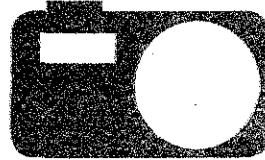


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WESTLAND Observer

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Teen testifies about online sex-for-pay scheme

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A teenage prostitute testified in explicit detail Thursday how she worked for a Westland couple charged with using the Internet to arrange sex-for-pay trysts between young women

and clients.

Kelly Brenda Davis, 17, accused the couple of posting her nude pictures on Craigslist and driving her to meet customers who paid \$200 or more for sex. Davis said she was only 16 when she worked for Davina Shirley Lloyd, 26, and Lanard Mack Henley, 24, while

living with them at Woodcrest Villa Apartments on the city's north side.

"They asked me to lie about my age," Davis testified during a preliminary hearing in Westland 18th District Court.

Davis accused Lloyd of slapping her and threatening her

when she lied about being raped by a customer, in hopes of getting time off work.

"Davina said I'd end up dead in an alley if I lied to her," Davis said.

She finally confessed to her mother, who lives in Detroit, and they went to Westland police.

Their allegations triggered a criminal investigation that resulted in Lloyd and Henley being arrested at the Fairfield Inn in Canton and arraigned in January on multiple prostitution-related charges.

Davis' testimony prompted 18th District Judge Sandra

Ference Cicirelli to order the defendants to stand trial in Wayne County Circuit Court. The charges against them are punishable by up to 20 years in prison, if they are convicted.

Lloyd faces trial for child

Please see HEARING, A3

'It's an incredible place, it's definitely God's country'



Jon Kimble (second from right) joins the Trail Breakers for a picture underneath the finish line of the 2007 Iditarod in Nome, Alaska.

He leads way as Iditarod Trail Breaker

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

At 2 p.m. Alaska time today, 96 mushers will head out in what's been called the last great race on earth, the 2008 Iditarod. They'll follow a more than 1,150-mile trail stretching from Wasilla in southern Alaska to Nome on the coast of the Bering Sea.

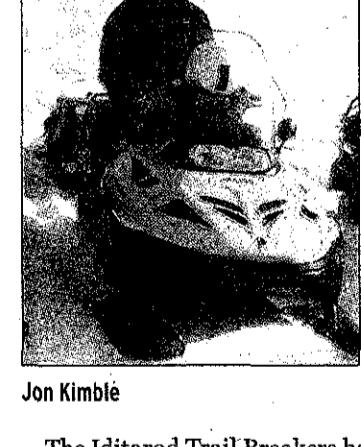
But they won't be blazing a new trail through some of Alaska's roughest terrain. That job is being handled

by a team of volunteers on snow machines who are making the trail along the Iditarod's northern route.

"We try to stay a good day, day and a half a head of them," said John Kimble, a former Westland resident who's in his second year as an Iditarod Trail Breaker. "We have to make the trail so the dogs don't have to plow through deep snow."

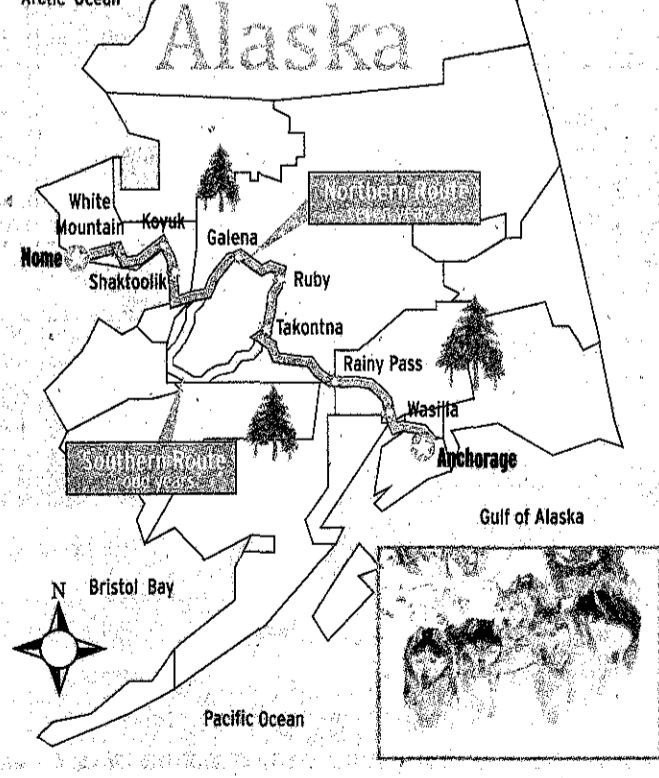
The Iditarod Trail Breakers have been described as some of the most hard-core snowmobilers in the world. They make a "highway" across Alaska every

