said. "In these roundabouts, there isn't that communication with drivers. Am I just supposed to roll my wheelchair out into traffic and cross my fingers?"

A stoplight that could be activated by a pedestrian pushing a button, suggested Harris, might be one solution.

However, Bryson feared that all pedestrians would use the buttons, defeating the continual flow of traffic.



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The City of Westland, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, MI 48185 (734) 467-3200

TO ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES, GROUPS AND PERSONS:

On or about September 4, 2007, the above-named city will request the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to release federal funds under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (PL 93-383 as amended through the Housing and Urban Renewal Recovery Act of 1983, PL 98-181) for the following projects:

Project	Funding Level	Location
A. Rehab. Admin. (08-02) Administer General Rehabilitation Program, Emergency Repair, Barrier-Free and HOME Rental Rehabilitation Programs. Repair substandard units to meet city codes and eliminate health and safety hazards.	\$187,124	A, C
B. Housing Rehab. (08-03) Fund loans, grants, and deferred loans to provide financing to complete programs listed under Item 05-02. Proposed funding could be used to assist (3) homeowners for General Rehabilitations and assist (10) homeowners with emergency repairs or barrier-free access improvements.	\$108,150	A
C. Outreach Ordinance/Code Compliance Officer (08-09) The Building Department will locate a licensed building official at the Dorsey Community Center. This would provide daily access for residents and landlords to resolve health, safety and code compliance issues including securing and maintaining abandoned buildings. This position would also monitor senior and family apartment complexes, as well as group homes for code compliance; also, commercial structures located in distressed areas. This position reports directly to the Building Director.	\$91,000	K
D. Neighborhood Resource/Code Compliance Officer (08-11) This position in the Police Department will handle 50% code enforcement to remove illegal and junk vehicles as well as hazardous materials both individually and in support of an ordinance officer and a fire code inspector working with potentially violent situations in CDBG targeted neighborhoods. Areas focused upon will be schools, senior centers, commercial strips and high-density lower income housing units. The other 50% of the assigned duties will be to perform community policing in CDBG target areas, and work as a school liaison officer for schools also located in CDBG target areas (\$35,000 code enforcement and \$35,000 public service).	\$70,000	K
E. Reconstruction of Dorsey Road-Merriman to Venoy (08-12) Reconstruct 5,280 l.f. of existing paved Dorsey Road from Merriman Road to Venoy. Current Road is in unsafe condition and has become a danger to the health and safety of the Neighborhood Strategy Area. The total cost of this project is estimated to be \$538,232 with the balance of the funds coming from other state and local sources	\$185,813	D
F. HOME Rental Rehabilitation Program (Norwayne and Carver Subdivisions) (08-HM01) Funding to be used to continue existing HOME Rental Rehabilitation in targeted neighborhoods. Anticipate (5) projects with (14) dwelling units for renters at 60% of median income. Must bring entire unit up to the currently adopted 2000 Michigan Residential Code, both interior and exterior. Program provides 50% of total project cost up to a maximum of \$14,999 per unit. Lead-based paint affected items which need to be repaired or replaced will have a 75% program participation. Owner provides the remaining project funds from non-government sources. Rents are restricted for a five-year period. No displacement of families permitted under program. Due to new HUD regulations for lead-based paint inspection and abatement in all federally assisted housing projects, anticipate a significant reduction of units participating and units completed; and an increased cost and time factor to complete all units beginning in fiscal 2007/2008. (CT 5685 and CT 5690)	\$110,685	D, H, J
G. Set-Aside to Non-Profit Housing Organization (Peoples' Community Hope for Homes, Inc.) (PCHFH) (08-HM03) Existing non-profit housing organization has been designated by the City of Westland to conduct affordable housing projects and programs to initiate a revitalization of the Carver Subdivision, a distressed residential neighborhood. Planned activities include in-fill housing on existing lots. Another program includes the acquisition, rehabilitation, and resale of homes that are currently vacant. No displacement of low income families will be permitted. PCHFH will use a 100% recapture of grant funds provision for properties sold before the end of the HOME affordability period. PCHFH has an approved Neighborhood Preservation Plan through the State of Michigan which will provide additional funding for the Carver Subdivision Revitalization for (2-3) new homes at Westshire Place. Administrative/operating costs will be allocated at \$18,350 and the remaining funds, \$140,527 must be used for project costs.	\$137,309	J
H. Liberty Hill Scattered Site Housing Project (08-HM04) Liberty Hill Housing Corporation is a non-profit, 501(C)(3) charitable corporation that leases homes to persons with developmental disabilities. The \$58,845 in funding will be used to rehabilitate to code (10) single family homes located in the City of Westland and leased to people with special needs. This scattered site project involves major and minor rehabilitation including roof replacements, furnace replacements, upgraded bathrooms and kitchens, replacement of windows, walkways and driveways. The average age of each home is 39 years. If these structures are not rehabilitated in the near future, the health and safety of residents may be jeopardized. This money will be matched with other funding from both public and private sources.	\$58,845	U

LOCATIONS:

- A. City-wide impact for low/moderate income persons
- B. 1119 N. Newburgh Road, Westland, MI 48185
- C. 32715 Dorsey Road, Westland, MI 48186
- D. Census Tract 5685, Norwayne, (Wildwood, Palmer, Glenwood, and Merriman)
- E. 8623 N. Wayne Road, Suite 156, Westland, MI 48185
- F. Bailey Recreation Center, 36651 Ford, Westland, MI 48185
- G. 44587 Pinetree Drive, Plymouth, MI 48170
- H. Census Tract 5690 (Annapolis, Inkster, Van Born, and Middlebelt)
- I. Census Tract 5689 (Annapolis, Van Born, Middlebelt and Henry Ruff)
- J. Census Tract 5690, Carver Subdivision (Annapolis, Harrison, Van Born, and Middlebelt)
- K. CDBG target areas citywide
- L. Stottlemeyer Park, Census Tract 5689, Dancy south of Annapolis, Westland, MI 48186
- M. Fire Station #5, 28801 Annapolis Road, Westland, MI 48186
- N. St. James United Methodist Church, 30055 Annapolis, Westland, MI 48186
- O. Wayne Road (museum property south of Wayne & Marquette)
- P. Fire Station #1, 36435 Ford Road, Westland MI 48185
- Q. Youth Assistance Office, Westland Police Department, 36701 Ford Road, Westland, MI 48185
- R. Area bounded by Wildwood, Palmer, Glenwood and Chesapeake and Ohio road right-of-way
- S. Area west of CSX Railroad, north of Cherry Hill, east of Hix Rd and south of Marquette
- T. Area east of CSX Railroad, north of Cherry Hill
- U. Scattered site for disabled persons.

It has been determined that such request for release of funds will not constitute an action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment and, accordingly, the City of Westland has decided not to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (PL 9-190). The reasons of such decision not to prepare such a Statement are as follows:

- A. Housing Rehabilitation Administration - Administrative activity only.
- B. Housing Rehabilitation - Code and health/safety repairs to existing structures only. No new construction.
- C. Outreach Ordinance/Code Compliance Officer - Reduce the amount of health and property code violations in distressed neighborhoods including both single family and rental apartments.
- D. Neighborhood Resource/Code Compliance Officer - Code enforcement, community policing and school liaison in CDBG target area.
- E. Reconstruction of Dorsey Road - Resurfacing of approximately one mile of existing road in CDBG target area. The project will not require tree removal or significant changes to existing area.
- F. HOME Rental Rehabilitation Program - Make code and health/safety repairs to repairs to existing rental structures only.
- G. Set Aside to Non-Profit (PCHFH) - Conduct affordable housing activities in a designated subdivision for a total of 1 - 2 new homes per year.
- H. Liberty Hill Scattered Site - Make code and health/safety repairs to five (5) existing group homes.

An Environmental Review Record documents the environmental review of the above projects and programs, and more fully sets forth the reasons why and Environmental Impact Statement is not required. The Environmental Review Records are on file and are available for public examination at the Office of Community Development Programs, Dorsey Community Center, 32715 Dorsey Road, Westland, MI. 48186 between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. All interested agencies, groups and persons disagreeing with the decision are invited to submit written comments for consideration by the City of Westland to the office of the undersigned. Such written comments should be received at 32715 Dorsey Road, on or before August 31, 2007 at 5:00 p.m. All such comments received will be considered and the City will not request the release of federal funds or take administrative action on the projects prior to the date specified in the preceding sentence.

3. CERTIFICATION: The City of Westland will undertake the projects described above with Community Development Block Grant and HOME funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (PL 93-387). The City of Westland is certifying to HUD that the City of Westland and Mayor William R. Wild, in his capacity as Mayor, consent to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to environmental reviews, decision-making and action, and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. The legal effect of the certification is that upon its approval, the City of Westland may use the Community Development Block Grant and HOME funds, and HUD will have satisfied its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. HUD will accept an objection to its approval of the release of funds and acceptance of the certification only if it is one of the following basis:

- a) That the certification was not in fact executed by the Chief Executive Officer of the applicant or other officer of the city; or,
- b) That the applicant's Environmental Review Record for the project indicates an omission of a required decision, finding, or step applicable to the project in the environmental review process.
- c) Other specific grounds cited in the HUD Regulations that can be found at 24 CFR Part 58.75.

Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedure (24 CFR Part 58) and may be addressed to HUD at the 17th Floor, McNamara Federal Building, 477 Michigan Avenue, Detroit, MI. 48226. Objections to the release of funds on the basis other than those stated above will not be considered by HUD. No objection received after September 20, 2007 at 5:00 p.m. will be considered by HUD.

William R. Wild, Mayor  
City of Westland



Thongs fill the streets of downtown Plymouth for the annual Great Lakes Regional Chili Cook-off and Motorcycle Bike Show.

## Heating things up Cooks needed to spice up chili festival

Organizers of the 12th annual Great Lakes Regional Chili Cook-off and Motorcycle Bike Show are promising the food - and the action - will be hotter than ever when the competition returns to downtown Plymouth Sept. 30.

And they're looking for chili chefs to make it so. And, as usual, it's for a good cause: This year's event benefits Western Wayne County Habitat for Humanity.

The Chili Cook-off will feature a traditional Red Chili, a Green Chili and a Salsa competition. This portion of the cook-off is recognized by the International Chili Society (ICS) and will follow all ICS rules. The winners in each category will advance to the 2008 World Championship Chili cook-off next fall.

A fee is charged to participants wanting to try their best to create a winning pot-of-chili. Top winners receive trophies and prizes.

Chili samples will be available at 1 p.m. for a \$1 donation per sample.

The GLR Chili Bike Show is a ride-in show with 17 different bike categories including Harley and non Harley classes. There is a \$10 fee to enter a bike and all first place winners will receive a trophy with judges' choice winning cash prizes. The bike show takes place noon to 4 p.m. on Main Street at Kellogg Park.

The Chili Ride, in its second year, begins at MotorCity Harley Davidson in Farmington Hills and ends up in downtown Plymouth at the Chili Cook-off. A \$10 fee gets participants VIP parking at the event on Ann Arbor Trail, plus \$5 in 50/50 raffle tickets. Another ride is planned to begin at the BMW dealership on Ford Road for all BMW bikers.

The Restaurant Chili Challenge takes place 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. along Penniman and

in Kellogg Park. More than 15 restaurants will be vying for the prize of "Best Chili in Plymouth" award. Spectators will be the judge of the best chili served by area restaurants. Bowls of chili will be available for a \$4 donation, or they can be sampled for a \$1 donation per two-ounce sample.

The event features live entertainment noon to 5 p.m., along with performances from dance teams, a children's activity area and the "Hottest Dog in the Coolest city" costume contest judging at 2 p.m.

Anyone interested in cooking in the Red/Green/Salsa or Restaurant Chili Challenge should contact Annette Horn at (734) 776-9669 or GLR chili @sboglobal.net. Bike Show & Chili Ride inquiries should be directed to MotorCity Harley Davidson, (248) 473-7433 www.motorcityharley.com. Sponsorships and Vendor spaces are still available.

## Speaker to offer stroll through history

The people who keep the light on Livonia's historic past are inviting garden enthusiasts to take a look through the history of gardening itself to see how attitudes have changed and how those attitudes are reflected in the gardens people plant.

Greenmead Historical Park will host garden historian Scott Kunst at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 21, at the Alexander Blue House for a discussion of American home landscapes and antique gardens centering around

design changes from the first settlements in the early 1800s to the beginning of the Second World War.

"It will be a whirlwind race through American gardens," he said. "We'll be looking at relic features and plants that still are in use."

He said the way gardens are laid out are snapshots of the times they existed. Ideas about whether paths should be straight or curved, what kind of fencing they utilized, say

something about the eras that created them.

"Right now people are interested in heirloom bulbs and wildflowers, which reflects concern about the environment," Kunst said. "The arrangement of gardens shows the difference in worldview and how people see their place in the world."

The event is free to the public but space is limited. To RSVP contact the Greenmead office at (248) 477-7375.

By Alex Lundberg



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# 'No longer beginners'

## Residents kick, chop way to yellow belts

BY SUE MASON  
STAFF WRITER

Every Tuesday morning at 10 a.m., a group of women gather to practice their moves. They swing their arms left to right and right to left. They chop at the air in front of them. They kick out their feet.

They do it under the watchful eye of Ron Rose, a tae kwan do grand master, who has spent the past eight months training them for their first test for a yellow belt.

"We come in once a week and they've done so well, we decided they needed to be promoted," Rose said. "They're no longer beginners, they're starting to learn technique."

But this isn't your usual group of white-uniformed, bare-footed students. This group of 12 ranges in age from 51 to almost 104. Many sit in wheelchairs. One

student is missing a leg and has no use of one arm.

The group — Kathleen Langlais, 78; Cara Jefferson, 51; Margaret Heller, 83; Christine Johnson, 86; Yvette Wheeler, 96; Ruth Rudnik, 97; Margaret Booker, 104; Inez Perugia, 82; Veronica Frederick, 81; Emelia Levay, 95; Rose Salerno, 98; and Lydia Rice, 90 — are residents at the Four Seasons Nursing Center in Westland.

According to Four Seasons administrator Kathleen Hartwell-King, a tae kwan do student herself, the program came about as the result of demonstrations Rose did with his students. Some of the residents seemed to be getting into it, she said.

"It offers good range of motion and is good exercise," she said. "Now we do it as a permanent fitness program. They do slow-motion tae kwan do, even in their wheelchairs."

The women did warmup exercises, waving their arms, rotating their shoulders and working their wrists, before doing their blocks, high and low punches, chops and kicks in testing for the

first of six levels of experience.

One by one, they broke boards with their hands and feet. Some did it twice for "Kodak moments."

"Whoop-de-do," Booker yelled when she broke her board.

"She really amazes me with her enthusiasm and what she's capable of doing," said Tamara Cook, activity assistant. "I have to laugh when she gets a call on her cell phone and tells them she has to call back because she's in her tae kwan do class. It's so cute."

Cook also was testing for her yellow belt. She started training with ladies at the center.

"It's motivated me to lose weight," Cook said, adding that Jefferson, who is waiting for a prosthetic, also was an inspiration. "What she does is really amazing."

Rose, who has owned Kicks Tae Kwan Do and Fitness Center in Wayne 30 years ago, brought along students Karen and Kevin Jiang, Cameron Wesley and his brothers Devoran and Dorian, as well as a very pregnant Jessica Beard, to do a demonstration for residents.



Cara Jefferson practices her chop on Ron Rose's hand before her successful try to break a board.

His son Eric also demonstrated breaking cement slabs. Even Rose's wife, Master Christine Rose, was there to help test the group.

Jefferson also is Rose's "star pupil." Even with her disabilities, she was able to break boards with her hand and foot.

Rose took up tae kwan do in high school. Some friends were doing it and kept joking about

him coming to the class. He did and "fell in love with it."

"I liked the competitive mind-ness and athleticism and it suited me," he said.

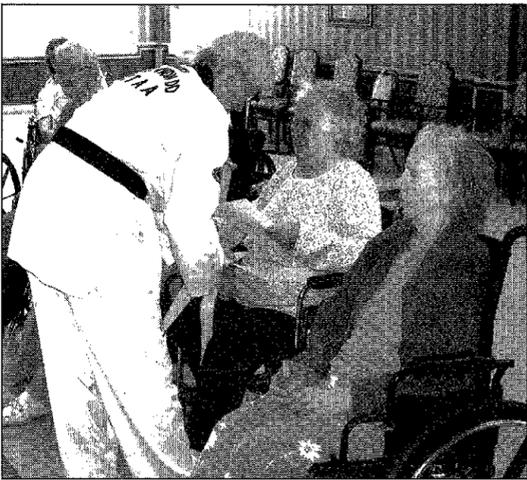
When not working with students at his studio and at the nursing center, he's preparing for his annual tournament Oct. 13 that attracts people from around the country.

He's also helping bring the

junior tae kwan do olympics to Ford Field next July and preparing to serve as a referee with the U.S. team at the World University Games in Thailand.

But he enjoys his work with the Four Seasons residents. "It's more than exercise, it seems to brighten their day," he said.

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Margaret Heller (right) and Veronica Frederick (left) receive their yellow belts and certificates from Four Seasons administrator Kathleen Hartwell-King.



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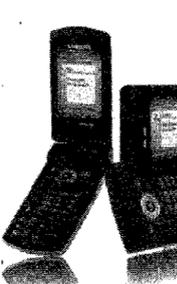


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VMR131

# Former MDA ambassador had 'remarkable life'

BY ANNETTE KINGSBURY  
STAFF WRITER

From a very early age, Christopher Rush made a big impression on everyone he met.

Born with spinal muscular atrophy, a disease that causes loss of motor neurons in the spinal cord and subsequent wasting of muscles, his charisma, humor and intelligence propelled him to a national

role with the Muscular Dystrophy Association starting at the age of 3. As a young adult, he learned to scuba dive and received a law degree from the University of Michigan. He died Aug. 12 at his Ann Arbor home at the age of 30.

Known to his friends as Toph, Mr. Rush grew up in Rochester Hills and graduated from Adams High School. Using a power wheelchair to get around, he earned a 3.9 grade-point average as a U-M undergrad. At the time of his death, he was studying for the bar exam and planning to practice entertainment law with an emphasis on intellectual property.

His father, Richard Rush, said Christopher was only expected to live two years.

"He managed to fool the world by adding 29 years onto his expectancy," Richard Rush said. But there were plenty of challenges along the way.

"He had his fair share, some physical, some emotional," his father said. "He was brighter than most, clearly more articulate than most."

### FAMOUS FRIENDS

Christopher got his start with the MDA at a local telethon, where he charmed local broadcaster Joe Glover.

"He was an extraordinarily articulate kid who was great looking," Richard Rush said. "The first thing he asked Joe was, 'Do you like knock-knock jokes?' ... Joe thought he was such a remarkable personality that he asked him to maintain a fairly high profile."

Glover remains a family friend, as does entertainer Tony Orlando, one of many celebrities Christopher met through his involvement with MDA. During his tenure as goodwill ambassador, he appeared on major television talk shows and mingled with the likes of President Ronald Reagan, with whom he exchanged jelly beans at the White House.

"His fund-raising events were second to none," Richard Rush said. "It was the first time the metro market was able to do over \$2 million."

MDA spokesman Bob Mackle issued a statement from national chairman Jerry

Lewis, who recalled Mr. Rush as extraordinarily outgoing and witty.

"He was a friend to everyone he came in contact with," Lewis said. "He was a true inspiration and just a lot of fun to be around."

### 'MANY CONTRIBUTIONS'

In his teens, Rush became the first known person with

a neuromuscular disease to become a certified scuba diver. A TV crew even accompanied him on a diving trip to the Cayman Islands.

"He did everything he cherished doing," his father said.

Longtime neighbor Connie Szurek of Rochester Hills said his outlook, and his parents, were his great assets.

"What made him so special

is that to Chris, every day was a fabulous day. That is just really how he was," she said. "He never looked at his disability as a disability. They were maybe just a small obstacle in the way. Everything he did he did just wonderfully. ..."

"This kid went to law school and his mom went with him every day and sat outside the classroom. ... This is excep-

tional parents. This young man really, really was cherished and loved every single day of his life."

Christopher Rush is survived by his parents, Richard and Dorie, who now live in Ann Arbor; a sister, Julie, and a grandmother, Vivian Taylor.

A funeral service was scheduled for this morning (Thursday) in Ann Arbor.

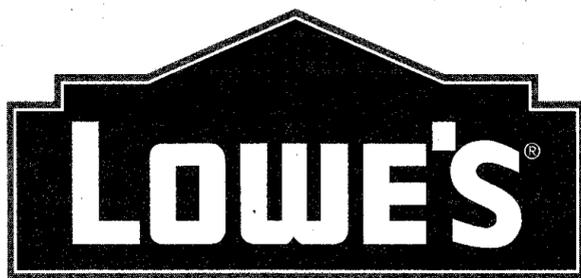
Memorial contributions may be made to the MDA or Paws for a Cause.

"He had a remarkable life and made many contributions along the way," his father said. "Our sorrow is for his passing because it will be our loss to deal with."

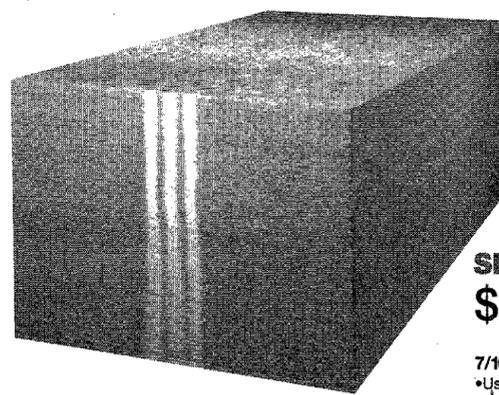
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\$6.47 each

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•Use for roof, wall or subfloor #12212

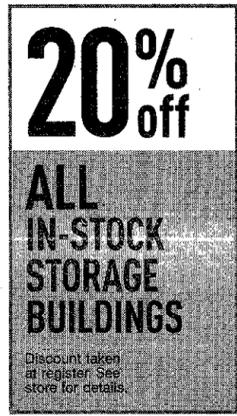


10% off

ALL DRYWALL

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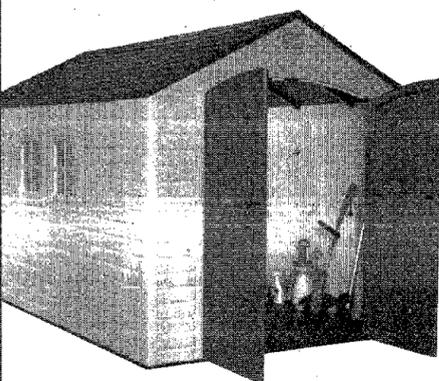
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DensArmor Plus®  
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Paperless, mold and moisture resistant drywall



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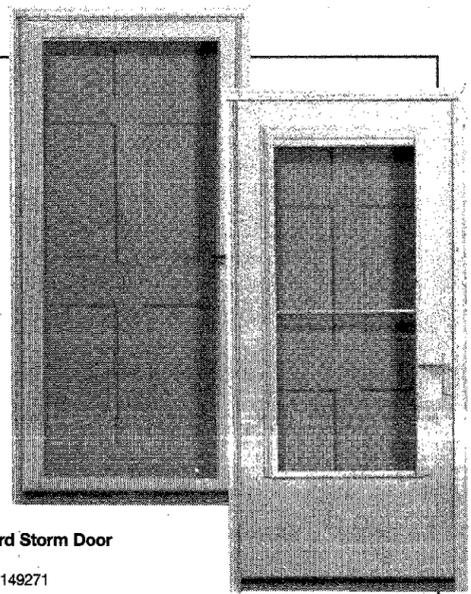
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YOUR CHOICE

SPECIAL VALUE!  
\$148

Charleston or Concord Storm Door  
•Available in 32" or 36"  
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# BUILD IT!