Please see IDITAROD, A3



Jon Kimble

THE IDITAROD TRAIL



Civic league pays \$11,000 in taxes, avoids foreclosure

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A Westland nonprofit organization has averted a threatened foreclosure by paying thousands of dollars on its delinquent tax bills, an official said.

With an uptick in bingo revenues, Wayne-Ford Civic League President Vic Barra said he managed Wednesday to pay \$11,000 in back taxes from 2005.

Wayne County had threatened to foreclose on the civic league for unpaid water and street-lighting bills that got slapped onto the organization's tax bills. The league sponsors youth athletics and senior programs, and it offers a hall for rentals for weddings, political parties and other events.

"The civic league is no longer in threat of foreclosure," Barra told the *Observer* on Wednesday.

Barra had told the newspaper last November, when a story was published about the organization's financial woes, that the civic league was "gradually climbing that mountain of debt."

He conceded that the league still owes \$4,500 on back taxes from 2006, "and 2007 isn't even on the radar," but he predicted the organization will ultimately get caught

up.

"We expect to take care of those (remaining back taxes) soon so that we're not in the same predicament next year" with a foreclosure threat, Barra said.

Bingo players have started returning to the civic league, he said.

"Business has been good for the last quarter," he said. "The bingo crowds are again warming up to the civic league."

The league will now have a year to catch up on the remaining \$4,500 it owes in back taxes before the possible threat of foreclosure. The league, established in 1952, is located on Wayne Road south of Ford.

Barra said the league's problems have made him sympathetic to homeowners and other property owners who have been foreclosed.

"It's been very stressful on me having this burden hanging over my head," he said, adding later, "My heart goes out to all the families and businesses who find themselves in the situation the civic league was in. I'm glad that the civic league will be able to continue youth sports and senior programs in the upcoming year."

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

Man faces trial in molestation case

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A Westland man charged with molesting his great-niece when she was only 6 years old will face trial in Wayne County Circuit Court.

Raymond Lawrence Perkins, 55, faces trial after he voluntarily waived his preliminary hearing Thursday in front of Westland 18th District Judge Sandra Ference Cicirelli. His decision averted testimony from the girl, who is now 12.

Perkins was arraigned Feb. 5 on two counts of second-degree criminal sexual conduct after the girl came forward in December and told police she remembered being molested six years earlier. She told authorities she was asleep and woke up to find Perkins fondling her, police Sgt. Debra Mathews has said in court.

Perkins, who is jailed in lieu of a \$1 million bond, is charged with a 15-year felony, but a conviction

could potentially bring a lengthier sentence because he is considered a repeat offender.

Perkins was released from prison in June 1991 after he served 3½ years for molesting a nephew who, along with the nephew's mother, now lives in Perkins's residence on Alberta, in the city's Norwayne neighborhood. The mother has told authorities that Perkins has been forgiven.

Perkins also has confessed to sexually molesting two other nieces and one nephew years ago, Mathews has said in court. However, he can't be charged for those allegations because no one came forward before the statute of limitations had expired, she said.

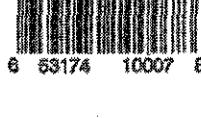
Mathews, who has investigated sex crimes for seven years, called the Perkins case among the worst of its kind that she has seen.

"It's one of the worst I've seen in sheer number of victims," she said.

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Volume 43
Number 80



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Lifesaver: Fruit wins MADD's state award

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Westland Police Officer Robert Fruit is the kind of cop who makes drunken drivers see red.

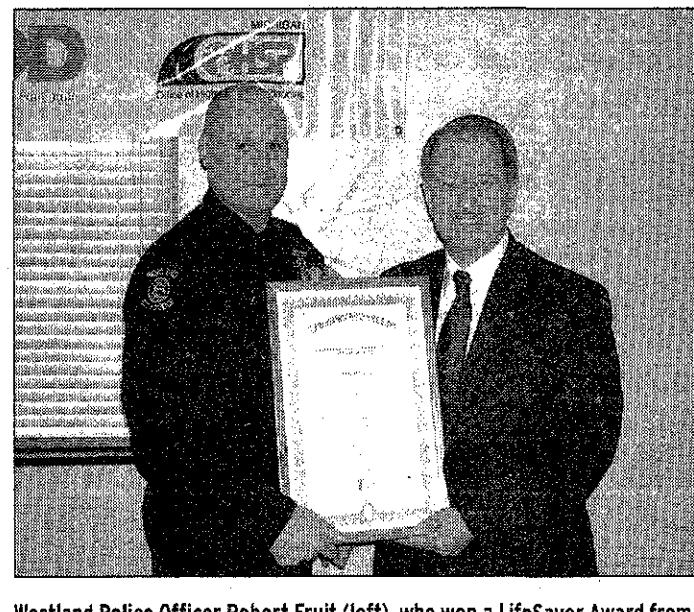
His skills at arresting them make others take notice.

Fruit earned a LifeSaver Award in February as Mothers Against Drunk Driving honored nine officers from across Michigan during a ceremony in Lansing. Next, he will receive another LifeSaver honor when MADD of Wayne County hands out its awards March 13 at Livonia's Burton Manor.

Fruit, who arrested 236 drunken drivers in 2007 alone, also won a LifeSaver Award from MADD of Wayne County for his efforts in 2006, making him one of Westland's most decorated officers for making local roads safer.

"He has a truly amazing dedication to keeping the streets safe from drunk drivers," Police Chief James Ridener said.

Fruit's efforts through the



Westland Police Officer Robert Fruit (left), who won a LifeSaver Award from Mothers Against Drunk Driving, also receives a proclamation from state Sen. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland, during a MADD banquet in Lansing. The tribute from Anderson also was signed by state Rep. Richard LeBlanc, D-Westland.

department's alcohol enforcement team put him in line for this year's county award, along with Wayne Police Officer Kevin Berger and 29 other law-enforcement officers.

"Within our campaign to eliminate drunk driving, we need law-enforcement officers because they are the first line of defense against drunk driving," said Nécholle McClendon, program director for MADD of Wayne County.

"Without them, we can't imagine how many individuals would be losing their lives or getting injured."

For his state award, Fruit became one of only nine winners among hundreds of nominees. Fruit also received a proclamation in his honor signed by state Sen. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland, and state Rep. Richard LeBlanc, D-Westland.

Glynn Birch, national president of MADD, presented the awards in Lansing.

Fruit won the county LifeSaver award last year along with fellow Westland Police Officer Ron Buckley.

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

LPS grad who lived nearby charged in Webster arson, four others

BY REBECCA JONES
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The suspect in the Webster Elementary School arson was supposed to start a new job on Friday. Instead, he faced a judge on five felony counts.

Donald Carlson, 32, faces two, 10-year felony charges and three, five-year felonies for alleged arsons or arson attempts that occurred between Dec. 12 and Feb. 28, including the Feb. 18 fire that caused extensive damage to Webster and forced the school's approximately 350 students to move to another school.

He is also suspected in three attempted vehicle arsons in the neighborhood surrounding Webster on Thursday morning, and in the arson at Randolph Elementary School on Feb. 21, said Livonia Police Lt. Greg Winn.

Carlson waived formal reading of the charges and stood mute in Judge Kathleen McCann's 16th District courtroom.