5-DAY-ONLY SPECIAL VALUES August 16 - August 20, 2007

## Producers look for movie music

Anthony Vallone and Sara Stepnicka of ValloNicka Films in Garden City are looking for music from Detroit artists for *Sometimes in Life*, a new feature film that is currently in post-production.

"There's a reason why Detroit is one of the world's music capitals," said Vallone, the director/co-producer. "We have a lot of amazing talent here, so it was only natural to dive into our local scene to showcase some fantastic bands in our upcoming film."

*Sometimes in Life* is the story of two unlikely friends whose lives are stuck in a rut. Jill is convinced that her lesbian girlfriend is cheating on her and Rob can't seem to pick himself up after the loss of his father.

For the music in *Sometimes in Life*, Vallone and Stepnicka are especially interested in funk/soul tunes, quirky rock tunes a la Modest Mouse and acoustic guitar/piano pieces with male vocals. Presley, The Blonds and The Cetan Clawson Revolution are among the bands whose music will be in the film.

To submit music for consideration, e-mail a myspace link or Web link (no MP3 files or attachments) to info@sometimesinlifethemovie.com. The deadline is Aug. 26.

To see the trailer and learn more about the film, go online to www.sometimesinlifethemovie.com or www.myspace.com/vallonickafilms.



10% off

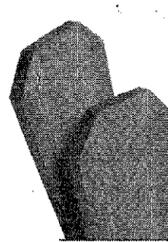
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now 25¢ per linear ft.  
2-1/4"W Casing Contractor Pack  
•Primed fingerjoint pine

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3-1/4"W Base Moulding Contractor Pack  
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\*Moulding sold by bundle. Profiles may vary. Available in convenient pre-cut lengths.



SPECIAL VALUE!  
\$1.27 each  
5/8" x 6" x 6' Dog-Ear Fence Board  
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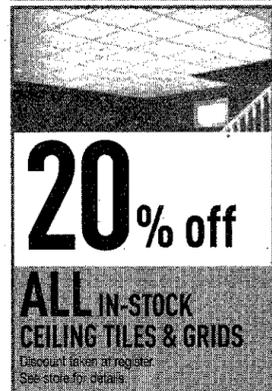


SPECIAL VALUE!  
now \$19.86 was \$22.57  
ChoiceDek® Premium 5/4" x 6" x 12' Gray #116145

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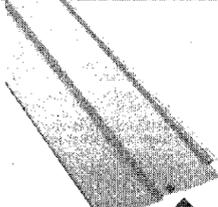
SPECIAL VALUE!  
\$79  
Werner 8' Fiberglass Stepladder •225 lb. load capacity #94571  
Werner 20' Aluminum Extension Ladder •200 lb. load capacity #98156



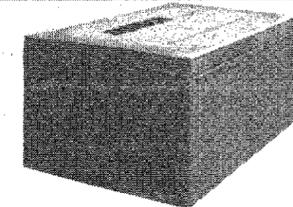
20% off

ALL IN-STOCK CEILING TILES & GRIDS

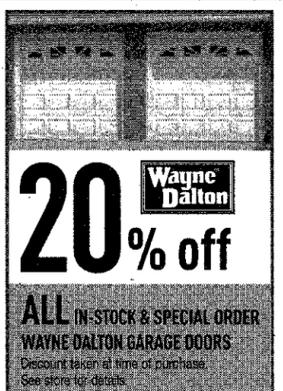
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\$45.95 per square  
10' Section Double 5" White Vinyl Siding  
•Lifetime limited factory warranty  
•Won't decay, chip, peel or flake



SPECIAL VALUE!  
now \$7.16  
1/2" x 3' x 5' Interior Cement Board #11729  
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20% off  
ALL IN-STOCK & SPECIAL ORDER WAYNE DALTON GARAGE DOORS  
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Molded Hollow Core Interior Door Slabs •24" up to 36"

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# Garden City Hospital adds 2 to Board of Trustees

The Garden City Hospital Board of Trustees has two new members with the recent appointments of Rhonda Davenport Johnson and Brian Susko.

Davenport Johnson is first vice-president/regional manager for Comerica Bank for the West Oakland Group and manages 20 banking centers in southeast Michigan. She also has personal interest and

expertise in customer service and organizational performance.

Davenport Johnson is active in her church, United Way and hospice organizations within the community. She received her master of business administration and bachelor of business administration from Western Michigan University. Susko comes to Garden

City Hospital from Soave Enterprises, a multi-company organization in Detroit, where he serves as corporate controller. His responsibilities include the management of all the accounting financial records for the corporation, as well as being a key component in strategic planning and positive leadership development. "One of my main goals is

to help Garden City Hospital continue in the right direction. I am focused on promoting growth as well as positive relations between administration and medical staff," Susko said.

He is a certified public accountant and has a master of science degree in corporate finance from Walsh College. He is a member of the American Institute of

Certified Public Accountants and the Michigan Association of Certified Public Accountants.

Susko currently resides in St. Clair Shores.

Garden City Hospital provides comprehensive health care services, osteopathic medical education, and health care related programs to Garden City and surrounding communities. Call (734) 458-



Susko



Davenport

3300 or visit the hospital's Web site at www.gchosp.org.

**10% off**

**ALL DEWALT POWER TOOLS**

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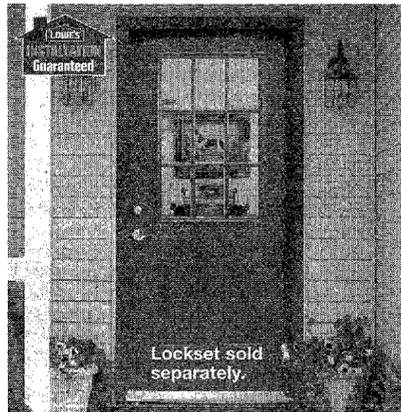
**SPECIAL VALUE!**

**\$119**

**32" or 36" 9-Lite Steel Entry Door Unit**

- Ready for lockset and deadbolt
- Primed and ready to paint
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- Full composite sill substrate for caulking and weathertight installation

•Fits rough opening: 34-1/2"W x 82"H to 38-1/2"W x 82-1/4" H



Lockset sold separately.

**25% off**

**OWENS CORNING**

**IN-STOCK 30-YEAR OR GREATER WARRANTY OWENS CORNING SHINGLES**

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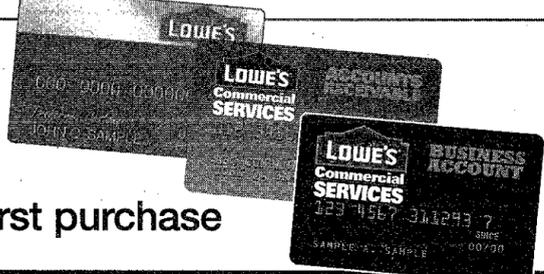
**SPECIAL ORDER THERMASTAR BY PELLA VINYL WINDOWS**

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Open a new Lowe's Business Credit or Lowe's Consumer Credit Card Account and Ask For

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## 5-DAY-ONLY SPECIAL VALUES August 16 - August 20, 2007

### YOUR CHOICE

**\$219**

**Pneumatic Coil Roofing Nailer #78391**

**SPECIAL VALUE! now \$219 was \$249**

**3-1/2" Magnesium Wire Weld Pneumatic Framing Nailer #225884, 225885**

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**15-pack Gatorade® Thirst Quencher**

•Available in Fruit Punch, Lemon Lime and Orange #101271, 240727, 34,49

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**5-gallon Ultra Pro No-Stir Driveway Resurfacer #49141**

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**8" x 8" x 16" Concrete Block #10383**

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**\$323** **SPECIAL VALUE!** **80 lbs. Quikrete® Concrete Mix**

•Use for building sidewalks, patios, steps, curbs, etc. #10385

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including PEX, COPPER, CPVC, DWV, SEWER AND DRAIN

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For the Lowe's nearest you, call 1-800-993-4416 or visit us online at Lowes.com

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## Campaign aims to make elderly drivers safer

Unlike a pair of shoes or gloves, most drivers don't give much thought about how well their vehicle "fits" them, which is a concern, according to Michigan Secretary of State Terri Lynn Land and AAA Michigan. That is why the Department of State has teamed up with AAA Michigan to promote CarFit, a traffic safety campaign offered at no cost to state residents. CarFit, which was developed through collaboration among the American Occupational Therapy Association, AAA and AARP, educates mature drivers on how to properly adjust their vehicle's controls, mirrors, seats and other components for their height and size.

"Making sure all of your vehicle's controls are properly set is important," Land said. "This becomes even more crucial as you age and begin to experience changes in mobility, vision and hearing. CarFit provides a great refresher on some of the critical points of safe driving and is well worth the time." "This gives participants a 'baseline' on which they can compare themselves next year and beyond," said Jack Peet, AAA Michigan Community Safety Services manager. "CarFit helps us meet our objective of keeping senior drivers behind the wheel safely. It helps them recognize when it might be time to re-evaluate their driving."

About 110 people went through a CarFit evaluation during the first part of the campaign in May and June. Participants reported that the service was beneficial, provided good information and helped them learn to better monitor their driving habits. The program's second segment begins in August and ends in September.

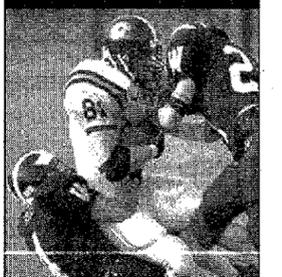
Evaluations will be offered on the following dates at the local AAA office:

- Sept. 14 at 37383 6 Mile Road, Livonia
  - Sept. 17 at 2650 Carpenter Road, Ann Arbor
  - Sept. 21 at 2017 N. Canton Center Road, Canton
- To qualify, you must be a licensed driver at least 65 years old and own a registered vehicle. Call AAA Community Safety Services at (800) 646-4222 to schedule an appointment.

Secretary of State branch offices near CarFit exam sites will provide printed materials and a schedule of events.

A list of CarFit dates, times and sites is available on the department's Web site at www.Michigan.gov/sos. Branch office locations, hours and services are provided through the department's online branch office locator.

**LIKE NUMBERS?** there are a pile of them in today's **SPORTS** section



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Listings for the Community Calendar can be submitted by e-mail at [smaison@hometownlife.com](mailto:smaison@hometownlife.com). They also can be mailed to Sue Mason at 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150, or faxed to her attention at fax at (734) 591-7279. For more information, call (734) 953-2112.

UPCOMING EVENTS

**Rummage sale**  
Prince of Peace Lutheran Church will hold a tent and rummage sale 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 8, at the church, 37775 Palmer, one block west of Newburgh, Westland. Rent space under the tent for \$20 or rent space with our table for \$35. Inside the church, there will gently used clothing for the family at \$2 a bag. For further information call Mary Rose, at (734) 722-4363 or Barb at (734) 722-3233.

**Pancake breakfast**  
The 2007 Wayne Wheelfest Pancake Breakfast will be held 9 a.m. to noon Sunday, Aug. 26, at the Wayne Senior Center, Corner of Sims and Wayne Road in Wayne. The cost is \$5 for adults, \$4 for seniors and \$3 for children ages 5-12. Proceeds to benefit the Wayne Memorial High School cheerleaders.

**School signups**  
St. Damian Catholic School at 29891 Joy, Westland, is accepting enrollment for the 2007-2008 school year. St. Damian offers preschool for 3-4 year-olds and full day kindergarten through grade 8. For more information or to schedule a tour, call (734) 427-1680.

**3-Day Walk benefit**  
A Wine Tasting and Silent Auction will be held at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Aug. 17, at the Wayne Senior Center, Howe at Annapolis in Wayne. Tickets are \$15 in advance or \$20 at the door and include wine and hors d'oeuvres. The event will benefit Susan G. Komen for the Cure as part of the Breast Cancer 3 Day Walk. For tickets or more information, call Sherrie at (734) 740-0606 or by e-mail at [breast\\_friends\\_4\\_life@yahoo.com](mailto:breast_friends_4_life@yahoo.com).

**Hospice help sought**  
Visiting Nurse Association of Southeast Michigan's (VNA) hospice program needs volunteers to comfort and support patients at the end of life. Volunteers can provide companionship, write a memoir, provide respite for family or work as office support. A free 18-hour training program is provided at the VNA headquarters, 25900 Greenfield Road, Suite 600. Registration is required. (248) 967-8361 or visit [www.vna.org](http://www.vna.org).

**Volunteers needed**  
Seasons Hospice and Palliative Care is looking for volunteers to provide companionship to patients dealing with life limiting illness. No special skills, other than objectivity and



Wish you were here

Samantha Penive (left) and Kayla Jakel of Garden City chose the KAR National Dance Competition in Chicago, Ill., to pose with their trophies and their Observer for Wish You Were Here. They two girls won first place in points and fourth place overall. They dance at the Dance Academy in Garden City. If you take a trip or go on vacation, take a photo with your Observer and send it to Sue Mason, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI. 48256. Be sure to identify everyone in the photo and include information about where it was taken.

compassion, are needed. Training provided. Volunteers are matched with patients in their own community. For more information please call Ruth at (800) 370-8592.

**Literacy Council tutors**  
The Community Literacy Council (CLC) is looking for volunteer tutors in Western Wayne County to help adults improve their reading, writing and communication skills. The CLC will provide training to interested volunteers. Previous experience or a bachelor's degree is not required. The council will provide free training and materials, and then match you with an adult student in your area. Call (734) 416-4906 for more information.

**Hospice training**  
Heartland Hospice is looking for caring and dedicated people with an interest in serving terminally ill patients and their families in Washtenaw, western Wayne, Monroe and Livingston counties. Volunteers provide a variety of services including

companionship, light housekeeping, errand running, grief support and clerical services. For more information, contact volunteer coordinator Candice Jones, (888) 973-1145.

**Girl Scouts**  
Girl Scouts of Metro Detroit welcomes girls ages 5-17 to discover fun and friendship, while enjoying opportunities to build leadership skills. Girl Scouting develops girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place. Girl Scouts of Metro Detroit also is looking for volunteers who want to make a difference in girls' lives. To learn more, call (313) 972-GIRL (4475) or visit [www.gsomfd.org](http://www.gsomfd.org).

**Explore Girl Scouting**  
Girls ages 5-17 can discover how much Girl Scouts has to offer all. Scouting isn't just about camping and cookies anymore. Girls learn a lot about themselves and the world around them, form lasting friendships, become more confident, independent, helpful and resourceful. Through Girl

Scouting, girls learn the importance of community service and challenge themselves and develop value systems they use the rest of their lives. Call the Girl Scouts of the Huron Valley Council at (800) 49-SCOUT (497-2688).

EDUCATION

**Schoolcraft College classes**  
The following classes are offered at Schoolcraft College in the coming weeks: Accent reduction classes are 10 a.m. to noon Saturdays (\$209); and Back to basics refresher courses in math, reading and test-taking are offered. For details, visit [www.schoolcraft.edu/lac](http://www.schoolcraft.edu/lac) or call (734) 462-4436.

**St. Damian**  
St. Damian School is currently holding open enrollment for preschool - three-four-year-olds - and kindergarten through eighth-grade. The school is at 29891 Joy in Westland. Call (734) 421-6130 for more information and a school tour, or check out the school's Web site at [www.stdamian.com](http://www.stdamian.com).

**Summer classes offered**  
The Continuing Education and Professional Development Department at Schoolcraft College offers classes. Visit [www.schoolcraft.edu/ces](http://www.schoolcraft.edu/ces) or call (734) 462-4448.

**ORGANIZATIONS**

**Friends of Eloise**  
The Friends of Eloise group meets 6 p.m. the third Tuesday of the month in the dining room of the Kay Beard Building, on Michigan between Middlebelt and Merriman. All are welcome. For information, call Jo Johnson, (734) 522-3918.

**Toastmasters**  
The Westland Easy Talkers Toastmasters Club can help people overcome their fear of speaking in front of people by teaching public speaking in a friendly and supportive atmosphere. The club meets at 6:30 p.m. Monday Cozy Corner Family Dining, 35111 W. Michigan Ave. at Wayne Road, Wayne. For more information, call Vicki Brannon at (734) 467-7224 or Curt Gottlieb at (734) 525-8445.

**Democratic Club**  
The Garden City Democratic Club meets at 7 p.m. the fourth Thursday of the month (September through June) in Room 5 of the Maplewood Center, Maplewood west of Merriman. For more information, call Billy Pate at (734) 427-2344.

**Citizens for Peace**  
Citizens for Peace meets at 7 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month at Unity of Livonia Church on Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkerster. The group is dedicated to working for creation of a U.S. Department of Peace. All are welcome. Colleen Mills, (734) 425-0079.

**Suburban GOP Women's Club**  
The Suburban Republican Women's Club will host immigration attorney Kathleen Poppenger answering questions on America's problems with illegal immigration at a dinner at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 22, at the Pick-A-Bone Restaurant, 30325 Six Mile Road in Livonia. Cost is \$18. For reservations and menu choice, call (248) 320-5473. Visitors and guests welcome.

**MOMS club**  
MOMS Club, a non-profit support group, welcomes all western Wayne County stay-at-home mothers, offering children activities, weekly age-appropriate play groups, and family get-togethers. MOMS Club also performs service projects that benefit needy children in our community. For more details, call Birthe, (734) 458-8143 or Kimberly at (248) 231-6120.

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

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

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

**Silver Strings Dulcimer**  
Musicians and listeners are welcome to stop by and visit a traditional music jam 7-9 p.m. the first and third Thursday of the month at Good Hope Lutheran Church, 28680 Cherry Hill, Garden City. Acoustic instruments include hammered and mountain dulcimer, guitar, banjo, fiddle, harmonica, concertina, autoharp, recorder, pennywhistle, ukulele and upright bass. Call (734) 482-2902 or check out the Web site at <http://geocities.com/ssdsociety>.

**Garden City Kiwanis**  
The Garden City Kiwanis Club meets for lunch at 12:15 p.m. each Thursday at Amantea's Restaurant, 32777 Warren. Guests and potential new members are always welcome.

**Garden City Rotary**  
The Garden City Rotary Club meets at 12 noon Thursday at Amantea Restaurant, 32777 Warren. Community service planning, lunch and socializing are enjoyed. Please join us there.

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

**Tutoring program**  
A tutoring program for students is offered at the Salvation Army Wayne-Westland Corps Community Center, 2300 Venoy in Westland. The program,

3:45-5:15 p.m. Mondays and Tuesdays, is for students 9 and older in Wayne, Westland and Romulus. For information on participating or volunteering, call Tyrone Peterson, (734) 722-3660. Tutors need to have at least a high school education.

**Hospital retirees**  
The Oakwood-Annapolis Retirees meet at 1 p.m. the first Monday of the month at Oakwood Hospital Annapolis Center, Venoy at Howe in Wayne. All Oakwood Retirees are welcome to attend.

**Radio Club**  
The Garden City Amateur Radio Club meets at 7 p.m. the third Tuesday of the month at the Maplewood Community Center, Maplewood west of Merriman. The club is open to people who are interested in ham radio. Call Ben (W8AAA) at (734) 425-2629.

**Garden City Lions**  
The Garden City Lions meet at 7 p.m. the first and third Tuesday of every month at the Maplewood Community Center, Maplewood west of Merriman. Call Dave Fetter at (734) 425-4382.

**Garden Club**  
The Garden City Garden Club meets at 7 p.m. on the third Tuesday of the month at the Maplewood Center. Everyone may attend to hear guest speakers on a variety of gardening topics and plan events around the city. Call Della Haydon at (734) 427-9410.

**Genealogical society**  
The Western Wayne County Genealogical Society meets the third Monday of every month at 7:30 p.m. at the Livonia Civic Park Senior Center on Farmington Road, south of Five Mile. Beginning genealogy and computer classes start at 6:30 p.m. Guests are welcome.

**Purple Heart**  
The Military Order of Purple Heart meets at 8 p.m. the third Wednesday of the month in the VFW Hall, on Ford west of Venoy. Meetings are open to combat-wounded veterans.

FOR SENIORS

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

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

**Senior fitness**  
Seniors can get in shape through some programs offered at the Maplewood Center. The Senior Fitness Room is open 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and noon to 6 p.m. Sunday. Annual membership is \$50 per year or \$1 for a daily pass. Aerobic classes are held 8:45-9:45 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday.

FOR YOUR HEALTH

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

**Substance abuse support**  
A SAFE PLACE meets at 7 p.m. Thursdays in the Fellowship Hall at Merriman Road Baptist Church, 2055 Merriman, Garden City. A SAFE PLACE is based on the Alcoholics for Christ program. For more information, call Russ Weathers at (734) 422-1995.

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**NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE**  
Pursuant to state law a sale will be held at: Secured Self Storage, 6855 Yale, Westland, MI., August 25, 2007 @ 1:00 PM.  
#229 Kameca Maddox; #301 Ebonee Spiller; #308 Michael Pruniz; #321 Craig Collins; #738 Holly Lumley; #830 Alberta Williams; #667 Diane Davis; #1325 Lynne Miller.  
Units contain: misc household items.  
Publish: August 9 & 16, 2007

**Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property.**  
Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, **PS Orangeo, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc. will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage (formerly Shurgard) located at 36001 Warren Rd Westland, MI 48185-6591 (734)729-7095 on 8/30/07 at 10:30 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:  
3140 - Lyssa Wilson - Loveseat, Couch, Misc Items  
4048 - Michael Stone - Loveseat, 2 Couches, TV  
4056 - Casey Bonds - Dresser, table, CD Player  
4148 - James Tuttle Jr - Bed, 4 TV, Misc Items  
5048 - Maureen Shepard - Dresser, Bookcase, 5 Totes  
Publish: August 9 & 16, 2007

**CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF MEETING**  
A petition has been presented to the Planning Commission of the City of Westland, Wayne County, Michigan:  
**Case #1663B - Proposed Land Division, Parcels #027-03-0016-300, Southeast Corner of Webb Drive and Webb Court, South of Warren Road and west of Hix Road, Greg Remer**  
**Case #2162 - Proposed Land Division, Parcel #051-99-0022-000, North Side of Florence Avenue, West of Hix Road, Glenn B. and Patricia Sandy**  
**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that a public meeting of the City of Westland Planning Commission will be held in the City Hall, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan at 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, September 5, 2007.  
Written comments must be submitted to the Planning Commission before 5:00 p.m. one (1) day prior to the scheduled meeting.  
Kenneth B. Sharp, Chairman  
WESTLAND PLANNING COMMISSION  
Publish: August 16, 2007

**CITY OF WESTLAND SYNOPSIS OF MINUTES MTG. 15 8/6/07**  
Presiding: President Pickering  
Present: Godbout, Graunstadt, Johnson, Kehrler, Reeves, Stottlemeyer  
198-Approved minutes of 7/23/07.  
-Approved req. Vision Lanes for basketball tournament 9/2/07, 8:00-10:00 p.m.  
-Approved req. John Glenn High School annual homecoming parade 10/5/07 5:30-7:00 p.m.  
-Approved bid K & B Asphalt for asphalt repair, amt. \$34,980.00.  
-Approved bid Major Building, Inc., amt. \$81,824.50; & Gaglio P. R. Cement, amt. \$91,690.00 for cement repair.  
-Approved Req. from MSB to be recognized as non-profit organization in the City.  
199-Appointed W. Gabriel to Westland Plan. Com., term to expire 5/9/09.  
200-Re-appointed M. Kadi to Westland Plan. Com., term to expire 6/20/10.  
201-Re-appointed A. Hammons to Westland Plan. Com. term to expire 7/7/10.  
202-Re-appointed R. Curry LDFA, term to expire 4/4/11.  
203-Re-appointed A. Mack to DDA, term to expire 8/16/11.  
204-Re-appointed M. Harlow to DDA, term to expire 2/9/10.  
205-Re-appointed A. Shapero to DDA, term to expire 2/19/10.  
206-Appointed T. Romano to DDA term to expire 8/6/11.  
207-Appointed J. Bailey to P&R Advisory Com. term to expire 1/22/08.  
208-Re-appointed K. Madden as dele. to MERS Conf. 9/18-20/07.  
209-Re-appointed R. Kosowski as alt. dele. to MERS Conf.9/18-20/07.  
210-Approved check list Activity: \$2,168,721.43 & Prepaid: \$3,509,826.59.  
Meeting adjourned 8:41 p.m.  
Minutes available at the Clerk's office.  
Charles W. Pickering Council President Eileen DeHart City Clerk  
Publish: August 16, 2007

**CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION**  
On Thursday, August 23, 2007, various items of the City Westland Police Department will be sold at public auction. The auction will be held at Insurance Auto Auction 8251 Rawsonville Road, County of Wayne at 10:30 a.m. The following items will be offered for sale to the highest bidder:  

Stock	Year	Make	Model	VIN
3160815	1994	Chevrolet	GMT-400	1GCEC14Z2RZ245645
3208838	1999	Mercury	Sable	1MEFM50U1XG654391
3208899	1994	Saturn	SCI	1G8ZF1595RZ319058
3283035	1994	Chrysler	New Yorker	2C3ED46F1RH249322
3283054	1994	Ford	Taurus	1FALP52UGRG103035
3283066	1997	Chevrolet	Lumina	2G1WL52M7V9128871
3283075	1996	Nissan	Sentra	1N4AB41D8TC743747
3283097	1995	Jeep	Cherokee	1J4FT68SXL551686
3283108	1995	Ford	Crown Victoria	2FALP74W9SX142681
3283122	1993	Chevrolet	Lumina	2G1WN54T8P9159077
3283142	1994	Jeep	Cherokee	1J4FT67SRL238359
3298706	1997	Hyundai	Accent	KMHVF24N2VU355009
3298737	1992	Chevrolet	C1500	1GNEC16K0NJ313621

  
All vehicles are sold in "as is" condition.  
Vehicles may be deleted from this list at any time prior to the start of the auction.  
Publish: August 16, 2007

**CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF MEETING**  
A petition has been presented to the Planning Commission of the City of Westland, Wayne County, Michigan:  
**Case #2132G - Public Hearing for Proposed Special Land Use Approval for Proposed Retail Clothing Store, Parcel #045-99-0004-001, West Side of Wayne Road, South Side of Ford Road, John Romano**  
  
**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that a public meeting of the City of Westland Planning Commission will be held in the City Hall, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan at 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, September 5, 2007.  
Written comments must be submitted to the Planning Commission before 5:00 p.m. one (1) day prior to the scheduled meeting.  
Kenneth B. Sharp, Chairman  
WESTLAND PLANNING COMMISSION  
Publish: August 16, 2007

# When mutual fund manager leaves, find out the reason

When I first got involved in this business more than 20 years ago, it was very unusual for a mutual fund to have a change in managers. However, as the mutual fund industry has exploded in size — where in the past there were only hundreds of funds and today there are thousands of funds — it is no longer unusual to have a change in management. In fact, it has become a regular occurrence in the mutual fund industry.



Money Matters  
Rick Bloom

When a portfolio manager leaves, you do not necessarily have to make a decision immediately. You have time to do your research and make an informed decision. In reaching your decision, it is important to know and to understand the fund itself. Some mutual funds are managed by a team, while other funds may be managed by a sole manager. In general, if the fund is managed by a team and one member of the team leaves, I generally will retain the fund. On the other hand, if a fund has been managed by one individual and that individual leaves, then more often than not I will generally sell the fund.

When a fund is managed by one lead manager and that manager leaves, the fund is almost like a brand new mutual fund and it no longer has a track record. I believe one of the key reasons you invest in a fund is because of its performance; when a new manager takes over, it may be difficult to analyze its past performance. Of course, if the new manager has had a track record at another fund that I can independently analyze, that is one thing. However, if I do not have this independent information, my general view is that it is time to change funds.

I recognize that many people may question about selling a fund that they have done well in just because it has a new management team. However, my philosophy and my belief is that I am not loyal to an investment nor do I have any emotional attachment to an investment. I believe that when investors follow sound investment strategies, in the long run they end up making better investment decisions. When you make better investment decisions, you end up with more money in your pocket.

I know that the mutual fund companies do not want you to sell their funds and they certainly tend to underplay changes in portfolio managers. Some mutual fund companies are known to have a large turnover of managers and it is somewhat their strategy to constantly change management teams.

These funds will typically have a well-stocked bullpen of managers and changes in their management team historically have not caused a problem. However, funds like this are few and far between. As investors, we always have to be proactive and never be afraid to make changes when necessary. As investors, we should have no loyalty to our investments — after all, they don't have much loyalty to us. What you and I always need to focus on is how an investment fits into our portfolio and we should never hesitate to make changes where needed.

That doesn't mean that we should make changes for change itself; rather, we should make changes in our portfolio to give us a better opportunity to achieve our individual goals and objectives. Good luck!

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. His Web site is [www.bloomassetmanagement.com](http://www.bloomassetmanagement.com). You can hear Rick live from noon to 3 p.m. Sundays on WDTK-AM (1400). If you would like Rick to respond to your questions, please e-mail Rick at [rick@bloomassetmanagement.com](mailto:rick@bloomassetmanagement.com).

The issue that you and I as investors need to be concerned with is what we should do when a mutual fund that we are invested in has a change in its management team.

There are many reasons why a mutual fund manager leaves. In the past few years, many successful managers have left to work for their own hedge funds. Managers also leave a fund to sometimes manage another fund at the same mutual fund company or to start their own mutual fund. Of course, another reason why mutual fund managers leave is because of their performance.

My general rule is that I do not automatically sell an investment because of a portfolio manager change. A change in manager can be good or bad for a fund and there are no set answers as to how an investor should react. Therefore, whenever a fund that I recommend or that I invest in has a management change, I first want to do some research on the situation before I react. I want to know why the manager has left.

Unfortunately, the mutual fund companies don't automatically notify you that there is a change in management. This is one of those areas where you have to be proactive. There are a few different ways to know when a portfolio manager has left and prob-



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| CANTON.....42489 Ford Road (At Lilley in Canton Corners).....   | 734.844.0400 |
| BIRMINGHAM...32767 Woodward (1 block South of 14 Mile Road)...  | 248.549.1951 |
| NOVI.....In Novi Town Center (Behind Men's Warehouse).....      | 248.348.5494 |
| ANN ARBOR/YPSI...4563 Washtenaw (1/4 mile East of US-23).....   | 734.975.9200 |
| ANN ARBOR.....2131 West Stadium (South of West Liberty).....    | 734.222.9472 |
| LAKESIDE.....13909 Hall (Across from Lakeside near Old Navy)... | 586.532.8055 |
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OUR VIEWS

## Hearing on park is a good idea

The release last week of a report on the results of the latest round of testing at Westland's Central City Park is cause for dismay.

The soil borings taken earlier this year show that the contamination is far more widespread than first thought and that in addition to concern about lead, there is a potential issue involving the groundwater. Mix in the presence of methane gas and it's no wonder people who live and work near the park are concerned about their safety.

Is it as bad as it has been portrayed in some newspapers? Does it have the potential to be another Love Canal? Is it less harmful than Michigan Department of Environmental Quality's Jim Sygo's assessment that driving to church on Sunday is more dangerous than living near the park?

Those are questions that need to be answered. It's difficult to tell people who see the park every day not to worry. It's hard to tell parents of children who played in the park not to worry. And while officials may say they're safe, it still sounds scary.

The county, which owns the land, the city and the MDEQ will be meeting in coming months to sort out the problem and decide what must be done to clean up the site. It is apparent it will not be a quick fix. More of the park will be torn up in an effort to remove the contamination.

Mistakes were made in the past in not letting people know about the contamination problem. But since being made public last fall, the city has worked hard to keep residents informed.

That's why we're glad to see that Council President Charles Pickering announced that once members of the council have been briefed about the latest report, he will call for a public meeting to update citizens. Residents also need to remain calm, and when the public meeting is held, attend it. Ask questions. Educate yourself about the situation.

We believe it is better to be armed with the facts than with second- or third-hand information. Knowing what's going on can go a long way toward quelling rumors and fears about the park.

## Governor's reforms are a good first step

In the ongoing debate about how to balance the state's troubled budget, everyone agrees that essential reforms are needed in how state government operates.

At the heart of that debate is the Michigan corrections system and state sentencing guidelines. Gov. Jennifer Granholm has proposed sentencing reforms in an attempt to reduce the state's prison and jail population and bring Michigan more in line with other states in the region.

The reforms making their way through the Legislature include repealing 25 felonies that are rarely prosecuted such as adultery and dueling; changing 142 felonies to misdemeanors, including felonious driving and false election statements; dropping the maximum penalty for 58 felonies; reducing the dollar threshold for felony property crimes; and lightening penalties for drug offenses.

Michigan spends about \$2 billion a year on its prison system, more than it spends on its 15 state universities combined. The suggested reforms would result in 3,300 fewer inmates over three years and reduce the number of beds in county jails by 2,000, according to the Michigan Department of Corrections.

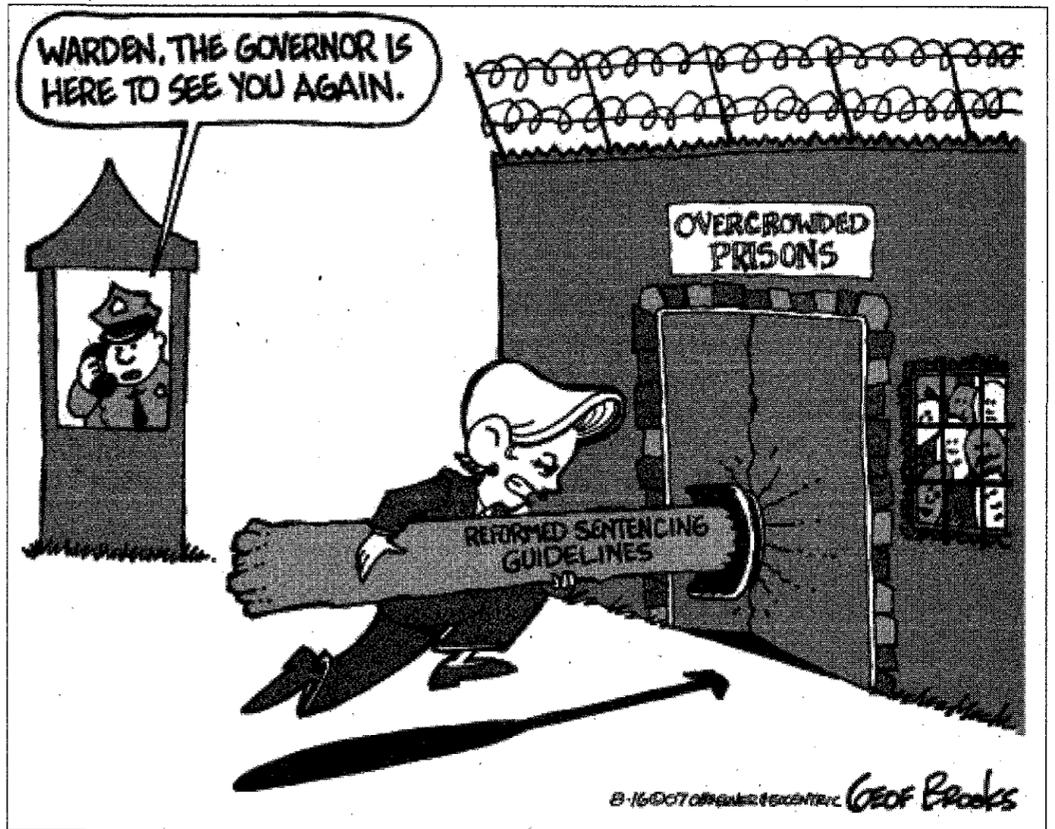
In an Associated Press story, Russ Marian, state corrections spokesman said, "We need these sentencing reforms. If we want to see significant cost savings, we need to decrease the prison population."

Attorney General Mike Cox and other enforcement officials have objected to the reforms. Cox called them "seriously flawed" and dangerous.

While some of his objections are worth considering, his immediate rejection of the reform package seems more politically motivated than professional.

At a time when Michigan ranks at the top for incarceration rate in the region (40 percent higher) and near the top nationally and prison costs are continuing to escalate, it is clear that strong reforms are overdue. The Citizens Research Council estimates that if Michigan has an incarceration rate equal to the average in the region, general fund spending for corrections in the Michigan budget might be reduced by as much as \$500 million.

We believe the governor's proposal is a good first step toward much needed reform and urge the attorney general and others to offer constructive alternatives without making a wholesale rejection of a much-needed reform.



LETTERS

### Election results no surprise

I don't think many of us are surprised that Christine Bryant received the fourth highest votes in the primary council race. Had she run on her merits alone instead of adding Cicirelli to her name, I doubt she would have received too many votes, considering her weak credentials and lack of civic leadership.

In just about every article about the council race, she was listed as the daughter of 18th District Judge and former mayor Sandra Cicirelli. It's amazing just how much power a name wields.

Shirley Tenney  
Westland

### This generation is lazy

I read the letter from Mr. Ross of Westland about possibly losing everything while he awaits his disability hearing. This system must be run by the same folks that run the foster care system in which our children are abused, because it isn't working either.

Tell me how this man who has paid into SS for years is turned down and is truly disabled, but I know a woman in her 30s who has never worked (third generation welfare recipient), has back problems and just received over \$16,000 from SSD for back pay from when she was turned down? There are many jobs she could do that wouldn't have an impact on her back, but she found some way to get around the system.

I'm ashamed of how our seniors get treated, while the younger generation just abuses the system and they get away with it. A warning to the SS recipients that don't really deserve it: You better watch over your shoulder, because I have a camera and am just waiting to use it and send pictures in as proof that you are not really disabled.

This generation is nothing but lazy and wants everything handed to them. No wonder SS is running out.

Lori Gabbert  
Westland

### Set record straight

I've seen a lot of numbers being tossed around as to how much money was brought in from the GI Blues Festival. I'm not sure where these people are getting their information, but let me be the one who sets the record straight. At the time I write this, our balance for this event is just short of \$1,800. That's all of the sponsorship fees, ticket sales, individual donations, and the money raised from the sale of food and beverages minus the costs of the bands, sound system, tents and chairs, licenses and bonds, PR costs, and the costs for food and beverages.

There are a few outstanding items that would raise this total to just over \$2,000. This is nowhere near the amounts I've seen tossed around in the press. One article called this event a "big success," but when you're talking about an event this size raising money to help our veterans, \$2,000 is not a "big success," it's shameful.

Our veterans deserve better. Try telling them how 12 hours of great food and entertainment was a big success because it raised \$2,000. And truth be told, we'd only be at \$1,100 if two of the bands hadn't donated their fees back to Veteran's Haven. The Christy Howard Band and The Carl

Caballero Band both donated their money back at the end of their sets.

I've said this before, but I'll say it again. Our thanks and appreciation goes out to all of the many people who made this event possible. Everybody did an outstanding job putting this together. Even though we didn't meet our expectation, I think we can all take pride in this first-time effort.

Now I hear that Veteran's Haven won't be the recipient of the proceeds from next year's fest, and that's fine with us. All we care about is helping our vets. So we hope everyone involved learns from this year's event and forges ahead to do better next year.

Mark Hardy  
Acting President  
Veteran's Haven Inc.

### A true Westland hero

I went to the most recent city council meeting to do two things: to thank the city clerk's office for all the help they gave me and especially Eileen DeHart, and to let everyone know that just hours before I came to the meeting, the 3/6 Battalion and my son had left Iraq.

Well, before I spoke Mr. Pickering announced that Chaim Kozak had been promoted to corporal and that his doctors said that they would not let him go back to Iraq. I thought about my last conversation with Chaim, which was at his Purple Heart Ceremony.

He told me that one of the last things he remembered was the doctor telling him he was going to lose his arm. He then said he wanted to get better so he could go back to Iraq to be with his buddies. I thought, wow, he almost gets killed in action, and he is going through all his therapy and treatments, and he can't wait to get to his buddies in Iraq.

My first thought was, Chaim, let's get you better, then think about that. But I am not a Marine, so his mind is in a different place, which is very commendable.

I just want to say, Chaim, to all of us you are a true American hero. And to top it off, you are a true Westland hero.

I was honored to be at your Purple Heart Ceremony. I am even more happy that I was not at your funeral. I have been to two Marine funerals in the last year. I did not know them, but being a member of the Marine family, I felt I owed it to them to be there.

To the Kozak family, I know how proud you are of Chaim. I am glad he won't be going back to Iraq. Enjoy him. Chaim, you did all you could, and we will forever be thankful to you.

I think that when he comes back to Westland, whatever parade we have, Chaim should be front and center and honored as Westland's finest, a true hero, and make him grand marshal. It is time to take care of our own.

I can't wait to see you again Chaim, and as I do all the troops. I will thank you in person for a job well done and for serving our country. So for now I will say thank you and *welcome home*, and as always, Semper Fi, which means always faithful. And Chaim, you certainly are just that.

Bud Somerville  
Westland

### War on terror is real

Your July 29 article about the Plymouth

demonstration against the Iraq War and Congressman McCotter, brings up an unanswered question. "What would be your plan on fighting radical Islam?" Complaining without an alternative is no solution.

9/11 was a declaration of war by radical Islam on the U.S. and western civilization, not some criminal act by misguided Middle Eastern men. And, if we are to survive, we must accept this reality. It's not going away anytime soon, maybe not in our lifetime. To win you have to take the fight to the terrorist. The price of freedom has always cost America the lives of some of our young men and women.

The Iraq debate will never stop, but we're there and so is al Qaeda. Remember them, the ones who attacked us on 9/11? Mistakes are made in every war; read your history or watch any war documentary. Remember "Saving Private Ryan" and all the mistakes made in the D-Day invasion and thousands of lives lost in a single day? Was Hitler any more of a threat than al Qaeda?

We learned from 9/11 that a small number of terrorists can kill a large number of people very quickly using airplanes, bombs, chemical weapons, etc. Even with first-rate intelligence you can't stop every attack.

A complete pullout of Iraq could bring about an al Qaeda-led government as the Taliban led Afghanistan. A terrorist group needs a host country to survive, and history has shown that a takeover like that would result in a major bloodbath. Every Iraqi who trusted us, who became a part of the current government, would be killed, along with their families. Do you think that these "peace protesters" would protest the killing of Iraqis by the new al Qaeda government? Did they protest when Saddam Hussein was killing people by the thousands for his own pleasure? At least those dying today are dying in pursuit of democracy and freedom.

When Saigon fell in 1975, the left was so happy that their guys won and that there would now be peace. Remember the "Killing Fields" that resulted from their guys "winning"?

The global war on terror is not a bumper sticker slogan, it's our reality and we better wake up to that fact. Putting the left in charge of our national security would be like putting O.J. Simpson in charge of a battered women's shelter.

Jim McFerran  
Redford

### SHARE YOUR OPINIONS

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### QUOTABLE

"I'd be more concerned about getting in my car and driving to church on Sunday than worrying about this being a risk to my life."

Jim Sygo, deputy director for the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, about results of the latest round of testing at Westland's Central City Park.

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

## County's point man remains optimistic on bridge project

As hard as he's tried, Alan Helmkamp just might not have enough fingers to keep in the dike more commonly known as the Sheldon Road underpass project in Plymouth Township.

But you have to give Helmkamp — the assistant Wayne County executive who has become, at least from the county's perspective, the face of the project — credit. He keeps trying to plug the holes. And any day now, he's probably going to have to take off his shoes.

There are signs that all his plugging may very well be working, at least a little bit.

Last week, for the first time in months, there were actually construction workers in the construction zone, surely a welcome site, particularly for the businesses along that stretch of road that has been closed since April and will be closed for at least another 16 months.

We say "at least" because there isn't really anyone we can find — except Helmkamp — who thinks this project is going to get done on time.

On the other hand, there are many examples in Michigan's history that show more complicated projects done in reasonable time. Though the Mackinac Bridge Authority was established in 1950, the actual construction of the five-mile expanse took some 3½ years and was finished in November 1957.

The 2.5-mile Ambassador Bridge connecting Detroit and Windsor was built in two years, as was the mile-long Detroit-Windsor Tunnel. Those might not be directly analogous, since the Sheldon Road underpass isn't slated to go over — or under — a river.

Of course, the Sheldon Road underpass has had to withstand perhaps the largest obstacle to progress known to man: government. And there's been plenty of that to navigate.

Wayne County is footing the largest portion of the bill, paying much of it with federal grant money. Early on, it secured commitments from both the Plymouth Township Board of Trustees and the Plymouth City Commission. However, as the planning dragged on and it appeared costs were going to go up, the city commission balked and actually at one point withdrew support until Helmkamp agreed to cap the city's commitment at some \$500,000.

Helmkamp, who wasn't involved at the project's outset but who has nevertheless had to deal with seemingly endless delays and problems, has also had to navigate resistance from CSX (oddly enough, since it has

Helmkamp, who wasn't involved at the project's outset but who has nevertheless had to deal with seemingly endless delays and problems, has also had to navigate resistance from CSX (oddly enough, since it has one of the smaller financial commitments and stands to gain the most with a quality project) and from the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department. The DWSD had no trouble supporting the project, as long as any water work was limited to non-peak seasons in order to protect the department's prime price-gouging season.

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The latest spat is with DTE Energy, which was supposed to be done with its work by June 1. Helmkamp said the company didn't make it. DTE spokesman Scott Simons said, in essence, "Yes we did, but we even told you last fall we might not make that kind of deadline."

Still, there may be reason in the history books for Helmkamp's optimism about meeting overall project deadlines. After all, talks about the Sheldon Road underpass only date back about 10 years. People on Mackinac Island actually started talking about a bridge across the Straits of Mackinac around 1884, more than 70 years before the bridge was actually built.

Through all the problems, Helmkamp may have wanted to turtle himself into a shell. Instead, he remains positive and helpful, returning phone calls, answering questions.

"Call me the eternal optimist, but I'm sticking to that," Helmkamp said of the scheduled December 2008 completion date. "If this means we have to revise the schedule and add shifts, even in the bad months, we'll do whatever we need to do to get it completed by then."

Spoken like a man being fitted for rose-colored glasses.

Brad Kadrich is the community editor of the Plymouth Observer. He can be reached via e-mail at bkadrich@hometownlife.com or by phone at (734) 459-2700.