"Based on the offenses that are charged, I have a concern, particularly since it's an ongoing situation," McCann said.

She set bond at \$500,000



cash or surety. A preliminary exam was set for March 11. Carlson is a 1993 graduate of Churchill High School and lived in the neighborhood off Lyndon west of Newburgh where the arsons occurred.

Livonia police caught him Thursday.

According to Livonia police reports, officers were called to a house in the 38000 block of Mason to check on a 1999 Ford E150 van that was found Wednesday morning with its gas lid open and a rag stuck inside the fuel tank. The rag had been lit, but the vehicle did not catch fire.

Later that same morning, officers were called to investigate a similar attack on a 1988 Lincoln in the 14000 block of Nola that was found with a partial pack of cigarettes jammed into the gas cap and a line of an unidentified liquid leading to a pile of partially burned flammable debris on the ground. The car had suffered some burns.

A third vehicle, a 1997 GMC

Sonoma, parked in the same block of Nola was similarly damaged. The Livonia police's new K-9 unit, Gandalf, was called to the scene and led police to Carlson's door.

It appears that he acted alone in all of these cases, police said.

Police said Carlson, who is currently on probation for larceny from a vehicle, did not offer a motive in this case. "He has no grudges against the school district," Winn said.

Carlson's attorney, Joseph Larkin, who was retained by the defendant's mother, said his client has three and a half years of college and had earned an associate's degree. He was laid off, but found a new job and was supposed to start on Friday.

Livonia Public Schools released a statement saying: "Our entire school community is relieved to hear the police have someone they believe is responsible for the fire. We are grateful beyond words for the outstanding work of our local police and fire departments."

Observer staff writer Alex Lundberg contributed to this report.

rrjones@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2054

CORRECTION

The Plymouth-Canton AAUW production of Snow White will be presented at 7 p.m. Thursday and Friday, March 6-7, at Garden City High School's O'Leary Auditorium, 6500 Middlebelt. Presale tickets cost \$5 and are available at Fanatic U, 30409 Ford, Garden City, call (734) 266-0893; The Book Cellar, 840 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, call (734) 455-2665; and Perkos Shoes, 33426 Five Mile, Livonia, call (734) 427-3477. They also will be available at the door for \$6 each.

KNOW THE SCORE

check out the numbers in today's SPORTS section

Lenten fish fry

The Sgt. Stanley Romanowski VFW Post 6896 is holding fish fries 5-7:30 p.m. Fridays during Lent and 3:30-8 p.m. Good Friday at the post, 28945 Joy, east of Middlebelt, Westland. There's also a bake sale every week. The cost is \$6.95 for adults and \$3.50 for children under age 8. Carryouts are available. For more information, call the post at (734) 525-9454.

Tax help

Residents with low to moderate income may obtain free tax preparation through AARP at Westland's Friendship Center located every Monday and Friday through April. The assistance, which is by appointment only, is available 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Wednesday appointments are

AROUND WESTLAND

ON THE WEB

For Community Calendar and an expanded version of Around Westland, visit our online edition at www.hometownlife.com and click on Westland.

also available at the Village of Westland. There is no age requirement for the program. Appointments at both locations may be scheduled by calling the Friendship Center at (734) 722-7632.

Constituent hours

The staff of U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter, R-Livonia, will hold office hours in several locations in January. The time is set aside so that the citizens served by the congressman have the opportunity to speak with a staff member one

on one regarding any federal issue that they might have.

Tuesday, March 4, office hours are 9-10 a.m. Livonia Civic Park Senior Center, 10:30-11:30 a.m. at the Redford Community Center, 1-2 p.m. at the Maplewood Community Center in Garden City and 2:30-3:30 p.m. at the Westland senior Friendship Center. The Thursday, March 6, hours are 9-10 a.m. at the Canton Summit Senior Center, 11 a.m.-noon at the Northville Senior Center, 1-2 p.m. at the Plymouth District Library and 2:30-3:30 p.m. at the Van Buren September Days Senior Center.