Brad Kadrich

## Cruise over to where the roar of the Fords began

A lot of cars roaring along Woodward for Saturday's Dream Cruise will be Fords.

The name Henry Ford means cars. Ford didn't invent the car nor did he conceive of the assembly line. But he combined the two and put the world on wheels.

Ford left us another legacy: the birthplace of the Model T.

Tucked away in an old — very old — corner of Detroit called the Milwaukee Junction, just a few blocks south of East Grand Boulevard and east of Woodward, stands Henry Ford's Piquette plant. This is perhaps the only original pioneering auto factory that is open to the public and still retains its original feel.

It should, considering much of the plant has not been changed since the day that Henry Ford left the building in 1910 for his new, gigantic factory in Highland Park.

Ford built the plant in 1904, less than a year after he founded his company. The three-story brick building measures 402 feet long by 56 feet wide. It was here that Ford designed the Model T and built 12,000 copies of the car. You can still find a fleet of them on display in the plant.

The Piquette plant is special in that you get a real sense of history in the plant. I like to call it the feel of history. Only a few places have an aura that seems to transport you to the past and give you a sense of what they were originally like.

I went there on a steamy Saturday afternoon, and the solid brick structure retained the heat like an oven. That was fine — after all, when this plant was built, even Henry Ford didn't have air conditioning in his office.

The interior walls of his office are gone, although you can still see where they stood in a corner on the second floor, along with the foundation of the old vault that used to be there. On a remaining wall hangs a photo of Ford's office, and comparing it to the space around you leaves no doubt that this is where Henry Ford sat. There's even an exact replica of Ford's desk. It's surprisingly small. That says something, one of the docents told me. Ford was not a man to be bothered by paperwork. He was a hands-on engineer. He purposely had his office right next

The Piquette plant is special in that you get a real sense of history in the plant. I like to call it the feel of history. Only a few places have an aura that seems to transport you to the past and give you a sense of what they were originally like.

to where the cars were assembled, not on the first floor where the businesses offices were located. In the back of the third floor stands the special room where Ford and his designers came up with the plans for the Model T.

The plant is infused with age and history. The original massive steel fire doors are still in place. Overhead are heavy wooden beams, and looking out the windows you can see the railroad tracks adjoining the property. It is nearly identical to the view that Ford would have seen 100 years ago.

There is a variety of classic Fords on display throughout the plant. Some are still used to take visitors for a jaunt to the nearby New Center area, so you can still catch a whiff of car exhaust and hear the sputter of a Model T in motion.

The Piquette plant is a marvelous place to visit and get a sense of history. We have the Model-T Automotive Heritage Complex, Inc., or T-Plex, to thank for its presence. Until 1997, the Piquette plant was just another abandoned building facing demolition.

Historian and educator Jerald Mitchell got wind of plans to tear down the plant and approached the Henry Ford Heritage Association with a proposal to form a committee to save the plant. That led to T-Plex and the ongoing efforts to restore the factory.

The T-Plex folks have done a marvelous job, but there is still much work to be done. The windows have to be replaced and many of the display cases are empty. But step by step, the plant is coming back to its old grandeur.

The Piquette plant is open to the public on the first and third Saturday of the month between May and October. Find out more at [www.tplex.org](http://www.tplex.org). Admission is \$10 per person.

It's money well-spent.

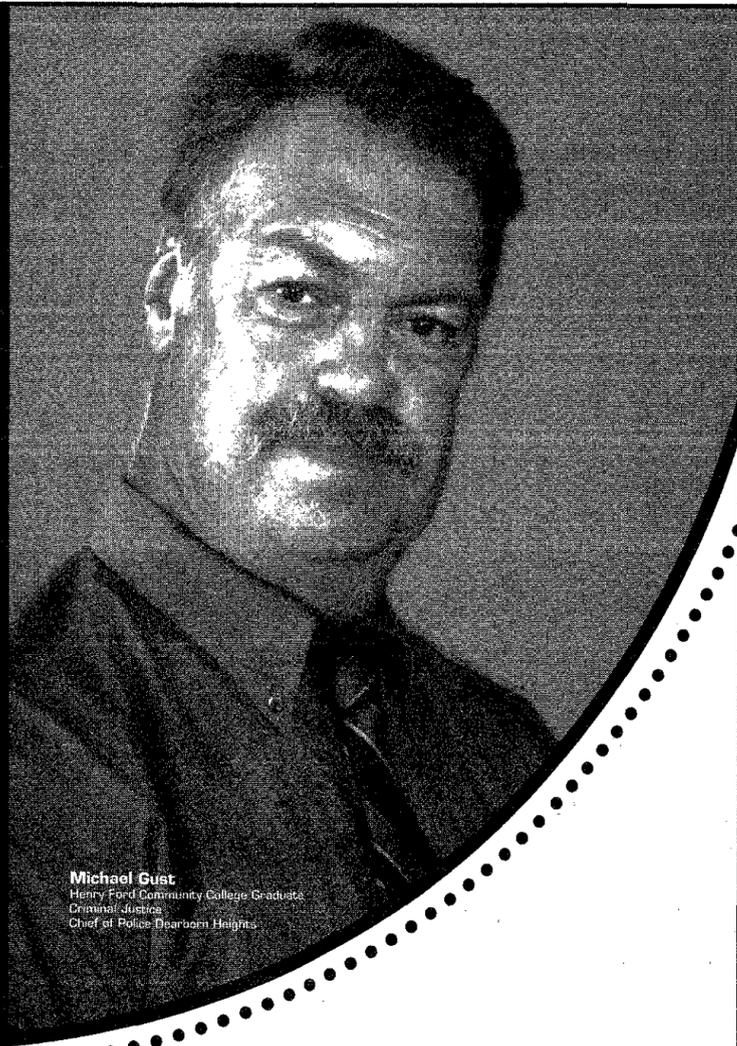
Greg Kowalski is editor of the Birmingham Eccentric. He can be reached at (248) 901-2570 or by e-mail at [gwalski@hometownlife.com](mailto:gwalski@hometownlife.com).



Greg Kowalski

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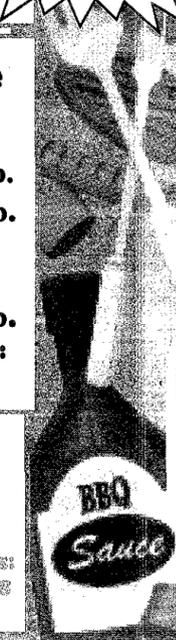
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# Contest winners dine with Motor City Middays crew

Doug and Michele Sawyer of Livonia were treated to dinner last week with all the special touches as winners of the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers* and Buddy's Pizza "Dining with the Stars" contest.

The Sawyers were among the top four finalists in July's "Dining With the Stars," which featured the crew of Motor City Middays — Jay Towers, Shila and Bill McAllister — of 97.1 Free FM.

Michele Sawyer was surprised when she got the call, because she never entered.

"I wasn't just surprised, I was shocked," she said.

"My husband listens to them every day. He wrote the entry," said Michele, who works at Centerline Electric. The fact that Doug listens helped him win the top prize.

*"I am desperate. Ever since my husband started listening to your show, he has come down with some kind of illness. He is constantly doing these imitations of dead celebrities, knows way too much about nothing, and has everything in my future being in water. He refuses to fly anymore out of some kind of fear, wants to move into a condominium, and the weird part is he now cries after our special moment together. I have tried everything to rid him of these symptoms but nothing seems to work. Please send help,"* wrote Doug Sawyer. Then he signed it Michele Sawyer.

And the Midday crew did send help by selecting the Sawyers, the parents of three children, to enjoy a night out at Buddy's in Farmington Hills.

"It was fun, they were funny and the food was very good," Michele said.

The Sawyers were treated to a limo ride courtesy of Pro-Tran Transportation. Michele opted for the makeover from Beauty Salon by J. Lyle Lmt, featuring stylist and makeup artist Christine Fitzpatrick.

Doug sat this one out.

The fivesome dined on antipasto salad, a Greek pizza and sampled two of Buddy's new thin-crust pizzas. Then they watched a mambo dance exhibition by the Fred Astaire Dance Studio in Bloomfield Hills. Afterward, they talked about the inner workings of a radio station, laughed and talked some more.

Michele is still deciding how to spend her \$100 gift certificate to the Reaver Diamond Co. in Southfield.

Doug was always a fan of the Midday crew, and now Michele is too.

"They are so much fun. They hang out together, do things together so they'll have things to talk about on the radio. They're great."

To top it off, Buddy's donated \$500 to the Children's Hospital of Michigan, the charity of choice for Jay Towers.

Look for the August winner, who will dine with Coco of WJLB FM-98, in next week's *Observer & Eccentric*.



TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Doug and Michele Sawyer joins the Motor City Middays crew in watching Brandon Stoiniski and Karla Pinet of the Fred Astaire Studio during their Dining With The Stars diner at Buddy's Pizza in Farmington Hills.



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RELIGION CALENDAR

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

AUGUST

Watchman conference

Power & Glory of God Conference begins 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 16 and continues to Aug. 19, at The Embassy Suites Hotel, 28100 Franklin Road, Southfield. Presented by The Ministry of the Watchman International. All welcome. No registration fee. Prayer and personal ministry at every meeting. For a schedule, call (800) 560-9240 or visit www.ministryofthewatchman.com.

Reformed Protestant service

The doctrines and teachings of solid, Reformed Protestantism will be preached 7 p.m. Friday, Aug. 17, at the regular monthly worship service of the Free Church of Scotland (Continuing), at Cherry Hill School, 50440 Cherry Hill, corner of Ridge, Canton. All are welcome to attend the service with Rev. Sean Humby (of Ohio, originally of Australia) who will preach. For more information, call Margaret Waldecker at (313) 530-6170, Rev. Humby at (937) 252-1156, or visit www.westminsterconfession.org.

Church tour

Hosted by St. Aidan Catholic Church on Saturday, Aug. 18, tour features St. Anne de Detroit, Most Holy Trinity and the Solanus Casey Center. Includes history, culture and structural architecture of each location plus a glimpse into the pastoral lives of the three associated priests Rev. Gabriel Richard (St. Anne de Detroit), Monsignor Clement Kern (Most Holy Trinity) and Rev. Solanus Casey (Solanus Casey Center). The tour will run from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Cost is \$15 per person and includes transportation via charter bus, tour and buffet lunch at Los Galanes Mexican Restaurant in Mexicantown and all gratuities. Individual donations to parishes at

discretion of attendee. For information, call Debbie Dufour at (248) 719-2535. All are welcome and will be accommodated until busses are filled. Buses depart from south parking lot of St. Aidan at exactly 9:30 a.m., so please arrive 15 minutes early. Reservations can be made by contacting St. Aidan Church office at (734) 425-5950. St. Aidan Catholic Church is at 17500 Farmington Road, north of Six Mile, Livonia.

Not for sale carnival

Noon to 6 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 19, at St. John's Episcopal Church, 555 S. Wayne Road, Westland. Admission is free with offering. Taco bar by Odoba Mexican Grill, music by Sunshine Entertainment, moon walk for kids, pie throw, tin can alley and more classic games (25-cents each). All proceeds to benefit the International Justice Mission. More than 27,000,000 slaves exist in our world today. Want to know more? For more information, call (734) 721-5023. Event presented by the church's youth group.

Revival

Monday-Wednesday Aug. 20-22, at John Wesley A.M.E. Zion Church, 28001 Evergreen, south of 12 Mile, Southfield. Our mission: "Growing God's People". Teaching on prayer by guest Elder Patricia Evans will start at 6 p.m. Service begins at 7 p.m. with guest evangelist Rev. Reginald Hunt, Pastor of World Christian Center in South Carolina. For more information, call (248) 358-9307.

Explore the Catholic faith

We are constantly confronted with competing faith claims. What to make of them? Indeed, is truth even knowable? Explore the Catholic option and see if curiosity leads to conversion. Tuesdays, starting Aug. 21, at 7:30 p.m., in the Fellowship Hall (church building), at St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia. For information, call (734) 425-5950.

Rummage sale

9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday-Friday, Aug. 23-24, and 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 25, at Garden City Presbyterian Church, 1841 Middlebelt. For details, call (734) 421-7620.

Supplies-for-Students

A Back to School Supplies Give-Away event that is free for all families in our community. Enjoy crafts, games, food, an inflatable bouncer, and more! Most importantly, we will be giving away 200 bags of school supplies to kick off the start of a new school year. Arrive on time because supplies are limited to the first 200 students 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 25, at St. John's Lutheran Church, 13542 Mercedes, Redford. For more information, call Pastor Bob Hegdal at (313) 538-2660.

Summer sings

Come sing in instant performances of the world's greatest choral music in Summer Sings 7:30-9:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 29 (Saint Nicholas by Benjamin Britten), at First Presbyterian Church, 1669 W. Maples, Birmingham. No entrance fee or preparation necessary, no auditions required, no long-term commitment. For more information, call (248) 644-2040, Ext. 136.

Fun days

Children's Summer Fun Days continue 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Fridays throughout August at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church, 30650 Six Mile, Livonia. Bring a bag lunch for you and your children. We will have playtime either inside or outside depending on the weather and then lunch in the gym. After lunch, we will have Bible Story and Music Time. Parents will be responsible for supervising their children during this time. If you plan to attend, call the office to let us know how many children and adults will be coming (734) 427-1414. Everyone is welcome.

Summer Bible studies

Continue 9:45-10:45 a.m. Sundays in the gym at Christ Our Savior Lutheran (14175 Farmington road, north of I-96, Livonia). The public is invited to the a presentation of Answers with Ken Ham, a 12-part DVD series on the authority of the Bible. Visit www.christsavior.org for more information.

Summer camp

Hosanna-Tabor Lutheran School, 9600 Levee, Redford is accepting applications for their summer camp. Care is offered for infants through 8th grade

from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Call (734) 646-4857 for information.

Summer camp

The camps continue 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday-Thursday, through Aug. 24, for students in grades K-8, at The Lutheran Church of Our Saviour, 29425 Annapolis, Westland. Camps include Bible study, literacy lessons, field trips, games, activities. No charge. All invited. To register, call (734) 728-3440.

UPCOMING

Carillon series

10:10 a.m. to 12:10 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 2, at Kirk in the Hills, 1340 W. Long Lake, Bloomfield Hills. No charge. Call (248) 626-2515.

Victorian fashion show/tea

Shows 2 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. (30-minutes each) Saturday, Sept. 15, at First Presbyterian Church of Northville. Guests are served tea and sweets on china during the show. Many guests are dressed in Victorian attire (although that is not required). After each show, a tour of the historic First Presbyterian Church is offered to guests. The church was established in 1829 recently celebrated 175 years of ministry in historic Northville. For information and directions, visit www.firstpresville.org. Tickets 10 for adults, \$5 students age 12 and under. Tickets may be purchased in advance at the church office. Group tickets are more easily obtained for the 3:30 p.m. show. Any member of the Red Hat Society who joins us for the 3:30 p.m. show receives \$1 off of admission.

Alpha - Questions of Life

Alpha is an opportunity for anyone to explore the Christian faith in a relaxed, non-threatening setting over 10 thought-provoking weekly sessions beginning 6-9 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 20, at Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville. Includes a free dinner each week. Free child care available when attending class. To register, call (248) 374-5932 or send e-mail to Margy.Burkhart@wardchurch.org.

Mom to Mom sale

Tr-City Christian Center is having their Spring Mom to Mom Sale 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 8, at 3855 Sheldon Road in Canton, just north of Michigan Avenue. Table rentals are sold to capacity with over 75 moms selling their kids' clothes, toys, baby equipment, etc. There is a one-dollar admission.

Mom-to-Mom sale

9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 29, at Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia. Newburg United Methodist Church. For details, call (734) 422-0149.

Church Women United

Next meeting for Suburban Detroit-West is 12:15 p.m. Friday, Oct. 5, at Farmington First United Methodist Church (please bring 1 salad for every 3 persons attending), and Area 2 Meeting: Stepping Up to the Plate with Mind, Body and Soul Friday, Sept. 28, at Smith Chapel A.M.E. Church, 3505 Walnut Street at Beech, south of Michigan Ave., Inkster (cost is \$10, call (248) 646-9574). Deadline for registration is Friday, Sept. 21.

CROP walk

To raise awareness and funds for international relief and development as well as for the Plymouth Salvation Army 2 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 7, beginning at St. John's Episcopal Church, 574 S. Sheldon, Plymouth. There will be 2 mile and 4 mile routes. For CROP Walker envelopes and further information, call Bill Brave at (734) 414-9867.

Crafters needed

For Riverside Park Church of God's fall arts and crafts show noon to 6 p.m. Friday, Oct. 19, and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 20, at the church, 11771 Newburgh at Plymouth, Livonia. Rentals \$20 Saturday only, \$30 for both days, \$5 additional for table rentals. Applications now being accepted at (734) 464-0990.

Cruise

St. Aidan Travelers embark on an 11-day cruise of the Mediterranean on Nov. 3. Cruise departs Rome for Genoa, Monte Carlo, Valencia, Spain, LaValletta, Malta, Tunis, Tunisia, returns to Rome for two additional days. Cost is reasonable and includes airfare, many meals and all accommodations. For brochure and details, call (734) 425-5950 or stop at church office, 17500 Farmington road, Livonia. Space limited.

Uplifting church services

Want a unique church experience? Join us Sunday mornings at 10:45 a.m. for a service that will lift your entire family, but be prepared for what will happen after just one service. Can't wait for Sunday? Come to our open discussion 7 p.m. Wednesdays as we examine the Word of God. Classes available for all ages, child to adult. Riverside Park Church of God is at 11771 Newburgh (corner of Plymouth road), Livonia. Call (734) 464-0990.

Women of the word

Women of the Word Bible Studies offers a choice of 2 studies this summer at Calvary Baptist Church, 43065 Joy Road, Canton. To register, call (734) 455-0022, Ext. 4 or download a registration form at www.vchurches.com/cbcwomen. The first study is on 1 Samuel, a Precept Ministries study began 6:45 p.m. Tuesday, July 10. Video lectures by Kay Arthur will expand on the material covered in the discussion

group. Cost for workbook is \$15. Second study is Loving Well, a four-week of heart-to-heart messages from Beth Moore 9:30 a.m. Tuesdays. Cost for workbook is \$8.

Sunday school classes

New adult Sunday School classes began July 1, at Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh at Plymouth road, Livonia. Call (734) 464-0990. Classes include The Joy of Signing (sign language), Inside the Middle East, and Keys to Spiritual Freedom.

Worship schedule

10 a.m. Sundays through Sept. 9, when fall worship schedule resumes at 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m., at Faith Community Presbyterian Church, 44400 W. 10 Mile, Novi. For more information, call (248) 349-2345.

ONGOING

J.O.Y. meeting

The J.O.Y. Builders (Just Older Youth, ages 50 plus) meet 11:30 a.m. the third Thursday of the month for lunch, fellowship and fun, at Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh at Plymouth roads, Livonia. Call (734) 464-0990. All are welcome to join us. There is no charge, although we ask that you bring a luncheon dish to share.

Higher Rock Cafe

Second and fourth Friday of the month, doors open at 7:30 p.m., live bands begin at 8 p.m., presented by Salvation Army of Wayne/Westland, 2300 S. Venoy, between Michigan Ave. and Palmer. For information, call (734) 722-3660 or visit www.tsa.higherrockcafe.4t.com.

Worship service

10 a.m. Sundays, at The Lutheran Church of Our Saviour, 29425 Annapolis, Westland. Sunday School for children. For information, call (734) 728-3440.

Youth wanted

Tweens and teens age 12 and up are invited to join in various youth activities held at Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh Road (corner of Plymouth), Livonia. Come to one of our regular classes on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. or Wednesdays at 7 p.m. For details, call (734) 464-0990.

A healthy you

Join with others as we discover ways to keep our minds and bodies healthy through a four-week class that is open to the public and free of charge at Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh Road (corner of Plymouth), Livonia. Day and night classes available. To register, call (734) 464-0990.

Summer worship

Summer schedule for worship to Sept. 2, is 10 a.m. Sunday services (with nursery), and 7 p.m. Wednesday Contemporary Service, at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA) 30650 Six Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 427-1414 or visit www.holycrosslivonia.org. Visitors welcome.

Sunday worship

10 a.m. at Lutheran Church of Our Saviour, 29425 Annapolis, Westland. For information, call (734) 728-3440.

Preschool registration

Ward Preschool now enrolling children for the 2007-2008 school year. Morning and afternoon sessions available for ages 3, 4 and 5 by Dec. 1. Preschool is at 40000 Six Mile, west of Haggerty, Northville. Schedule and tuition information can be viewed at www.wardchurch.org. For information, call (248) 374-5911 or send e-mail to carol.nowack@wardchurch.org.

Sunday services

Pastor Dan Strength leads services at Living Water Church (Pentecostal Church of God), 11663 Arcola, one block west of Inkster road on Plymouth road. Sunday School is 10 a.m. followed by worship at 11 a.m. Bible study 7 p.m. Wednesdays. Call (734) 425-6360.

Worship services

Regular church services 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sundays with Nursery, Sunday School during 9:30 a.m. service, at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA), 30650 Six Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 427-1414. Adult Bible Study weekly on Tuesday and Sunday at 11 a.m. Visitors welcome. Visit www.holy-crosslivonia.org.

Bible study

7 p.m. on the first and third Thursday of each month in the rectory at St. Michael the Archangel Parish, 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth Road, Livonia. The current study is the Gospel of St. John. For more information, call (734) 261-1455.

Farmington Women Aglow

Meets 7-9:30 p.m. (doors open at 6:30 p.m.) on the second Monday of the month in the Visitors Center (old Spicer House) at Heritage Park on Farmington Road, between 10 Mile and 11 Mile roads. For more information, call Linda Boone at (248) 476-1053 or (248) 890-5494.

Worship services

Praise and worship 10 a.m. Sunday, at Westwood Community Church, 6500 Wayne Road and Hunter, Westland. Contemporary music and casual dress. Children church and nursery. Call (734) 254-0093. Doughnuts and coffee served.

Classes

NorthRidge Church Women's Ministry invites you to participate in a variety of exciting groups and classes that began Thursday, March 8, at the church, 49555 North Territorial,

Plymouth. Choose from a self defense class, Scrap-booking, Mops, Bible studies, cooking and nutrition, quilting, book club, and much more. Register on line at http://www.northridgechurch.com/Women/.

Tiny Tots Preschool

Now enrolling for 2007-2008 for 3- and 4-year olds, at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 39020 Five Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 464-0211.

Recovery program

Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church in Northville launches Celebrate Recovery, a Christ-centered recovery program helping men and women find freedom from their hurts, habits and hang-ups (addictive and compulsive behaviors), meets every Friday evening for 6 p.m. dinner (optional), 7 p.m. praise and worship, 8 p.m. small group discussion, 9 p.m. Solid Rock Cafe (optional coffee and desserts). Child care during Celebrate Recovery is free and available by calling (248) 374-7400. For information, visit www.celebraterecovery.com and www.wardchurch.org/celebrate.

Bible study

The Gospels and You Bible Study began 7 p.m. Monday, Feb. 5, at The Basilica of St. Mary Orthodox Church activity center on the lower level, 18100 Merriman, Livonia. No charge. The study focuses on applying the Gospel of St. Luke to daily life. Sessions will be led by Rev. George Shalhoub and Jim King, the church's director of youth and outreach ministry. For information and to register, call (734) 422-0010.

Sunday service

All are welcome to attend worship service at 10 a.m. Sunday in the sanctuary at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, 27475 Five Mile, one block west of Inkster, Livonia. For more information, call (734) 422-1470.

Worship service

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

Worship services

Sunday Worship services are at 8 a.m. (traditional) and 10:30 a.m. (contemporary), at Grace Lutheran Church, 46001 Warren, between Canton Center and Beck, Canton. For more information, call (734) 637-8160. Sunday School and Adult Bible Study at 9:15 a.m. Adult Bible Study series: Heaven Can't Wait.

Worship service

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

Adult literacy classes

Adult and English as a Second Language literacy classes are available for those wishing to improve reading, writing and English Conversational skills. Open to adults age 18 and over. Trained tutors available for day or evening. For information, call Merriman Road Baptist Church in Garden City at (734) 421-0472. Leave your name and phone number and someone will contact you.

Personal ministry

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

Scripture studies

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

TOPS

Stands for Take Off Pounds Sensibly, meets at 7 p.m. every Thursday evening at St. Thomas a' Becket Church, 555 S. Lilley, Canton. Weigh-in is from 6:15-6:55 p.m. It is a weight support group that encourages members to lose weight and keep it off. Call Margaret at (734) 838-0322.

Learner's Bible study

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

Church service

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

Eucharistic adoration

The monthly program of Parish Prayer and Eucharistic Adoration continues the third Wednesday of each month at St. Michael's Church of Livonia, corner of Plymouth and Hubbard roads. The church will be open for worship from 10 a.m. until the 7 p.m. Benediction service. For information, call (734) 261-5331.

Senior activities

Gathering for seniors 50 years and older at 11:30 a.m. on the third Friday of every month at Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh at Plymouth, Livonia. For more information, call (734)

Please see RELIGION, A15



Passages

Obituaries, Memorials, Remembrances

1-800-579-7355 ♦ fax: 734-953-2232

e-mail: oeobits@hometownlife.com



EUGENE C. SIMONS, SR.

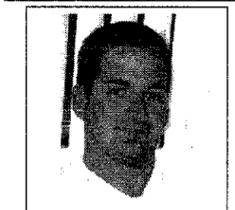
Died Aug. 13, 2007. Service Aug. 17, 2007, at L. J. Griffin Funeral Home



JOY ANN DYER

Died Aug. 11, 2007. L. J. Griffin Funeral Home, Westland.

May You Find Comfort in Family & Friends



JASON M. MONARCH

Age 32, of Garden City, passed away August 8, 2007. He was born on February 14, 1975 in Southfield, MI to Gregory S. Monarch and Linda R. Wright. Jason was united in marriage to Peggy L. Haskin on July 7, 2001. He had been a resident of Garden City for 5 years, and was formerly of South Lyon and Westland. He was employed by Clean Harbors Environment Companies as a Heavy Machine Operator. He was a life long member of Salvation Army in Dearborn Heights. Jason loved his family, especially his wife and children. He was an outdoorsman who enjoyed snowmobiling, motor cross, hunting, and camping. He also enjoyed working on his model train set. He is survived by his loving wife Peggy L. Monarch; his children Mackenzie, Morgan, and Ethan; his parents Greg (Robin) Monarch and Linda (Robert) Sosnowski; and his siblings Tamara (Jeff) Niemiec, Jonathan Cook, Jeffrey Cook, and Andrew Monarch; his grandmother Ethel Wright; and many aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, and cousins. A Funeral Service was held Wednesday, August 15, 2007 at Salvation Army in Dearborn Heights. Col. Clarence Harvey and Capt. Steve Merritt officiated the service. The procession for Rural Hill Cemetery will leave today; Thursday, August 16, 2007 at 10 a.m. from Casterline Funeral Home, Inc. 122 W. Dunlap, Northville 48167. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions to the Children of Jason Monarch, c/o Casterline Funeral Home, Inc. would be appreciated.

DOROTHY (DO) TOBIN

Age 87, of Birmingham and Ann Arbor, passed away at Glacier Hills Retirement Community in Ann Arbor, August 9, 2007. Wife of James E. Tobin, who died in 2005; mother of Richard Tobin of Ann Arbor, Melanie LaFave of Birmingham and James Tobin, Jr., of Ann Arbor; grandmother of Emily, Peter and Laura Wilson-Tobin, Joseph LaFave, Carolyn Fischer and Elizabeth and Claire Tobin; mother-in-law of Peggy Wilson, Robert P. LaFave and Leesa Tobin. Mrs. Tobin was the daughter of Thomas and Lottie Gilliam of Royal Oak. She graduated in 1941 from the University of Michigan, where she was a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma. She was a wonderful wife and mother who loved books, music, and gardens almost as much as she loved her husband and the members of her immediate and extended family, in whose lives she played a sustaining and central role. At the same time, she spent many volunteer hours helping adults learn to read. Arrangements for a memorial service will be announced later. Contributions in Mrs. Tobin's name may be made to On My Own of Michigan (2145 Crooks Road, Suite 103, Troy, MI 48064), which helps young adults with disabilities to live independently. Mrs. Tobin's beloved grandson Joe is a founding member of the group. Arrangements by Generations.

OBITUARY POLICY

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

Deadlines: Friday 4:15 PM for Sunday Wednesday 9:45 AM for Thursday

Obituaries received after these deadlines will be placed in the next available issue.

e-mail your obit to oeobits@hometownlife.com or fax to:

Attn: Obits c/o Charlette Wilson 734-953-2232

For more information call: Charlette Wilson 734-953-2070 or Liz Keiser 734-953-2067

or toll free 866-818-7653

ask for Char or Liz

**RELIGION**

FROM PAGE A14

464-0990. Put together a salad dish and come out and meet other seniors. Lunch is served followed by fellowship with some games and stories. St. James Presbyterian Church offers a Thursday dinner at 6 p.m. for \$5 prepared by Susan Navarro, The Cookie Lady, followed by Bible study at 7 p.m. and Chancel Choir rehearsal at 8 p.m.; Thrift store is open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. every Saturday; 10 a.m. women's study group second Saturday of the month, and Sunday worship at 10 a.m. (nursery available) and children's class at 10:15 a.m. at 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford. Call (313) 534-7730.

**Eucharistic adoration**

The monthly program of Parish Prayer and Eucharistic Adoration continues the third Wednesday of each month at St. Michael's Church of Livonia, corner of Plymouth and Hubbard roads. The church will be open for worship from 10 a.m. until the 7 p.m. Benediction

service. For information, call (734) 261-5331.

**Unity of Livonia**

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

**Shabbat services**

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

**Bet Chaverim**

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

**Detroit World Outreach**

A nondenominational church with cutting edge drama productions, energized contemporary music, high-tech video and lighting, programs for kids

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

**Trinity Episcopal Church**

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

**Shabbat Rocks**

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

**English classes**

Conversational English as a Second Language classes are being offered for adults of all ages and backgrounds at 7 p.m. Monday and Tuesday at Christ

Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia. Tutors will work on a one-to-one ratio to help students better understand and speak the English language. No charge. To register, call (734) 525-0191 or (734) 522-6830.

**Sunday school**

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

**Services**

St. John Lutheran Church (23225 Gill Road, Farmington Hills) invites the community to a new worship service at 5:30 p.m. Saturdays. Also, Sunday traditional worship services are at 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.; contemporary service is at 9:50 a.m.; and Sunday school hour for all ages is at 9:45 a.m. Call (248) 474-0584 for more information.

**Single Point Ministries**

For ages 30 and older, join more than 350 single adults at 11:30 a.m. Sundays for fellowship and related topics in Knox Hall at Ward Evangelical Presbyterian

Church, 40000 Six Mile, Northville. Coffee, doughnuts, conversations are present. Call (248) 374-5920. Tennis continues from 1-5 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, and 4-7 p.m. weekdays any time the weather is above 45 degrees, at Rotary Park, Six Mile and Hubbard, Livonia.

**Bible talks**

4 p.m. Sundays at the Friendship Center, 1119 Newburgh, Westland. Call (734) 728-9157.

**The Gap**

A new youth Sunday School (God Always Present) at Garden City Presbyterian Church, 1841 Middlebelt, south of Ford Road. Lessons are taught using various media, computers, storytelling, games, cooking, music and art, and a small theater complete with popcorn-making machine. Adult Bible study at 8:30 a.m. with a traditional service and The Gap at 10 a.m. Child care available. Mustard Seed contemporary service at 6 p.m. with refreshments served afterward. Call (734) 421-7620.

**Qigong**

The ancient form of Chinese energetic medicine. A safe and effective way to rid the body of toxic pathogens and years of

painful emotions. Learn the art of natural movement and breath to cultivate vital life energy. Classes at Livonia Unity, 28660 Five Mile.

Monday movement Qigong, 7-8:30 p.m.; Thursday Qigong meditation, 10-11:15 a.m., and Friday Therapeutic Qigong, 7-8:30 p.m. Call (810) 813-4073 for more information or send e-mail to [gary@energeticarts.org](mailto:gary@energeticarts.org).

**Worship services**

At 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sundays with an education hour from 9:30-10:40 a.m. at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 37775 Palmer, Westland. Social hour follows each service. Call (734) 722-1735.

**Community Bible study**

Studying the Book of Corinthians, breakfast at 7 a.m. for Bible study from 8-9 a.m. at the Kerby Coney Island, Haggerty Road just north of Eight Mile. Come when you can, leave when you must. For more information, call (248) 924-2779.

**Contemporary service**

New informal service in a casual environment 6 p.m. Sunday at Garden City Presbyterian Church, 1841 Middlebelt, south of Ford. Fellowship hour after services including 10 a.m. traditional. Call (734) 421-7620.

# Your Invitation To Worship

**BAPTIST**

**UNITED METHODIST**

**LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD**

**NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH**

33640 Michigan Ave. • Wayne, MI (Between Wayne Rd. & Merriman Rd.) (734) 728-2180  
**Virgil Humes, Pastor**



Saturday Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.  
Sunday Worship 7:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. • Sunday School 9:30 a.m.  
Wednesday Praise Service 6:00 p.m. • Wednesday Children, Youth and Adult Bible Study 7:00-8:30 p.m.

**Clarenceville United Methodist**

20300 Middlebelt Rd. • Livonia  
**248-474-3444**  
Pastor Beth Librande  
Worship Service 9:30 AM  
Sunday School 11:00 AM  
Nursery Provided

**Redford Aldersgate** 2 blocks South of Plymouth  
United Methodist  
10000 Beech Daly  
313-937-3170  
9:30 - Trad. Worship & Sun. Sch.  
11:00 - Contemp. Family Worship  
[www.redfordaldersgate.org](http://www.redfordaldersgate.org)

**Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church**

14175 Farmington Road, Livonia Just north of I-96  
**734-522-6830**

Sunday Worship 8:30 & 11:00 am - Traditional  
Sunday/Bible Class 9:45 am  
Early Childhood Center Phone 734-513-8413

Making disciples who share the love of Jesus Christ  
Pastors: Robert F Bayer and Anthony M. Creeden

**Canton Christian Fellowship**

Pastor David Washington and The CCF Family would like to invite you to...

"Where the Word is Relevant, People are Loved and Christ is the Key"

Join us for Worship Service at 10:30 am  
Sunday School and/or New Members Orientation: 9:00 am  
Located at 8775 Ronda Drive, Canton, MI, 48187  
Between Haggerty Road and Lilley Road  
SW corner of Joy Road and Ronda Drive  
**734-404-2480**  
[www.CantonCCF.org](http://www.CantonCCF.org)  
It's not about Religion, it's about Relationships.  
Come to a place where lives are changed, families are made whole and ministry is real!



**"More than Sunday Services"**

Worship Service Summer Service 10:00 a.m.  
• Dynamic Youth and Children's Programs  
• Excellent Music Ministries  
• Small Groups For Every Age  
• Outreach Opportunities  
Pastor: Dr. John Grenfell III  
Associate Pastor: Rev. David Wichert

**First United Methodist Church of Plymouth**  
45201 North Territorial Road (West of Sheldon Road)  
**(734) 453-5280**  
[www.pfumc.org](http://www.pfumc.org)

**NEWBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

"Open Hearts, Minds & Doors"

36500 Ann Arbor Trail between Wayne & Newburgh Rds.  
**734-422-0149**  
Worship Service and Sunday School 10:00 a.m.  
Rev. Marsha M. Woolley  
Visit our website: [www.newburgumc.org](http://www.newburgumc.org)

**GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD**

25830 GRAND RIVER at BEECH DALY 313-532-2266 REDFORD TWP.

Worship Service 9:15 & 11:00 A.M.  
Sunday School 9:15 & 11:00 A.M.  
Nursery Provided  
The Rev. Timothy R. Halboth, Senior Pastor  
The Rev. Dr. Victor F. Halboth, Assistant Pastor

**HOSANNA-TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL**

9600 Levene • So. Redford • 313-837-2424  
Rev. Jonathan Manor, Sr. Pastor

Summer Worship 10:00 a.m.  
Education Hour 8:45 a.m.  
Memorial Day - Labor Day Christian School  
Pre-Kindergarten-8th Grade  
For more information call 313-937-2233

**CATHOLIC**

**EVANGELICAL COVENANT**

**NON DENOMINATIONAL**

**PRESBYTERIAN (U.S.A.)**

**EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN**

**ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH**

Immemorial Latin Mass  
Approved by Pope St. Pius V in 1570  
St. Anne's Academy - Grades K-8  
23310 Joy Road • Redford, Michigan  
5 Blocks E. of Telegraph • (313) 534-2121  
Mass Schedule:  
Fri. 7:00 p.m.  
Sat. 11:00 a.m.  
Sun. Masses 7:30 & 9:30 a.m.  
Confessions Heard Prior to Each Mass  
Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions  
Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M.

**FAITH COVENANT CHURCH**

14 Mile Road and Drake, Farmington Hills  
**(248) 661-9191**  
Sunday Worship and Children's Church  
9:15 a.m. Contemporary  
11:00 a.m. Traditional  
Child Care provided for all services  
Youth Groups • Adult Small Groups

**BELL CREEK COMMUNITY CHURCH**

Casual, Contemporary, Excellent Children's Program  
Meets at Franklin H.S. in Livonia on Joy Road (Between Merriman and Middlebelt Roads) at 10:00 a.m.  
734-425-1174  
Join us for coffee, bagels and donuts after the service!

**Worship in Downtown Plymouth First Presbyterian Church**

Main & Church Streets ~ (734) 453-6464  
8:30 & 10:00 a.m. visit us at [www.fpcpn.net](http://www.fpcpn.net)  
Accessible to all

**WARD Evangelical Presbyterian Church**

40000 Six Mile Road "just west of I-275" Northville, MI 248-374-7400  
Traditional Worship 9:00 & 10:20 A.M.  
Contemporary Worship 9:00 A.M.  
Nursery & Sunday School During All Morning Worship Services  
Service Broadcast 11:00 A.M. Sunday WRDT-AM 560  
The WMUZ Word Station For additional information visit [www.wardchurch.org](http://www.wardchurch.org)

**Risen Christ Lutheran**

David W. Martin, Pastor  
46250 Ann Arbor Road Plymouth (1 Mile W. of Sheldon)  
**(734) 453-5252**  
Summer Worship 9:15 am  
All are Welcome Come as you are!  
[www.risenchrist.info](http://www.risenchrist.info)

**LUTHERAN CHURCH WISCONSIN SYNOD**

**ST. PAUL'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL**

17810 FARMINGTON ROAD, LIVONIA (734) 261-1360  
SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES 8:30 A.M. & 10:30 A.M.  
website: [www.stpaulslivonia.org](http://www.stpaulslivonia.org)

**RESURRECTION CATHOLIC CHURCH**

48755 Warren Rd., Canton, Michigan 48187  
**451-0444**  
REV. RICHARD A. PERFETTO  
Weekday Masses  
Tuesday & Friday 8:30 a.m.  
Saturday - 4:30 p.m.  
Sunday - 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.

**CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE**

**PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE**

49801 W. Ann Arbor Road • (734) 453-1825  
Sunday School - 9:45 A.M.  
Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M.  
Sunday Evening - 8:00 P.M.  
Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M.  
NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN LEARNING CENTER (734) 455-3196

**CHRISTIAN SCIENCE**

**First Church of Christ, Scientist, Plymouth**

1109 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, MI 734-453-0970  
Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday School 10:30 a.m.  
Wed. Evening Testimony Meeting 7:30 p.m.  
Reading Room located at church Saturday 12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.  
734-453-0970

**ROSEDALE GARDENS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)**

9601 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, MI (between Merriman & Farmington Rds.)  
**(734) 422-0494**  
[www.rosedalegardens.org](http://www.rosedalegardens.org)  
Chapel Worship Service 9:00 am  
Traditional Service 10:30 am  
We Welcome You To A Full Service Church

**St. James Presbyterian Church, USA**

25350 West Six Mile Rd. Redford (313) 534-7730  
Sunday Worship Service - 10:00 A.M., Sunday School - 10:15 A.M., Thursday Dinners - 6:00 P.M., Thrift Store every Sat. 10am-2pm  
Nursery Care Provided • Handicapped Accessible  
Rev. Paul S. Bousquette

**PRESBYTERIAN**

**Fellowship Presbyterian Church**

Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. • Worship: 10:30 a.m.  
Dr. Jimmy McGuire  
Rev. William J. Burke Jr.  
Services held at: Madonna University's Kreege Hall 36600 Schoolcraft Road • Livonia  
Parking lot is on N.W. corner of Lewis & Schoolcraft • Nursery provided  
Visit our website at: [www.FellowshipChurch.net](http://www.FellowshipChurch.net)

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## WOMEN SEEKING MEN

### PRETTY IN PINK

SWF, hard-worker, likes gardening, working-out, movies, music and painting, seeks a SWM, 45-58, honest, caring, with similar interests, for companionship, maybe more. **2212319**

### ITALIAN/SICILIAN MAN...

wanted, 40-year-old SWF, 5'8" looking for handsome, fun, older Italian or Sicilian Male, 40-65 years old, I like shopping, movies, and cooking. **2218623**

### COULD YOU BE THE ONE?

Loving, youthful SWF, 5'7", trim, shapely, very attractive, energetic, happy, enjoys dining, travel, amusement parks, the outdoors, festivals, nature, family-friends, theater, more. Seeking like-minded gentleman to share these. **2212522**

### LOTS OF LOVE TO GIVE

SWF, 66, 5'6", blond, N/S, good sense of humor, enjoys life, dancing and dining, seeking a W/H/M, 66-75, N/S, sincere and humorous, for companionship, maybe more. **2207176**

### REAL FRIENDS

SWF, 57, bl, blonde/blue, Troy area, seeking a lovely lady for tender times. Let's share our many interests. **2215993**

### LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL

Attractive SWF, 60s, 5'7", 125lbs, loves all life, animals, arts, family, nature, spirituality, Masters helping professional. Seeking big-hearted, financially/emotionally secure, intelligent DPM, 48-68, for fun, friendship, depth. **2222242**

### SEARCHING FOR A MAN

46-60, who's looking for commitment, love and laughter. I'm a 46-year-old who's bright, spunky and pretty. Only Jewish men please. **22062317**

### CLASSY AND ATTRACTIVE

SWF, 40, curvy, seeking a SWM, 40-50, masculine, who likes walks, movies and having fun. No head games. **2217813**

### CAN U KEEP UP?

Energetic, petite blonde, 48, 120lbs, 5'2", mother w/grown children, employed, dog owner, enjoys cycling, sports, baseball, cards, reading, active, dancing, dinner, ISO SM who wants to share fun and friendship. **2211245**

### LOOKING FOR ME?

SWF, 46, 5'9", dark complexion, slim, cute, looking for tall, attractive, simple guy, kind and understanding to share all the good things life offers. **2218297**

### BUSY GIRL

Very cute SWFP, 48, looks 35 on a bad day, 5'11, 115lbs, brown, wavy long hair, looking for someone to spice up my life, take a chance and leave message. **2218623**

### READ THIS AD!

SWF, 61, N/S, homebody, enjoys cuddling, scary movies and antiques, searching for a SWM, 45-50, with various interests and qualities. **22164114**

### HIDDEN TREASURE

I'm the needle in the haystack, and there you will find true love. Seeking SWM, 65+ **2212790**

### MAYBE US

SWF, 42, 5'6", pretty smile, enjoys weekend get-aways, seeking a SWM, 37-48, N/S, to share interests and companionship. **2214333**

### SINCERE ONLY

SWF, 36, feminine, beautiful, sexy, seeks confident, similar lady to share nights on the town, good talks and simple fun. Will it be you? Friendship first, possibly more. **2210970**

### HELLO GENTLEMAN

SWF, 36, 5'2", 135lbs, looking for SWPM, to hang with, get to know and just have some fun. Interested? **2212414**

### WHY NOT CALL?

SWF, full-figured, seeks a SWM, 37-80, for friendship, possible LTR. Call me, let's get together and get to know each other. **2217234**

### LOOKING FOR MY SOULMATE

Cute SWF, mother of 2, enjoys fun and dining in/out. Seeking teddy bear type SWM, 35-45, race open, N/S, attractive individual, old humor, cuddly, simple responsible, family-oriented, kids ok. **2200391**

### SIMPLE REQUEST

Are you honest, trustworthy, down-to-earth? SWF, 40, N/S, seeks SWM, 27-57, N/S, who knows how to take life one day at a time. **2209061**

### BIG HEART

SWF, 46, 5'5", 145lbs, brown/brown, sincere, enjoys movies, museums, the outdoors, sports, cuddling and walks. ISO SWM, 37-53, for friendship first. **2213660**

### A GOOD WOMAN 4 U

Laid-back, nice SWF, 42, N/S, N/D, loves music, movies, bowling, relaxing by the water, quiet times home. Seeking like-minded lady, feminine and fun-loving, to share friendship and possibly more. **2209025**

### PRIMER MODEL

SWF, 50, 5'6", slender, intelligence, creativity, passion for music and dancing. Seeks partner 38-50, who is attractive and fit, to share his interests and more. **2200106**

### FRIENDS FIRST

WWF, 68, 5'7", 145lbs, healthy, honest, happy, likes comedy films, country cooking, looking for outdoorsy, active man affectionate and warm-hearted, to share the good things in life. **2219979**

### OLD SCHOOL GIRL...

looking for old school guy, SWF, 41, has a good sense of humor, N/S, seeks nice guy, for dating and possibly more. **2216652**

### LIFE IS TO ENJOY

SWF, 41, 5'7", 145lbs, outdoorsy, active, sports, the outdoors and warm climates seeking a caring, romantic, honest, handsome SWM, 35-70, with similar interests, for companionship, romance and more. **22189112**

### GOD TIMES

Hard-working, honest, respectful, ambitious, attractive SWF, 38, educated, D/D-free. In search of SWM, with same qualities, for friendship and casual fun. **2215936**

### NATURE AND SEXY

Open-minded, honest, respectful, SF, 49, knows when to be serious, but has a sense of humor as well. Live and let live is my policy. ISO understanding, fun-loving good-hearted guy. **22199972**

### SEEKS NEW FRIENDS

Tall, sexy, ebony artist, enjoys culture, music, the outdoors, the ocean, bookstores, coffeehouses, biking, sports, searching for a SWM, 18-45, who can enjoy the same. **2213013**

### WILD AND SOPHISTICATED

Ebony woman desires shared love relationship for mental, emotional, physical, spiritual and financial uplift. 40-50, **22147056**