Wednesday, March 12, hours are 9-10 a.m. at the Canton Senior Center, 11 a.m.-noon at the Northville Senior Center, 1-2 p.m. at the Plymouth District Library and 2:30-3:30 p.m. at the Van Buren September Days Senior Center.

Thursday, March 13, hours are 9-10 a.m. at the Canton Senior Center, 11 a.m.-noon at the Northville Senior Center, 1-2 p.m. at the Plymouth District Library and 2:30-3:30 p.m. at the Van Buren September Days Senior Center.

Friday, March 14, hours are 9-10 a.m. at the Canton Senior Center, 11 a.m.-noon at the Northville Senior Center, 1-2 p.m. at the Plymouth District Library and 2:30-3:30 p.m. at the Van Buren September Days Senior Center.

CITY OF WESTLAND RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL 2008 SCHEDULE FOR BOARD OF REVIEW MEETINGS

Monday, March 10 9:00 A.M. - 12:00 Noon 1:30 - 4:30 P.M.
Tuesday, March 11 1:00 - 4:00 P.M. 5:30 - 8:30 P.M.
Wednesday, March 12 9:00 A.M. - 12:00 Noon 1:30 - 4:30 P.M.
Thursday, March 13 1:00 - 4:00 P.M. 5:30 - 8:30 P.M.

CALL (734) 467-3160 TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT

Board of Review Meetings will be held at Westland City Hall
2nd Floor - Council Chambers
36601 Ford Road
Westland, MI 48185

Written Appeals Must Be Received by 2:00 P.M. on Thursday, March 13, 2008

Publish: February 24 & March 2, 2008

OE0888341 - 2x3

CITY OF WESTLAND ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS PUBLIC NOTICE

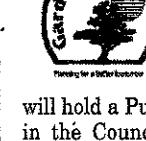
The following appeal will be heard at a public hearing to be held in the Council Chambers of Westland City Hall, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, MI on Wednesday, March 19, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. at which time comments may be directed to the Board during audience participation. If you wish to reply by mail, send your comments to the above address. All property owners whose names appear in our tax rolls located within 300' of this property are being notified pursuant to this statute.

Petition #2635-Cal Sign Co/Risko-Ferguson-Ziomek Funeral Home, 2401 S. Wayne
Request for an 8 foot free-standing sign setback variance from Ordinance 248 in order to install a new free-standing sign at the site that would be located 7 feet from the front lot line whereas Section 15.6.3(b)(3) requires a minimum setback of 15 feet for commercial free-standing signs.

Publish: March 2, 2008

OE0888297 - 2x3

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Lean - Tender PORK TENDERLOIN \$3.29 lb.			Fresh GROUND TURKEY \$1.89 lb.
Fresh Homemade Polish or Italian SAUSAGE \$1.99 lb.			Fresh Skinless Boneless CHICKEN BREAST \$1.99 lb.
Lean - Meaty PORK STEAKS \$1.69 lb.	BOB'S OF CANTON 31210 W. Warren (at Merriman) Westland 734-522-3357 Website Address: www.BobsOfCantonWestland.com Thank You!	USDA GRADE A	Deli SPECIALS
10lb. Bag IDAHO POTATOES \$2.49 ea.	Sale Dates March 3 - March 9 NEW HOURS: Mon. - Sat. 9 am - 7 pm Sunday 9 am - 6 pm	Lean - Boneless ROLLED RUMP ROAST \$2.89 lb.	Russer's Smoked VIRGINIA HAM \$3.29 lb.
Fresh RIPE BANANAS 39¢ lb.	Bridge Cards ATM USDA GRADE A	Lean - Tender WHOLE BEEF TENDERLOINS \$5.99 lb.	Lipari Old Tyre Deli MUENSTER CHEESE \$2.99 lb.
Fresh HEAD LETTUCE 89¢ ea.		Sliced Free Family Pack GROUND SIRLOIN \$2.39 lb.	Krakus POLISH HAM \$4.99 lb.
		Lean - Boneless FAMILY STEAK \$2.99 lb.	