### ARE YOU OUT THERE?

Employed, easygoing SWF, 48, mom, pretty smile, golden complexion, brown/brn, attractive, independent, warm-hearted, loves R&B, soul, classic cars/car shows, concerts. Seeking warm-hearted, independent SWM, intelligent and good-humored for companionship, happiness. **2200026**

### CLASSY LADY

SWF, 36, 5'3", N/S, seeking a SWM, 35-49, who enjoys sports, dining, traveling and movies, for friendship first, maybe more. **2212910**

### SEEKING FRIENDSHIP

SWF, young 60s, w/good morals, caring, nice-looking, 5'3", 156lbs, N/S, N/D, clean, clear, honest living, party retired, enjoys art, card playing, casinos, and movies. Seeking honest man 50-60, race open. **2207275**

### CLASSY LADY

SWF, middle-aged, attractive, enjoys dining, movies, plays and bowling, seeks a SWM, 48-69, N/S, good sense of humor and good values/morals. **2212075**

### TRY ME

SWF, 33, 5'5", 160lbs, caramel complexion, brown eyes, looking for a loving SWM, to share talks, good times, shopping, dancing laughter and simple times. **2213252**

### ILL MAKE U SMILE

Loving, open-minded, spontaneous SWF, 18, D/D-free, N/S, no children, looking for SW/H/M, to share friendship, fun times, talks laughs a little romance and see what happens next. **2212804**

### LET'S TALK

SF, 51, 5'9", brown/blue, Pisces, enjoys romantic dinners, movies, nice talks, quiet walks, simple fun. Looking for a nice, easygoing, simple guy to share friendship and fun. **2213820**

### ARE YOU SEEKING?

DWF, 63, 5'2", Italian, brunette, attractive, well-dressed, sincere, loving, optimistic, likes, theater, travel, dining, fitness. Wishing to meet N/S, WW, 58-70, financially secure, easygoing, good morals, loves family, for dating. **2203088**

## LET'S TALK SOMETIME

SBCF, 38, 5'6", 120lbs, smoker, love jazz. Seeking BF, 30-45, smoker, for dining out and movies, for friendship, possible romance. **22152399**

## LOOK OUT HERE I COME

Somewhat shy SF, 34, pet owner, works hard but loves to have fun, simple times, good company. Seeking nice SM, to share a little fun and friendship. **2219626**

## PERSONABLE AND SPECIAL

SWF, retired, talented, fun-loving, attractive, 132lbs, 5'5", blonde, speaks well-groomed gentleman, 65+, share like and enjoy each other's company. **22081247**

## SOUND LIKE YOU?

SF, 26, fun-loving, enjoys sports, romance and trying new things. Seeking honest, easygoing man who shares talks, good times, friendship and fun. **2207859**

## CALL ME SOMETIME

Loving, compassionate, romantic lady, 34, enjoys day trips, good talks, togetherness, casinos, time with family. Seeking a loving, respectful, level-headed man to share the good things in life. **2209752**

## MAKE ME LAUGH

DWF, 54, 5'9", N/S, outgoing, enjoys comedy, theater, soft rock, dancing, dining, outdoors. ISO tall, SW/M, like age, good-humored, honest and spontaneous. **2209552**

## HOPPE TO HEAR FROM YOU

WWF, 57, homeowner, independent, a little lonely, dog owner, enjoys quiet times, good talks and togetherness. Seeking a kind man to share these. **2211330**

## TAKE ME GOLFING

Tidy SWF, 60, enjoys fine dining, traveling. Seeking golfer, best friend, confidante, 58-70, widower plus, honest, fun, a must to make a relationship work. **2278914**

## SOULMATE SEARCH

Slim, attractive, 67-yr-old JF looking for her soul-mate, any sincere, successful JM, between the ages of 54-64, please respond. **2209979**

## COULD IT BE YOU?

SWF, 74, very active, 5'11", brown/brown, loves life, travel, music, festivals, good company, nice walks, scenic drives. Seeking compatible, kind SWM, solid build, age appropriate. **2210844**

## WORTH YOUR CALL

SWF, 22, 5'4", light complexion, brown/hazel, dimples, 200lbs, enjoys horror films, hanging with friends. Looking for a nice, smart, compassionate, goal-oriented man to share the good things in life. **2212891**

## OUTGOING AND OUTSPOKEN

SWF, 19, 5'10", likes dining, movies and relaxing at home, seeking a SWM, 19+, with various interests, let's get together and talk over dinner. **2208077**

## QUEEN SEARCHING FOR KING

SWF, 23, searching for a SWM, 25-36, outgoing, sensitive, outgoing, understanding, good sense of humor, who likes to go out and have fun. **2208814**

## LADY IN THE WOODS

SWF, 50, looks younger, nice smile, blonded, 60, 5'5", average build, educated, educated, home owner, dog lover, seeking compatible, outdoor, rugged, good-hearted male to share the good things in life. **2218247**

## MIRAGE

Attractive SWF, 64, 5'11, 135lbs, dark hair, blue eyes, fair skin, looking for N/S, honest gentleman, 60-70, who has numerous interests including history, traveling, and home life. **22409879**

## POSSIBLE LTR

SWF, 58, 5'7", attractive, slender, athletic, N/S, enjoys sports, concerts, dining out, seeks SWPM, 55-62, N/S, college degree, healthy, SOH, possible LTR. **22093381**

## DO YOU EXIST?

DWF, 58, 5'7", outgoing, attractive, college-educated, enjoys movies, theater, sports, concerts, dining and travel. Seeking widowed/divorced SWM, 55-63, athletic, healthy, tall, N/S, D/D-free, with good sense of humor. **2202099**

## LOOKING FOR YOU

Attractive SWF, 59, 5'7", blond/green, with a loving heart, seeking a SWM, christian a+, N/S, D/D-free, who enjoys the simple things in life. **2202921**

## NO DRAMA

SWF, 28, outgoing, down-to-earth, loves shopping, bowling, shooting pool, more. ISO a special man, 20-38, with like interests, to share special times. **2217226**

## GIRL NEXT DOOR

SWF, 22, 5'11", seeking a SWM, 18-27, for dinner dates, phone conversations, walks in the park, or just hanging out watching a good movie. **22188347**

## ARE YOU MY MATCH?

SWF, 29, 5'7", outgoing, laid-back, D/D-free, seeking a SWM, 21-38, honest, caring, for friendship, maybe more. **2218897**

## LET'S TALK

SWF, 53, 4'11", likes romantic walks, dining and more, seeking a tall, caring SWM, 54-59, honest, respectful, who enjoys the same, for friendship, maybe more. No head games/drama. **22190972**

## GIRL NEXT DOOR

SWF, 22, 5'5", brown/hazel, seeking a SWM, 22-35, who likes movies, dining and more. Let's get together. **2219272**

## SENT FROM HEAVEN

SWF, 21, loving, caring, kind, compassionate, generous, attractive, honest, seeking a SWM, 25-72, with similar qualities, to spend time with, go out to dinner or the movies. **22101586**

## HOW ARE YOU?

SWF, 29, mom of 2, N/S, fun-loving, caring, compassionate, likes cooking, painting, walks, beaches, family times. Seeking a nice guy with zest for life, to share a little happiness. **2200770**

## GET TO KNOW ME

Loving, open-minded SWF, 60, 145lbs, attractive, enjoys music, dining, concerts, travel, ISO honest, compassionate SWM, 57-65, N/S. Possible LTR. **22083780**

## LET'S MEET

SWF, curvy, short, pretty, outgoing, self-employed, seeking a busy SWM, 48-60, who likes concerts, traveling and dining. Let's get together and talk. **2203287**

## SEEKING MR. RIGHT

Classy SWF, seeking a busy SWM, 45-60, I'm a very passionate, affectionate, loving person, who enjoys a variety of activities. If you're seeking your soulmate, why not try me? **22092418**

## READY FOR A FRESH START?

DWF, 47, 5'5", 120lbs, long blonde/blue, well-proportioned, very feminine, attractive, self-employed. Seeking SWM, 45-57, 6'1", 220lbs+, good sense of humor, energetic, traveler, outdoorsman, adventurer, merry gentleman. **2202540**

## NEED A LOVE...

to keep me happy. Attractive, classy, delightful, charming WF, 49, no kids, seeks SWM, 45+, no kids, N/S, fun, loving, caring. **22069059**

## VERY CUTE

SWF, 56, 5'3", 122lbs, interested in fit, good-looking, confident male, 45-58, N/S, intelligent, sincere, down-to-earth, who wants to commit to someone special. **2211398**

## ARE YOU MY LADY?

SWM, 54, N/S, loves R&B, jazz, simple times, loves to have fun, simple times, good company. Seeking a lovely lady, medium build/full-figured, to share all my simple pleasures. **2210024**

## VANILLA SEEKING CHOCOLATE

Call me if you desire a nice shape, SWM, blue-eyed blonde, 50-year-old, 180lbs, desire SWF for friendship and definitely romance. **22177324**

## THE REAL DEAL

SWM, 59, handsome, N/S, blonde/blue, 5'9", 165lbs, Catholic, down to earth, easygoing, seeks WF, 42-55, N/S, physically fit, with classy and style. **22134026**

## WORTH A CALL

SWM, 28, 5'6", 150lbs, enjoys home-cooking, Italian food, time with friend, good company, movies, music and more. Seeking a nice, open-minded SF to share the good times. **2213010**

## SOMEONE WHO LOVES LIFE

SWM, 61, 250lbs, outgoing, romantic, likes movies, dining and traveling, seeking a woman, 35-45, who likes long walks and good conversations, let's talk. **2211093**

## BETRAYED? ME TOO

SWM, 48, 6'1", 190lbs, N/S, handsome, sincere, educated, honest, seeks attractive woman, 38-50, for friendship, sharing, fun and romance. **2217955**

## HANDSOMELY HUMBLE

SWM, 43, 5'11", 215lbs, H/W proportionate, respectful gentleman, looking for professional SF, 30-45, N/S, for LTR. **22178139**

## HI LADIES

Simple, honest SWM, 35, 5'8", brown/hazel, medium build, seeks nice, kind-hearted, non-judgmental woman to share talks, dates, fun and more. **2217053**

## EASYGOING

Sharp, sociable SWM, 45, with good character and pleasant personality, likes the outdoors, fishing, motor sports etc. W/LM SWF, for dating and fun times. **2218714**

## CUTE, CUDDLY COWBOY

Wise and kind SWM, 46, enjoys simplicity, art, flea markets, festivals. Seeking the company of a lady with similar interests. **2200459**

## HI LADIES!

DHM, 48, kind, hard-worker, N/S, seeks a H/WF, 37-57, N/S, for sharing of conversations, dates, fun and more. Possible LTR. **2216327**

## IT'S NO FUN BEING ALONE

SWM, 38, 200lbs, hwp, brown/brown, hard-working, loyal, honest, compassionate, humorous, enjoys anything outdoors, seeks a SWF, 35-40, attractive, active and caring. **2216329**

## HOPPE TO HEAR FROM YOU

SWM, 44, 5'9", 150lbs, father, enjoys gourmet cooking, beach walks, sunshine, soft rock, much more. Seeking a loving, happy lady to share the special times in life. **22151943**

## IT'S NO FUN BEING ALONE

SWM, 38, 200lbs, hwp, brown/brown, hard-working, loyal, honest, compassionate, humorous, enjoys anything outdoors, seeks a SWF, 35-40, attractive, active and caring. **2216329**

## ARE YOU MY LADY?

SWM, 5

# Snakes have the law on their side

Signs in natural areas are low on my like list. Leash your dog. No fires. Don't litter. Much of the information is common sense, but signs are needed to enforce laws.

Some signs, however, are refreshing, especially when they provide nature interpretation and remind the park owners — that's you — that parks are not pacified playgrounds free of wild things and functioning aspects of nature's way. Many national parks are working on signage to educate the public on black bears, a potentially dangerous creature when they are habituated to our bad behavior. And cougar advisory signs can be found at Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore in Michigan. Some local parks are telling the tale of the eastern coyote, steps in the right direction.

Seven Lakes State Park, near Holly, deserves congratulations for its bold action in strategically placing a unique wildlife crossing sign. This sign stops you dead in your tracks for a second look, and that's what it's meant to do: inform, educate and protect a resource.

Seven Lakes is a wildland gem operated by the Michigan DNR. Enter the park and just a ways down the road you can't miss a prominent standard yellow highway sign. This one, in bold letters, proclaims: "CAUTION, SNAKE CROSSING, PROTECTED SPECIES". A detailed rattlesnake picture appears on the sign along with the words, "Eastern Massasauga Rattlesnake, Venomous-Protected Species."

It's my guess that many county residents have no idea massasauga rattlesnakes, Michigan's only venomous snake, true pit vipers, live in Oakland County. Many parks under management of the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority and Oakland County Parks have placed small rattlesnake signs near trails and their naturalists pass the word. Well and good.

I chatted with DNR biologist Julie Oakes, who confirmed that the rattlesnake signs at Seven Lakes are unique. In her words, "We stole the idea from Sterling State Park that



On Nature Jonathan Schechter

Jonathan Schechter

put up fox snake crossing signs." Good for her! And it will hopefully be good for our elusive, cryptically colored, shy little swamp rattler that sometimes suns on pavement. The signs went up shortly after an off-leash dog — a violation of law — was bitten by a rattler. The dog survived, but the owner was not happy that he did not know rattlers were in the park.

Fact of the matter, many natural areas in Oakland County have rattlesnakes. Some of my favorite "rattlesnake parks" are Indian Springs, Kensington and Stony Creek metro parks, Independence and Orion Oaks county parks and the Bald Mountain State Recreation Area, along with many small protected areas and sanctuaries in northern Oakland County. Rattlesnakes also live in some new subdivisions that are adjacent to wetlands. The Paint Creek Trail, Polly Ann Trail, the Clinton River Trail and sections of the old tracks just west of the West Bloomfield Trail Network all have habitat that could very well support rattlers.

Every now and then, a massasauga bites a human. Humans survive. The snake usually does not. And they are not ankle bites. The great majority of the highly infrequent bites are direct result of harassment and stupidity and result in intoxicated adult males being bitten on their dominant hands seconds after the famous two-word phrase, "Watch this!"

In August, female massasaugas give birth to their live young in upland sites, then slowly slither peacefully back across roads to their wetlands, awaiting their season of hibernation, often in moist crayfish burrows. Give the snakes a break. It's the law.

Jonathan Schechter writes on nature's way in metro Detroit.

As the countdown shortens for the Woodward Avenue Dream Cruise on Aug. 18, Cruise events are rapidly taking shape.

Birmingham will host more than 600 classic cars packed into downtown, along with automotive displays and live entertainment provided by two driving forces behind the Motor City.

"We are excited about this year's lineup," said John Heiney, director of the Birmingham Principal Shopping District. "Each year our sponsors like Ford and Chevrolet offer great events, displays and activities for visitors."

Ford Motor Co. will hold its Cruisin' Legends car show at Shain Park

Throughout the day, there will be more than 100 classic Ford, Lincoln and Mercury cars on display. In addition, Ford partners will have displays, including Saleen, Barrett-Jackson, Steeda and Skunkworks

Also featured will be display by the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. You can see the legendary '32 Deuce Coupe with the Ford flat head, which is celebrating its 75th anniversary.

There also will be a chance to win travel packages to Ford Championship Weekend and the Ford Racing Driving School.

The schedule of activities is:

■ noon to 1 p.m.: Edge Karaoke. Family and friends take the stage to sing their favorite '50s and '60s tune. Performers will get a mini-DVD of their act.

■ 1-1:15 p.m.: JDRF Youth Ambassador Message.

■ 1:15-2:30 p.m.: The Aaron Vaughn Band.

■ 2:45-4 p.m.: Teen Angels

■ 4-4:15 p.m.: JDRF Youth Ambassador Message.

■ 4:15-5:15 p.m.: Edge Karaoke.

■ 5:30-6:30 p.m.: Jerry Sprague.

■ 6:45-8:15 p.m.: Dallas Hodge.

Chevrolet is cruising into Birmingham to take over the Birmingham Triangle. Located at the junction of Woodward and South Old Woodward, the Triangle



Ray Farner and his son Danny brought their 1950 Chevy sedan delivery van to Birmingham last Saturday for an early appearance at the Dream Cruise.

will be packed all day, with festivities for the whole family.

The Chevy Racing Tour will feature NASCAR vehicles, engine displays, interactive games, kiosks and more.

The Chevrolet Music Tour celebrates classic music and cars and there will be games and prizes. Musical entertainment will be offered from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Enjoy music from Deep Kick. Chevy will have more than 60 unique Classic and Tuner Cars, the Chevy SPO Accessories Display and Chevy's full line of cars, trucks and SUVs. Plus this will be a one-time only opportunity to see celebrity classic vehicles and the auto show exclusive concept vehicles.

Event day registration for cruisers is open to individual cars, model year 1978 and older, after 10 a.m. at the registration tent at South Old Woodward and Brown — space is still available, and you should arrive early. Day-of parking is \$20, based upon availability and on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information about Dream Cruise parking in Birmingham, visit [www.birminghamcruiseevent.com](http://www.birminghamcruiseevent.com).

All Dream Cruise events and venues are within walking distance of Birmingham's five parking decks, where the first two hours of parking are free.

## Camp support

Two downtown Birmingham businesses, Weir Manuel Realtors and Max & Erma's, are lending a hand to Camp Casey.

During the Woodward Dream Cruise weekend, Aug. 17-19, Weir Manuel has agreed to give up its prime-location parking lot so that Camp Casey can set up shop and raise awareness and funds for their cause.

The following Thursday, Aug. 23, Max & Erma's is holding a benefit dinner in which 20 percent of the day's proceeds go to Camp Casey. Diners must have an official flier for their meal to count; fliers can be downloaded from [www.camp-casey.org](http://www.camp-casey.org) or by e-mailing [LaurenMaiman@camp-casey.org](mailto:LaurenMaiman@camp-casey.org) and requesting one.

Camp Casey is a nonprofit organization. It travels to

horseback riding facilities throughout Michigan to provide a cost-free series of one-day retreats for kids with cancer and their families.

This idea was inspired after founder Molly Melamed, 24, witnessed the effect horses had on Casey Foote, a little girl who died from bone and brain cancer in 2003.

At only 19, Melamed designed, organized and launched Camp Casey while attending Michigan State University. What was supposed to be a one-time activity day for Sparrow Hospital patients has evolved into a mobile day camp throughout all of Michigan.

Now in its fourth year, it has already reached hundreds of kids. Five camps are scheduled for summer 2007.

Visit [www.Camp-Casey.org](http://www.Camp-Casey.org) to learn more about this cause.

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- New Gevril Watch valued at \$3,000

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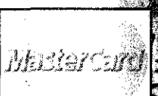
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## SPORTS



(LW)

Thursday, August 16, 2007

The Observer &amp; Eccentric Newspapers

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

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## Extracting a win

### Livonia dentist Himm O&E Open men's champ

BY BRAD EMONS  
STAFF WRITER

Bill Himm had the field in his rear-view mirror as he approached the 18th green in Sunday's final round of the Observer & Eccentric Men's Golf Open.

The 56-year-old dentist from Livonia, nursing a three-shot lead, hit a drive straight down the middle on the par-4, 406-yard hole, putting him in the catbird's seat.

But then the nerves got to him and it felt like the another cat on the course had just swallowed the canary.

"I felt the pressure with that last iron," said Himm, who skulled pitch shot left of the green and into the rough by about 15 yards. "My mind says, 'Don't do something stupid. Just play it in the safe range and the worst I can do is bogey.' As long as I did not make a double (bogey), I was O.K. I just tried to punt it up near the green and I almost made par."

While Northville's Ryan Ossenmacher was making a birdie, Himm calmly got up and down with a two-putt to earn his first-ever O&E championship, shooting 71 Saturday at Whispering Willows and following up with a 75 Sunday at Fox Creek for a two-round total of 146.

He won a \$350 gift certificate to go along with his first-place trophy.

Chaz Kornegay, who won a two-hole playoff against Ossenmacher to take runner-up honors, shot 73-74-147. Ossenmacher wound up 71-76-147 followed by Mike

Lawton (Livonia) and Dan Longeway (Northville), 149 each; Steve South (Westland), 150; Paul Mazanka (Farmington Hills) and two-time defending champion Jim Omietanski (Livonia), 151 each.

"Overall I was solid, I hit the ball good," said Himm, who was runner-up to Omietanski last year. "My putting was not good. There were no pin sheets. I tried not to be on the wrong side of the hole. It was not just me, but everybody. But under the conditions it was good. It was hard for everybody because it was slow and hot."

Himm, a Stevenson High grad who entered the first-ever O&E Tournament in the early 1970s, usually plays quick rounds with his friends at either Western Golf & Country Club, where he was once a member and club champ, and Lyon Oaks.

"Under the conditions, it was good, but it was hard for everybody because it was slow and hot," Himm said. "I had a couple of nice two's on a long par-3. But I hate the pace - 5-and-half hours. Usually I'm the first one off and I get my rounds done in 3 hours and 15 minutes."

Kornegay, a 1990 Salem High grad who plays regularly out of Brae Burn, has competed in nine straight O&E tournaments, finishing runner-up in 2001. He shot a blistering 2-under 33 on the back-nine at Fox Creek carded a pair of birdies to go along with seven pars on the back-side.

The 492-yard, par-5 on No. 9 hole

Please see **GOLF, C2**

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Livonia dentist Bill Himm earned the first-place trophy this year at the Observer & Eccentric Open by carding rounds of 71 and 75, respectively, at Whispering Willows and Fox Creek.

## Sidelines

### Shaw makes debut

Former Livonia Clarenceville High All-Stater Tim Shaw (Penn State) made six tackles Saturday night in his rookie appearance at outside linebacker for the NFL's Carolina Panthers in a 24-21 victory over the New York Giants at Giants Stadium. Shaw, who also appeared on special teams, saw significant playing time during the second half.

The Panthers will play their second exhibition game Friday against the host Philadelphia Eagles.

### Marinelli talks

The Detroit Economic Club will present its 11th annual Detroit Lions Kickoff Meeting, featuring head coach Rod Marinelli, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Friday, Aug. 24, at the Detroit Cobo Center. The cost is \$55 for Detroit Economic Club members (\$60 for guests and non-members). To reserve tickets, visit [www.econclub.org](http://www.econclub.org); or call (313) 963-8547 for more information.

### LJAL hoop signup

Basketball registration for Livonia Junior Athletic League's 2007-08 seasons will be from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Monday, Sept. 10 and 17 at Frost Middle School, 14041 Stark Road, Livonia.

Registration is for the following age-group levels: Senior Varsity (grades 9-11), Varsity (7-8), Junior Varsity (5-6), Freshman (3-4). For more information, e-mail [Basketball@ljal.com](mailto:Basketball@ljal.com).

### Elks Soccer Shoot

The City of Livonia Department of Parks and Recreation will stage the annual Elks Soccer Shoot at 4:30 p.m. Monday, Aug. 20 at the Livonia Community Center soccer fields, located at Five Mile and Hubbard roads.

Boys and girls age divisions include 7-and-under, 8-9, 10-11 and 12-13 (determined as of Aug. 1, 2007). The competition is free.

For more information, call (734) 466-2410.

### Big Day tickets

The Westland John Glenn Booster Club is offering discounted pre-sale tickets at \$7 for students and \$9 for adults for the Big Day III Prep Football Showdown when the Rockets take on Livonia Franklin beginning at 8 p.m., Friday, Aug. 24, at Eastern Michigan University's Rynearson Stadium.

The all-day ticket includes admission for the Warren Cousino-Fraser game at 2 p.m. followed by the Allen Park-Detroit Finney game at 5 p.m. The Glenn Boosters will offer the advanced tickets at the south entrance of the school from 4-8 today during Glenn's home four-way scrimmage between Southgate, Trenton and Algonac. Tickets at the gate are \$10 for students and adults. (Children 5-and-under are free).

## Macinkowicz leads O&E women

BY BRAD EMONS  
STAFF WRITER

Susan Macinkowicz was able to run away and hide for the field in the Women's Championship Flight in Saturday's Observer & Eccentric Open.

Macinkowicz, who resides in Chesterfield Township, shot 78 at Whispering Willows to win by eight strokes over Detroit's Suzanne Madej.

Defending champion Janina Jacobs (Livonia) withdrew Friday with a sore wrist after returning from a golf trip to the United Kingdom.

The 46-year-old Macinkowicz, a regular on the Golf Association of Michigan women's public links events, thoroughly enjoyed her day at Whispering Willows.

"It's a very good municipal

course," said Macinkowicz, who was paired with Molly Gibson and Jan Bowerman. "We had a blast. I play public courses all the time and these people all do a great job. I could not make it last year. It's a great tourney and I was finally able to come out and participate."

Macinkowicz, who has won three women's public events this season, carded one birdie and took advantage of her long drives off the tee.

"I was consistent," said the special education teacher from Woodhaven. "I hit a lot of fairways and greens. I didn't get into too much trouble."

Macinkowicz considers herself "a late bloomer." She took up the game 16 years ago at age 30.

"After my mother died, it was a great stress reliever,"



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Susan Macinkowicz of Chesterfield Township captured the women's O&E Open golf title last weekend.

Macinkowicz said. "I wish I had played earlier."

For her efforts, Macinkowicz took home an \$80 gift certificate and first-place trophy. Madej took low net honors with

a 73.

In the first flight, Plymouth's Luanne Smulsky won low gross honors with a 92, while Livonian Pat Witek took home low net with a 74.

## Thomas has no doubts about MU's talent

BY TIM SMITH  
STAFF WRITER

Several key players graduated, such as high-scoring forward Kelly Japowicz.

But there's a lot of talent and inner fire coming back as Madonna University's women's soccer team looks to build on a 12-4-2 season that ended with a disappointing

defeat to Siena Heights in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference tournament.

"I have confidence in the group," said Madonna second-year head coach Paul Thomas. "I think a lot of the motivation coming into this year was the

### PREVIEW

underachieving of last year. "We underachieved big-time last year, and a lot of the girls are more focused this year, coming into preseason."

Thomas also said the team is meshing earlier, which can only help it in the long run.

"I think we will be as competitive as last year, if not a little better, just because of team chemistry off the field," he added. "It seems to be going a lot better than it did last year."

Overcoming the 15 goals that Japowicz scored will be one of the bigger hurdles for the Crusaders as they try to improve from a second-place showing.

"We have very capable forwards who all scored in the conference last year, just not consistently, and that was

due to playing time," Thomas explained. "I think this year, they will get a lot more chances and I think that will result in more goals for them."

"We're going to have (five) forwards and if all of those come in with a few goals, than that will help make up for (the loss of) Kelly."

The team will look for offense from junior Dina Allie (Livonia Stevenson), sophomores Kaila Moore, Kati Germane and freshmen Shelby Mathison and Chelsea Skinner - along with contributions from sophomore midfielder Lauren Hess (Livonia Ladywood).

"Dina's the junior coming back," the coach said. "But I'm not going to put that responsibility on her shoulders. We have to share that responsibility."

The Crusaders figure to have

an excellent midfield, keyed by Hess, juniors Ashley Stoychoff (Canton/Plymouth Salem), Caitlin Boyak (Stevenson) and sophomores Gina Leone and Rachel Thompson (Stevenson). Boyak will miss the first month of the season, recovering from a knee injury.

"We're looking for her (Hess) to be a big impact player again," Thomas said.

But it doesn't hurt to have solid, solid across-the-board defense, keyed by sophomore-eligible Andrea Johnson in the middle. The 5-foot-8 Canton grad earned WHAC Defender of the Year honors for her excellent 2006 season.

"She reads the game very well, she's a leader on the field through communication, and (through) the level of her play,"

Please see **MADONNA, C3**

## State champ plans to play 2 fall sports

### PREVIEW

BY BRAD EMONS  
STAFF WRITER

With the change of prep seasons in Michigan, high school girls golf will now crown a 2007 fall champion as well as a 2007 spring champion.

Livonia Churchill senior

Shannon Warner will also get a chance to complete the hat trick as she defends her Division I title while playing volleyball for the defending

Division I state champions.

"Golf will be her dominant sport, anything she does (in golf) will supercede what she does in another sport," said Churchill coach Gary Harper, who had to relinquish his duties this fall as a football coach. "She wants to make it three in a row and I don't know if it's ever been done before. Right now she's trying out for volleyball. I know she'll make our team (laughing)."

Warner, who played junior golf all summer, will practice with the Chargers' golf team in the morning and concentrate on volleyball in the afternoon (until school starts).

Expectations are also high in golf this fall for the Chargers, who return a pair of seniors off last year's third-place Western Lakes Activities Association team - second-team All-Area pick Amanda Dobos and All-Division honoree Danielle Lesniak. Junior Lexi McFarlane also returns.

"Our goal is always the same, compete for the conference title and get to 'states,'" Harper said.

Please see **CHARGERS, C2**

# GOLF

FROM PAGE C1

at Fox Creek, however, led to his undoing where he took an eight with a triple-bogey.

"I hit the ball in the woods, had to take a penalty (stroke) and punch it out straight sideways," said Kornegay, who works in a crematory. "My putting was better on the back nine and I had one lip out."

Ossenmacher, a sixth-grade teacher in the Walled Lake Schools, also plays with Kornegay at Brae Burn. The new Salem varsity hockey coach captured low net honors with a 139.

"Today's round (at Fox Creek) was a struggle, but it turned out O.K.," said the 1997 Redford Catholic Central High grad. "The first nine was tough, the second nine O.K."

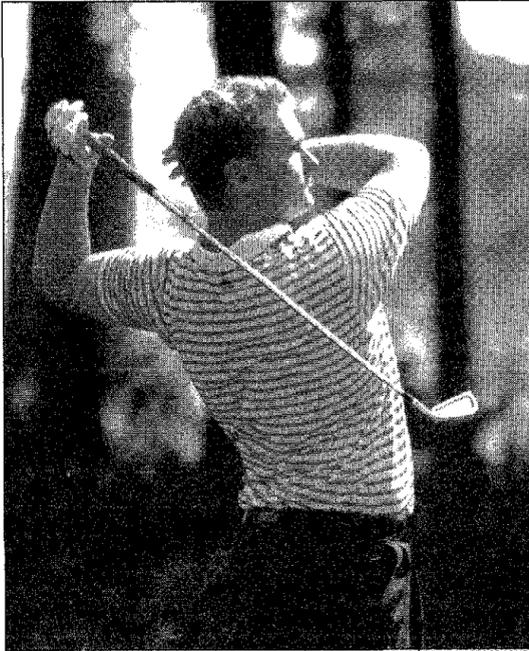
"I've played these courses three times each and knowing the greens helped. But Bill (Himm) played well. He was consistency at its best."

## Cordes regains title

White Lake's Dale Cordes, a 13-handicapper, can't get enough of Whispering Willows.

"It's my home course, I play there three or four times a week," said the mechanic at Serra Toyota of Farmington Hills.

Cordes carded a 76 Saturday at Whispering Willows and held on with an 86 Sunday at Fox Creek for a total of 162 to edge defending first



BILL BRISLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Westland's Steve South, a Franklin High grad, finished sixth with a 150 total after carding a 77 Saturday at Whispering Willows and a low round of 73 Sunday at Fox Creek.

flight champion Dan Higham (Livonia) by a stroke.

Cordes took home a \$180 gift card and a first-place trophy.

"Playing there so much and knowing the green obviously helps," Cordes said of Whispering Willows.

"This was the first round all year that I've broken 80. My nemesis today (Sunday) is that I missed a lot of putts. Both

places had tough pin placements, but that's good and that's the way it's supposed to be."

Jim Matthews (Livonia), third in low gross with an 83-82-165, took low net with a 145 followed by Sam Williams (Livonia) with a 151.

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## O&E GOLF RESULTS

### OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC GOLF OPEN RESULTS

Aug. 12-13 at Whispering Willows/Fox Creek  
**MEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP FLIGHT:** 1. Bill Himm, 71-75-146; 2. Chaz Kornegay, 73-74-147 (won playoff); 3. Ryan Ossenmacher, 71-76-147; 4. (tie) Michael Lawton, 71-78-149; Dan Longeway, 74-75-149; 6. Steve South, 77-73-150; 7. (tie) Paul Mazanka, 74-77-151; Jim Omietanski, 76-75-151; Matt Robinson, 73-78-151; 10. (tie) Dave Benham, 76-76-152; Bradford Villa, 77-75-152; 12. David O'Reilly, 77-76-153; 13. Paul Rys, 78-77-155; 14. Chris Kiebler, 76-80-156; 15. Tommy Lucko, 77-80-157; 16. Andrew Rousos, 80-78-158; 17. Josh

Proben, 81-78-159; 18. (tie) Steve Robinson, 83-77-160; Ron Russ, 83-77-160; 20. Bob Carzon, 82-80-162; 21. Bruce West, 85-80-165; 22. Tim Proben, 83-86-169; 23. Daniel Donohue, 84-88-172; 24. Charles Bridges, 89-87-176; 25. (tie) Doug Campbell, 92-85-177; Mike Obidzinski, 86-91-177; 27. Daniel Kleczynski, 91-87-178; 28. Mark Johnson, 86-96-182; 29. Tim Snitclier, 92-99-191; 30. Steve Ponke, 83-withdraw; 31. John Powell, 93-withdraw.  
**MEN'S FIRST FLIGHT:** 1. Dale Cordes, 76-86-162; 2. Dan Higham, 80-83-163; 3. Jim Matthews, 83-82-165; 4. John Gabriele, 84-86-170; 5. Sam Williams, 89-82-171; 6. Peter Mienowski, 81-91-172; 7. Ronald Ambrose, 86-87-173; 8.

Fred Emory, 88-87-175; 9. Ty Iles, 88-89-177; 10. Mark Goodmanson, 93-91-184; 11. Steve Barker, 97-92-189; 12. Bryan Boyd, 88-102-190; 13. Dan Boyd, 95-98-193; 14. Ken Eckler, 90-107-197; 15. Rick Wheeler, 89-no card; 16. Tom Higgins, 90-no card.  
**WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP FLIGHT:** 1. Susan Macinkowicz, 78; 2. Suzanne Madej, 86; 3. (tie) Molly Gibson and Jan Bowerman, 92 each; 5. Sonia Pysh-Denison, 94; 6. Michelle Sroka, 99.  
**WOMEN'S FIRST FLIGHT:** 1. Luann Smulsky, 92; 2. Pat Witek, 93; 3. (tie) Nancy Rhatigan and Theresa MacPherson, 100 each; 5. (tie) Laurie Kelly and Pat Shelton, 111 each; 7. Susan Merrick, 123.

## GIRLS GOLF CAPSULE PREVIEWS

### LIVONIA CHURCHILL

**Head coach:** Gary Harper, fifth year.  
**League affiliation:** Western Lakes Activities Association (Lakes Division).  
**Last year's finish:** third (8-3 WLAA).  
**Notable losses to graduation:** Ashley Kuhn.  
**Leading returnees:** Shannon Warner, Sr. (first-team All-Area; two-time Division 1 state medalist; regional champion; WLAA runner-up); Amanda Dobos, Sr. (second-team All-Area); Danielle Lessiak, Sr. (All-Division); Lexi McFarlane, Jr.; Jessica Burdette, Jr.; Katie Worley, Sr.; Sarah Linder, Jr.; Kristine Kruppa, Sr.  
**Promising newcomers:** Samatha Proben, Jr.; Alexis Hickson, Fr.; Margo McClain, Fr.

**Harper's 2007 outlook:** "Our goal is always the same, compete for the conference title and get to 'states.' That's always been the goal. Hopefully this quick turnaround in the season will help us because they continued to play all summer. (Jessica) Burdette has been playing all summer. She was our most improved. She could move all the way into the No. 2 or 3 slot. We hope to count on six scores that we can use."

### LIVONIA FRANKLIN

**Head coach:** Brian McCalister, second year.  
**League affiliation:** WLAA (Western Division).  
**Last year's finish:** fifth (7-4 WLAA).  
**Notable losses to graduation:** Mariel Meyers (second-team All-Area); Jessica Stchur, Lauren Bailey.  
**Leading returnees:** Paige Scarpace, Sr. (second-team All-Area); All-Division; Georgia Patrick, Soph.; Heather Bacon, Sr.; Chelsea Duffy, Soph.; Rebecca Geersens, Soph.; Heather DeGiuse, Soph.

**Promising newcomers:** Samantha McAtee, Jr.; Natalie Polakowski, Jr.; Samantha Nesbitt, Jr.; Courtney Tithof, Jr.; Jennifer Rellinger, Soph.; Rebecca Kaelin, Soph.; Lauren Beahon, Fr.  
**McCalister's 2007 outlook:** "We've picked up some good spring athletes, which helps. They've added some depth. Paige (Scarpace) is hitting the ball well and has improved. She'll have to carry us. We're going to have to improve from right now to duplicate what we did last year in the league. Practices have been competitive already. It will be tough to replace the seniors we lost. It's a good group of kids. They're working hard."

### LIVONIA STEVENSON

**Head coach:** Jason Delo, third year.  
**League affiliation:** WLAA (Lakes Division).  
**Last year's finish:** tied for first (11-0 WLAA; Lakes Division champs; third (Division 1 regional); 14th (Division 1 state meet).  
**Notable losses to graduation:** Abbey Wolfe (first-team All-Area; All-WLAA); Chelsea Bathurst (first-team All-Area; All-WLAA); Chrissy McHenry (second-team All-Area); Lauren Geiger, Julie Francisco.  
**Leading returnees:** Laura Sims, Sr. (All-Division); Elizabeth Grace, Sr.; Claire Massman, Jr.; Gabrielle Sabatini, Jr.  
**Promising newcomers:** Shelby Pilschota, Soph.; Natalie Cicchelli, Soph.

**Delo's 2007 outlook:** "We're in a rebuilding year after being division and conference champs. We lost some excellent players from one of the best teams we've had in school history. We'll have to scrap together, play as a team, grind out, some wins, and go from there."

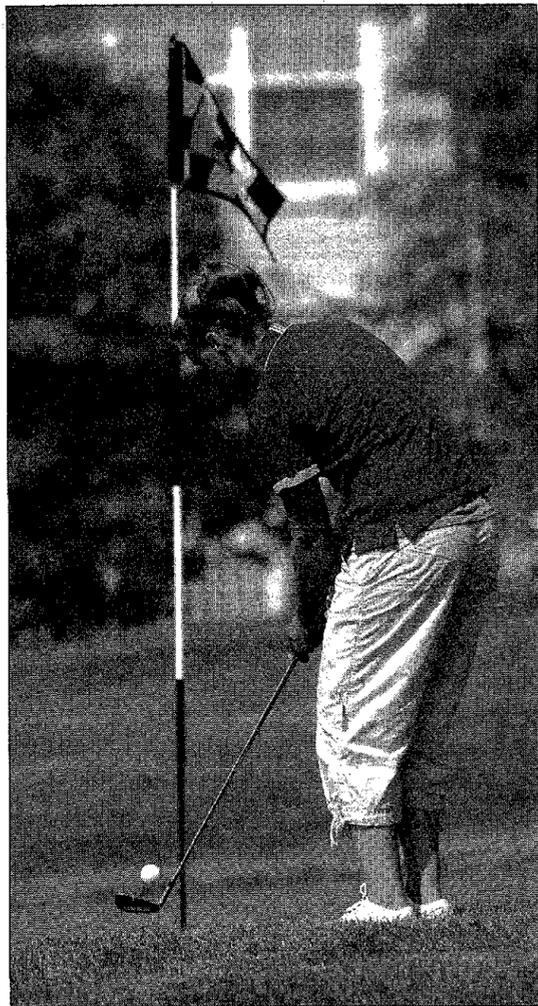
### WESTLAND JOHN GLENN

**Head coach:** Steve Pilon, fourth year.  
**League affiliation:** WLAA (Lakes Division).  
**Last year's finish:** ninth (3-8 WLAA).  
**Notable losses to graduation:** Jessie Veltri (second-team All-Area); Taylor Morgan, Jessica Riggs, Carrie Kulkowski.  
**Leading returnees:** Heidi Irvine, Soph. (All-Division); Courtney McKinney, Jr.; Dakota Howell, Sr.; Jamie Young, Sr.; Justine Woodard, Soph.

**Promising newcomers:** Samantha Baker, Soph.  
**Pilon's 2007 outlook:** "The girls have worked hard all summer. They've been taking lessons, reading books and playing a lot of golf with their parents. I'm proud of how hard they worked in the off-season. We'll wait and see if we win more golf matches."

### WAYNE MEMORIAL

**Head coach:** Kathy Stellema, second year.  
**League affiliation:** WLAA (Western Division).  
**Last year's finish:** 10th (2-8 WLAA).



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Second-team All-Area pick Paige Scarpace, a senior, returns at Livonia Franklin.

**Notable losses to graduation:** Samantha Cruse, Ravynn Gilmore.  
**Leading returnees:** Berlynn Beaver, Jr.; Taylor Tuttle, Jr.

**Promising newcomers:** Sommer Tuttle, Fr.  
**2007 outlook:** The Zebras took just three players their season opener Tuesday at the Milford Invitational held at Prestwick Village Golf Club. Beaver shot an even 100 to lead Wayne followed by Taylor and Sommer Tuttle with 129 and 137, respectively. Brighton, led by medalist Emmie Pietila's 84, won the team title with a 363. Macomb Lutheran North and Hartland finished second and third, respectively, with 404 each.

### LIVONIA LADYWOOD

**Head coach:** KelliAnne Nagy, eighth year.  
**League affiliation:** Catholic League.  
**Last year's finish:** second (7-0 Catholic League); runner-up Catholic League championship, Division 2 regional and state

meets.  
**Notable losses to graduation:** Andrea Warzyniec (first-team All-Area); Angela Jamrog (first-team All-Area); Kelly Thomas (first-team All-Area).  
**Leading returnees:** Erica Mazur, Sr. captain (second-team All-Area).  
**Promising newcomers:** Katelyn Papler, Jr.; Marissa Lay, Soph.; Marissa Briden, Soph.; Amanda Molin, Jr.  
**Nagy's 2007 outlook:** "This is a major rebuilding year. We've had eight great years and now it's time to rebuild. Could be a lot of people rebuilding in our league this year. Erica (Mazur) was awarded our most improved last year and has made great strides this year. She is feisty and wants to win. She'll be a great leader. She played really well all summer and I'm looking forward to her leading us this year."

## CHARGERS

FROM PAGE C1

Livonia Stevenson got to the Division 1 state tournament in June, placing 14th, after a third-place finish at the regional. The WLAA and Lakes Division champions, however, were hard hit by graduation losses.

Gone are first-team All-Observers picks Abbey Wolfe and Chelsea Bathurst, along with second-team selection Chrissy McHenry.

The Spartans' top returnee is senior Laura Sims, who made All-Division in the Western Lakes.

Even harder hit by graduation losses is Livonia Ladywood, the Division 2 state runner-up.

Eighth-year coach KelliAnne Nagy will try and replace three first-team All-Observers selections in Andrea Warzyniec, who was seventh individually at the state finals, along

with Angela Jamrog and Kelly Thomas.

The lone returnee is second-team All-Observers pick Erica Mazur, a senior, who will serve as the Blazers' captain.

The change of seasons, meanwhile, has Nagy scrambling for players.

"We have a couple of people right now teetering back-and-forth between volleyball and golf," she said. "We still have too many girls trying out for two sports and hope to have that all figured out by the end of this week."

"Hopefully they'll choose golf."

Livonia Franklin finished 7-4 in the WLAA dual meet season, but stumbled to a seventh-place finish at the conference meet.

The Patriots are led by senior Paige Scarpace, a second-team All-Area selection who nearly earned a trip to the Division 1 state meet in June.

Coach Brian McCalister must replace three graduated seniors, including second-team

All-Observers selection Mariel Meyers.

Apparently the 2007 fall season can't start soon enough for WLAA members Westland John Glenn and Wayne Memorial.

The Michigan High School Athletic Association opened practice Aug. 9 and Wayne got on the course Tuesday in the Milford Invitational at Prestwick Village Golf Club. The Zebras took only three players to the tournament, led by junior Berlynn Beaver's 100.

Glenn already has three matches scheduled this week including WLAA dates today (vs. Churchill) and Friday (vs. Northville), along with a non-leaguer to start the season on Wednesday.

Glenn lost second-team All-Area selection Jessie Veltri to graduation, but returns sophomore Heidi Irvine, who made All-Division in the WLAA and carded a hole-in-one at May conference tournament.

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# New S'craft coach Shivraman encouraged by early returns

BY TIM SMITH  
STAFF WRITER

## COLLEGE SOCCER

Deepak Shivraman knows it isn't easy to follow in the footsteps of a coaching fixture, which Bill Tolstedt was for 20 years at the helm of Schoolcraft College's women's soccer team.

But the transition's been smooth as silk for the longtime high school soccer coach. Shivraman is the new coach of the Lady Ocelots, giving up his position as boys soccer coach at Brighton High School to take now-retired Tolstedt's old job.

"It's been great, I didn't know what to expect because this is my first college coaching experience," said Shivraman last week. "But so far, from a coaching standpoint, Schoolcraft's been fantastic. (Administrators) are having the resources available for us, and the players have been really accepting and receptive to change."

Just as a bit of a security blanket, perhaps, Shivraman brought over a recruit from Brighton (where he also coached the girls' soccer team) in freshman defender Sally L'Esperance.

"We were really fortunate (to get the four-year varsity starter)," Shivraman said. "She was looking at other schools."

With a season-opening tournament in Windsor next weekend, the Lady Ocelots already are showing their mettle in the preseason. They defeated Siena Heights, 2-1 (both goals by freshman forward and

Plymouth grad Claire Baptist) and then lost a tough 4-2 decision to NCAA D2-ranked Saginaw Valley (goals by sophomore midfielders Nicole Polite and Gloria Soyad).

"Both games showed me good, positive things about our players," Shivraman said. "That we could compete against both of those teams."

Good mix  
Schoolcraft could again be a formidable unit in the Michigan Community College Athletic Association, with players returning from the 2006 team that qualified for the national tournament being bolstered by excellent recruits such as L'Esperance and Baptist.

But the new guy on campus intends to pick the brain of the top returnees - namely Polite, Soyad, goalkeeper Jessica Tuggle (Livonia Ladywood) and forward Jessica Austin (Livonia Franklin).

"I'll be asking the questions because they made it to the national tournament last year," he said. "But then you add to that all the recruits."

Shivraman said Baptist is intriguing, comparing her relentless pursuit of goals to that of former Detroit Red Wings hockey player Dino Ciccarelli.

"Claire is tough in front and wins everything," Shivraman said. "She's always

circling the goal and has a great shot" as well as the talent to score on headers, the equivalent of Ciccarelli tip-ins.

Other impressive freshmen include forward Samm Harrington and midfielder Adrianna Guerrero, discovered while playing for a girls soccer club team in Texas.

"Her skills are really sublime," he noted.

"She has great touch on the ball."

In addition to L'Esperance, the Lady Ocelots will have sophomore Ashley Erickson (Walled Lake Northern) and "speedy" freshman Katelyn Gilbert on defense, along with former Michigan Hawks player Amanda Bailey, Kayleigh Maurer and 29-year-old Margaret (Wirth) Mayer.

She played two seasons at Farmington Hills Mercy when Shivraman coached there before moving over to Livonia Churchill to wrap up a superb prep career. Mayer left college to start a family, but decided to return to action after bumping into her former coach. "She had eligibility," Shivraman said.

Schoolcraft also should boast depth in the midfield, sparked by underrated sophomore Megan McCabe and Livonia Stevenson alum Ally King (who did not play as a freshman). "She (King) has been fantastic, she hasn't lost a beat."

tsmith@hometownlife.com  
(734) 953-2106

# Redford Road Runners celebrate 25 years

BY BRAD EMONS  
STAFF WRITER

The Redford Road Runners, once a force in the local running community, will take a trip down memory lane as they will stage a 25th anniversary reunion this weekend.

Randy Step, co-proprietor of the Running Fit store chain, helped launch the club in the early 1980s along with his wife Kathy.

And it all started when he placed an announcement in the Redford Observer.

"I wasn't even in the running business, at the time I was director at Step Funeral Home," Randy Step said. "We were training like fools for a Ironman (triathlon) and we wanted to find a local group of people to train with. We wanted to stay in the community and not have to go all over the place. We said we're a running club and the people came out thinking that we were already a club."

With the help of two local parish priests from St. Valentine and St. Agatha, the group landed at St. Robert Bellarmine, located at W. Chicago and Inkster roads in Redford, which became the club's starting point and meeting place.

"They hooked us up and the nice thing is that they had showers there," Step said. "Even though we didn't have any members of their church, the parish let us use it. We got a lot of people out that first year. And immediately we had a great club because we had no rules, voting for officers or any by-laws. All we had a weekly newsletter and we'd pick races to go to as a group."

The club mushroomed to over 100 members during the early years and remained strong for nearly 20 years. "We did a lot of great stuff with 100 percent participation from club members for our races (including the Road Runner Classic)," Step said. "But as people moved around

so much that became the end of the Redford Road Runners. They moved out to St. John's Seminary (in Plymouth) and regrouped (as the Northville Road Runners) with some of the same people. The club ran its course, but at the time it was wonderful idea."

Step, who has been tracking down former members from around the country, said as many as 150 out-of-towners plan to come in for the three-day event, which begins at 6 p.m. Friday as former and current club members (now of the Northville Road Runners) will take off from St. Robert and traverse down the old course into the Rosedale Garden subdivision area in Livonia and back.

A social hour follows from 7:40-8:30 p.m. at Mama Mia Pizzeria (free beer, wine, pop and snacks) followed by dinner at 8:15 p.m. (\$15 for pizza, salad and breadsticks). Band and entertainment commence at 9:15 p.m.

The festivities continue Saturday with Diamond Jack Detroit Boat Tour on the River. The tailgate starts at 2 p.m. as runners will meet at the dock to buy tickets (\$15 each). Following the 3:30 p.m. boat cruise, dinner will be held at El Zocalo in Detroit (\$12 for a combination plate).

On Sunday, a run and family picnic will be held at Kensington Metropark.

The run, walk or bike begins at 9 a.m. at Martindale Beach followed by a pot luck picnic at 11 a.m. The Club will supply drinks and deserts. There will be games for children with the water slide opening at 11 a.m. The fee is \$4 for adults and \$3 for children (under 2 is free).

To participate and be included in any of the festivities, there is a \$20 late registration fee.

For more information, visit the Northville Road Runners web site at [www.northvilleroadrillers.org](http://www.northvilleroadrillers.org).

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## SPORTS ROUNDUP

### Meet CHS teams

Livonia Churchill High's annual Meet the Team Night, for all 2007-08 athletes and their parents, will be at 7 p.m. Monday, Aug. 20 at James P. Carli Auditorium.

This will be the only group meeting of the year as opposed to the previous three times yearly format. All athletes and their parents should attend.

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

### Churchill Pom clinic

The ninth annual Livonia Churchill varsity pompon clinic for ages 6-14 will be from 9 a.m. until noon, Saturday, Aug. 25, at the high school gym (located on Newburgh between Joy and Ann Arbor Trail).

The cost is \$35 per person includes T-shirt, music CD and snack.

Participation is limited to the first 100 registrants.

Participants will be invited to perform their routine at 7 p.m. Monday, Aug. 27, at a Churchill varsity boys soccer game.

For more information, call Robin Schwarz at (734) 464-0556.

### Stevenson meeting

Livonia Stevenson will stage its Meet the Team Night from 7-9 p.m. Monday, Aug. 20 at the high school auditorium.

All ninth- and 10th-graders, along with newcomer athletes and parents, should arrive for sport specific break-out meetings, while all junior and senior athlete and parents will be meeting in assigned rooms from 7:45-9 p.m. following the introduc-

tion meeting at 7 p.m.

Topics include athletic and academic eligibility, new athletic participation fee of \$200, sportsmanship, varsity letter requirements, physical information, season schedule, team rules and policies, team pictures, medical information and general department guidelines.

Student (\$35) and family (\$70) event passes, along with Stevenson apparel, will also be sold. Booster club membership opportunities will also be available. Call (734) 744-2660, Ext. 48116.

### Youth baseball tryouts

■ Garden City's Michigan Blue Thunder U11 boys travel tournament baseball team will hold tryouts for the 2008 season on the following dates: 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 2:30-5 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 18; and 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 22.

All of the tryouts will be at the Garden City Park Baseball Diamonds (Cherry Hill east of Merriman).

For more information, call (734) 756-1090.

■ Individual tryouts for the 2008 13-and-under WaCo Wolves, member of the Midwest Super League, will be staged throughout the month of August. The Wolves, who will also play in a local league and travel to tournament in Tennessee, Kentucky and Nebraska, are seeking three highly-skilled and dedicated players.

For more information, call Bill Hardin at (734) 560-0820; or e-mail [BJHWolves@aol.com](mailto:BJHWolves@aol.com).

■ The Livonia Travel Baseball Club, along with the Livonia Baseball & Softball Association, will stage 2008 tryouts for the following age

groups for players who are committed to playing at a high level while preparing them for high school baseball.

Tryouts for the following age groups will be at Rotary Park (fields nos. 1 and 2) on Saturday, Aug. 25:

Under-9: 9-11 a.m.; under-10, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.; under-11, 1-3 p.m. (rain date is Sept. 8);

Tryouts will also be held for the following age groups on Sunday, Sept. 9 at Rotary Park including: under-12: 10 a.m.-noon; under-13: noon to 2 p.m.; and under-14: 2-4 p.m. (rain date is Sept. 15).

Players ages are determined as of May 1, 2008. Arrive 30 minutes early to register and warm-up.

For more information, call Bruce Rosen at (313) 531-0721; or e-mail [mblrl1218@aol.com](mailto:mblrl1218@aol.com).

### Fastpitch tryouts

Tryouts for the 2008 Livonia Storm girls fastpitch softball teams will be held two different weekends including 10 a.m. to noon (10- and 12-and-under) and 1-3 p.m. (14-, 16- and 18-and-under) Saturday-Sunday, Sept. 1-2 and Sept. 8-9, at Bicentennial Park (fields nos. 9 and 10). You need to attend just one of the four dates above in order to make a team. Non-residents are welcome. Additional teams are sought for each age division.

For more information, call Ken Jewell at (734) 266-9109; or e-mail [kjewell@livoniasstorm.com](mailto:kjewell@livoniasstorm.com). Information is also posted on [www.livoniasstorm.com](http://www.livoniasstorm.com).

### Coaches wanted

Livonia Ladywood is seeking a girls varsity competitive

cheer and girl JV competitive cheer coach for the 2007 winter sports season.

Those interested should fax a resume to Ladywood athletic director Sal Malek at (734) 591-2386.

### Top Charger

Michael Tanana earned the MVP award at the Livonia Churchill Charger Football camp (July 24-26).

### WYAA frosh football

Westland Youth Athletic Association still has openings for junior freshman football players, ages 7-8 (by Sept. 1). Junior freshman football is new to the Westland Youth Athletic Association and games will be played prior to regular games of the Westland Comets and Westland Meteors.

Registration is 7-9 p.m. Wednesdays and 10 a.m. to 12 noon Saturdays at the Lange Compound Building, 6050 Farmington Road (north of Ford Road).

For more information, call (734) 421-0640 or call Galen Huren (Meteors) at (734) 716-6047, Mark Simkow (Comets) at (734) 732-1176 or Keith DeMolay, (734) 516-9269.

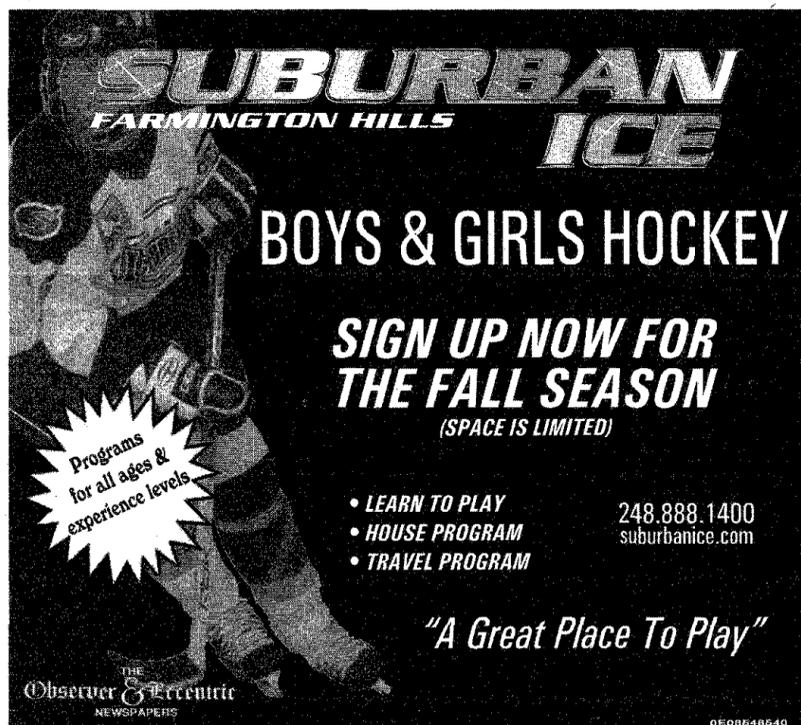
### Baseball lessons

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# Bucks' PDL championship bid denied by Laredo Heat on PKs

BY DAN STICKRADT  
STAFF WRITER

A drooling effort was just not enough for the Michigan Bucks.

The defending national champs of the USL Premier Developmental League came up short Saturday night, falling 1-0 to host Laredo Heat in this year's national championship game that reached a penalty-kick shootout in front of 6,600 fans.

The Heat, the sixth-seed, edged the third-seeded Bucks 4-3 on penalties after going to a sixth-man in a game played in 100-plus degree temperatures. Michigan defeated the Heat 2-1 at the same complex in Laredo last August.

It marked the first time in the PDL's 19-year history that the same two squads played a rematch final.

"When you think about it, we went through some rough conditions," said second-year Bucks coach Dan Fitzgerald. "We have to fly all the way down there, the field was really small, there was a big crowd against you and it was very, very hot. We still lost 1-0 on penalty kicks. It's nothing to be ashamed of."

The Bucks, 14-3-3 against PDL teams this year and 14-5-3 overall, did everything right except repeat as champions.

The highest-scoring team in the PDL this season and tied for sixth with Laredo defensively, the Bucks didn't generate much offense through 120 minutes of regulation and overtime and limited Laredo on the opposite end.

After the Bucks' Ian Daniel (Oakland/Troy Athens) was stopped by Heat goalie Ryan Cooper on Michigan's sixth PK, Laredo 17-year-old Felix Garcia slid a shot past Bucks netminder Steve Clark (Oakland) for what proved to be the game-winner in the shootout.

"We were just a little unlucky," said Fitzgerald.

"I mean both teams had 4-5 good chances in the game. And in the shutout, we had one go off the crossbar and go straight down. Some thought it might have crossed the line, but it hadn't so quickly. You can't fault the referees. It was really hard to tell. We were inches away from winning this."

"You lose on a shootout and on a little bit of controversy. You can't really complain. Our guys left everything out on the field," added Fitzgerald. "Guys were dropping like flies out there with cramps because it was so out. By the time we got to the shootout, some of our best penalty kicks guys were out of the game."

Clark, who was undefeated

against PDL teams this year until the finals, finished with six saves and made a diving stop with three minutes left in the second of two 15-minute overtime periods to set the stage for the shootout tie-breaker.

Defender Michael Holody (Clarkston/University of Michigan) also cleared a shot off the goal-line in the 56th minute.

The Bucks' best chances came in 15th and 62nd minutes, but both times Bucks midfielder Nate Jafta was stopped cold by Copper on shots just inside the penalty box.

"It was a smaller field, and because of that it wasn't pretty soccer," offered Fitzgerald. "There was a lot of high pressure, not a lot of build up on either side."

The Bucks expect to bring back at least two-thirds of their team next season.

"We hope to have some of these guys back and make another run at it," said Fitzgerald. "We'll lose a few guys, but we'll try to bring in some talented new guys."

"It was a great run," Fitzgerald continued. "When you look at the big picture, we've had a great couple of years. Not too many teams have made it back to the finals."

# Diesels rally from slow 1st half to topple London Silverbacks

BY CHRISTIAN YOUNG  
CORRESPONDENT

The Diesels just keep rolling along.

Using tight defense and a potent ground game, and after swapping scores like old clothes in the second half, the Detroit Diesels came back from a 6-0 deficit Saturday to post a 27-19 North American Football League win over the London (Ontario) Silverbacks at Labatt Park. Detroit ran the ball down the Silverbacks' throat, but could not punch it in. The teams banged and battled back-and-forth to a 0-0 first quarter score.

"They gave us all we could handle; but, I'm proud of our defense as they held their own," Diesels coach Rob Street said.

But the second quarter would open up in a big way, as London scored on the first play of the second quarter. Detroit answered midway through the second quarter on a four-yard rollout keeper by Randy Sinnott (Westland/John Glenn).

The Silverbacks opened with a 33-yard field goal to regain the lead, but Eric Newton (Redford Union) nabbed an 11-yard scoring toss from Sinnott

to give Detroit a lead it would not relinquish.

With 1:05 left in the third, London put up another field goal, this time from 37 yards out, to get within 13-12.

Bob Curtis put in his piece with a 1-yard scoring run with 10:55 left in the game. Newton ran in the two-point conversion.

With 2:20 left in the contest, London took over on their 24-yard line after a failed Diesels fourth-down attempt, and proceeded to pull within 21-19.

But the Diesels iced the game when a tipped London pass found its way to the hands of Travis Farkas (Redford/Thurston), who ran 50 yards for the second defensive touchdown of the year. After the ensuing kickoff, linebacker Ali Bazzi (Dearborn/Fordson) had a 40-yard interception return for his touchdown called back. But the game was in hand anyway.

Sinnott was 9-of-13 passing for 63 yards and on TD. He also ran for 34 yards on four attempts.

Newton was the player of the game, with 34 attempts for 112 yards and his two-point conversion, in addition to his touchdown catch. Curtis ran for 82 yards and a score on only nine

carries. John Craven (Farmington) nabbed two receptions for 19 yards.

Defensively, Chuck Smith, Farkas, and Bazzi paced the Detroit defense. Bernard Evans (Wayne Memorial) had a quarterback sack for the Diesels.

"It was a very hard fought game as it always is when we play the Silverback, but, I'm glad we got back on the winning track after the thrashing they gave us last year," Diesels general manager Allen Seder. "I look forward to our rematch in Livonia later in the season."

The Diesels nabbed their third straight win, and with a 3-0-1 division record, stand tied for first place in the Central Lakes Division of the Great Lakes Region with the Michigan Admirals.

The Diesels return to action at 6:30 p.m. Saturday at Livonia Franklin High School for a rematch with the Tri-City Titans. One of the Diesels' major sponsors, Tennyson Chevrolet of Livonia, will stage a "Kick for the Car" contest at the final Diesel home game as contestants will have the opportunity to make a field goal for a new 2008 HHR.

### THE WEEK AHEAD

#### GIRLS GOLF

John Glenn vs. Belleville, Edsel Ford at The Woodlands (Van Buren), TBA.  
Thursday, Aug. 16  
Wayne at Birm. Seaholm Invitational at Hudson Mills Metropark, 7:45 a.m.  
Churchill vs. John Glenn at Whispering Willows, 2:30 p.m.  
Friday, Aug. 17

#### LADYWOOD vs. TEMPERANCE BEDFORD

at Giant Oak G.C., 8 a.m.  
John Glenn vs. Northville at Tanglewood G.C., 2:30 p.m.

#### BOYS TENNIS

Thursday, Aug. 16  
Stevenson at Adrian Invitational, 8:30 a.m.  
at Whispering Willows, 2:30 p.m.  
Thursday, Aug. 16

#### MADONNE ALUMNI GAME AT ACTIVITIES CTR., 7 p.m.

MEN'S COLLEGE SOCCER  
Saturday, Aug. 18  
MU Alumni Game at Greenmead Field, 2 p.m.  
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## The PGA Championship At Oakland Hills In 2008

**LESSON ON GOLF**  
By Jeff Lesson

Watching last weeks PGA Championship at Southern Hills, how could you not be looking ahead to Oakland Hills in 2008? It is there they will contest next year's PGA Championship at the newly revised Oakland Hills Country Club. Rees Jones just completed a touch up this year which made the course more difficult - adding more bunkers in the landing areas, todays pro tour players hit it. He also made some existing bunkers more difficult.

It just reminded me what a transformation metro Detroit has made sports wise in the last few years. We have recently successfully hosted Major League Baseball's All Star Game, The World Series, The Ryder Cup, The Super Bowl and soon the Final Four and The PGA Championship. Not to mention we still have one of the best teams in three of the four professional sports. Yes,

there is still the Lions.  
So Detroiters, be proud when we see the golf world descend upon the final major of the year next summer at Oakland Hills. Maybe Metro Detroit can still hang with the big boys after all? Enjoy!!

Jeff Lesson is a WWJ Sports Anchor/Reporter and host of the award winning feature "Lesson on Golf" on WWJ Newsradio 950 weekend mornings at 5:45, 6:45, 7:45 and 8:45 AND every Saturday morning 7-8 am on 1270 XYY The Sports Station. Don't forget to

check out [lessonongolf.com](http://lessonongolf.com) for half off golf at great courses!

Views and opinions expressed in Jeff Lesson's column don't necessarily reflect those of the Observer & Eccentric Mirror Newspapers and/or the Golf Association of Michigan (GAM).

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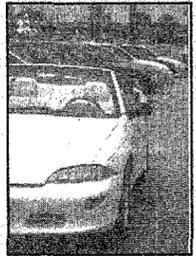
# Automotive

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■ Merchandise	7000-7540
■ Autos/RVs	8000-8780
■ Boats, Motors	8020
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## ENCLAVE MAKES BUICK RELEVANT IN MOST IMPORTANT SEGMENT

Advertising Feature

### CAReport



By Dale Buss

With the unfortunate example of the fate of the Oldsmobile brand in its rear-view mirror, Buick has been trying to remake itself for several years now. This effort has produced mainly forgettable new products, such as the Rendezvous SUV, or those that have proved outright disappointments, including the Lucerne and Lacrosse sedans.

Bravo, then, to Buick, for finally coming forth with a new product that is relevant, and in a segment that is highly relevant to the survival of a brand in today's automotive marketplace. The 2008 Enclave, Buick's classy new crossover vehicle, proves a worthy competitor in a vital part of the market that is emerging as the segment of choice for consumers who want to pare down from gas-guzzling behemoths but aren't ready to give up all the advantages of an SUV.

What Enclave does is blend a gracefully designed exterior with an elegant, well-crafted interior, segment-leading fuel efficiency with room for up to eight passengers and space for cargo. Starting at a suggested retail price of less than \$33,000, Enclave is quieter and roomier inside than many of its competitors and purports to challenge true luxury makes.

Indeed, Enclave may prove a worthy platform for what Buick executives are predicting will be "the revival of Buick in North America." The only problem for Buick per se is that two of General Motors' other brands also have just fielded new crossover vehicles based on the same mechanical platform as Enclave: GMC's Acadia and the Saturn Outlook.

For Buick shoppers, Enclave offers some things that haven't been available to them in some time. One significant plus is jazzy styling: Close observers will notice that Enclave delivers on the promise of the stunning concept vehicle that debuted at the 2006 North American International Auto Show in Detroit. This includes hints at the brand's legendary design cues, such as a new waterfall black chrome grille - with a bold tri-shield emblem - and



A luxurious interior puts the 2008 Buick Enclave on a par with any competitor in the larger-crossover segment.



The 2008 Buick Enclave cuts as fine a figure as any new SUV on the market.

portholes that form a distinct "V" shape as they flow out from the grille and into the hood.

Even the headlights enhance Enclave's striking appearance, with a blue ring that has been integrated into the three-dimensional taillamp housings. Bulbous wheel wells round out Enclave's exposure as a true styling leader in the segment.

Unlike GM's larger, full-blooded SUVs, Enclave is fun and easy to drive. It rides on a long, 119-inch wheelbase and wide, 67-inch tracks, but Enclave delivers smooth and controlled driving and an immediate feel during turns that relies on a stiff structure, purpose-built suspension and its aerodynamic shape. And Enclave is noticeably quieter than predecessor SUVs by GM, showing good results from the company's conscious effort to dampen noise from inside and outside the cabin with components such as an acoustic-laminated windshield, triple door seals, and even flat-blade windshield wipers.

Enclave is powered by a V-6 engine featuring variable-valve timing that is mated to Buick's first six-speed automatic transmission. It delivers 275 horsepower and 251 lb.-ft. of torque, lending the vehicle plenty of oomph at all the right times - even loaded with passengers.

Still, it's what's inside that really lends

Enclave its credentials as a strong near-luxury competitor in the hot crossover market. Its interior clearly is designed as an extension of Enclave's curvaceous exterior, with complementing curves and warm, inviting colors, as well as premium soft-touch, low-gloss materials. The instrument panel and other interior elements have precise attention to fit, finish and flushness throughout.

Of course, Enclave also has the passenger and cargo space that lend it credibility in the crossover segment. It can be configured for seven or eight passengers, with a bit of space remaining behind the third row of seats for gear. All of Enclave's second-row seat configurations feature GM's Smart Slide, which allows easy entry to the third row with the pull of one handle. And in the formation with captain's chairs in the second row, Enclave's interior space functions with a bit of the friendliness of a minivan.

Add to this overall soundness certain luxury touches - such as a front-row center console armrest that slides back and forth for personalized comfort; a second-row skylight; and automatic opening and closing of the rear hatch - and Enclave surfaces as a strong choice if you're looking for a crossover. Good thing for Buick.

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