CITY OF GARDEN CITY NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the City Council will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, March 10, 2008, at 7:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers, at the Civic Center, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan. At the hearing, all interested persons shall have an opportunity to be heard.

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 154.005, DEFINITIONS, SECTION 154.067, MINIMUM OFF STREET PARKING, SECTION 154.136, AUTOMOTIVE AND/OR VEHICLE SALES, 154.162, REGULATED USES, 154.301, PERMITTED USES AND STRUCTURES, 154.357, DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Garden City.

Section 154.005 DEFINITIONS. This section contains the definition of the terms used in the ordinance.

Section 154.040 OUTDOOR DISPLAYS; PROHIBITIONS. This section limits displays in terms of the time and location of the displays.

Section 154.067 MINIMUM OFF-STREET PARKING. This section contains the schedule of required parking spaces per square foot of area.

Section 154.162 AUTOMOBILE AND/OR VEHICLE RENTAL ESTABLISHMENTS.

This section contains the grading, surfacing, drainage and setback requirements and the servicing and broadcasting prohibitions applicable to the establishments regulated under this ordinance.

Section 154.136 AUTOMOBILE AND/OR VEHICLE SALES.

This section contains the grading, surfacing, drainage, driveway location, setback and minimum lot area requirements and the servicing and broadcasting prohibitions applicable to the establishments regulated under this ordinance.

Section 154.170 REGULATED USES.

This section contains a list of the uses prohibited in certain concentrations (i.e. 3 within 1000ft radius), and an application and waiver process.

Section 154.301 PERMITTED USES AND STRUCTURES.

This section establishes the principal permitted uses and the special land uses permitted in certain zoning districts.

Section 154.352 PERMITTED USES AND STRUCTURES.

This section regulates special land uses and existing uses with drive-through facilities.

Section 154.357 DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS.

This section establishes development standards applicable to site plan review, exterior design review, and required conditions applicable to outdoor storage, personal vehicle rental or sales, exemptions and definition.

Written comments may be submitted prior to the public hearing and should be addressed to: The Office of Community Development, City of Garden City, 6000 Middlebelt Rd., Garden City, MI 48135. The sections provide that the Ordinances shall take full force and effect upon publication. Copies of the complete text of this Ordinance are available at the office of the Community Development Department, Garden City Hall, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan 48135, during regular business hours.

Paul C. Zelenak
Community Development Director
OE0888314 - 2x2

Publish: March 2, 2008

Assessing office adds hours to accommodate residents

Residents with questions about the tax assessment notices can get them from the Westland Assessing Department during extended office hours Monday and Wednesday, March 3 and 5.

In addition to its regular hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday, the department in Westland City Hall will remain open until 9 p.m. those two days to answer questions related to notices that were mailed out Feb. 25.

"It's our hope that these hours will more easily accommodate the schedules of our residents," said Westland Mayor William R. Wild.

During the extended hours the assessor's staff will assist residents with any questions

they may have about Board of Review procedures should property owners wish to appeal the assessor's decision.

The Board of Review, a three-person body made up of resident taxpayers who can increase or decrease an improper assessment. It will hear appeals Monday, March 10, through Friday, March 14, in the Council Chambers of Westland City Hall. Hours are 9 a.m. to noon and 1:30-4 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, and Friday and 1 p.m.-4 p.m. and 5:30-8:30 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday.

The Westland Assessor's Office is on the second level of Westland City Hall, 36601 Ford. For more information, call (734) 734-467-3160.

HEARING FROM PAGE A1

sexual abusive activity, using a computer to commit a crime, pandering for purposes of prostitution, accepting earnings of a prostitute, and two counts of transporting a female for prostitution. Henley has similar charges against him, except for the count involving a computer.

Not-guilty pleas have been placed on record for both defendants as they await trial.

Under questioning by Assistant Wayne County Prosecutor Keith Clark, Davis said she first met Lloyd and Henley in November at a gas station in Detroit. She said she was attracted to Lloyd and that Henley gave her a business card, telling her to call the telephone number on it and saying she could make money.

Davis testified that she called a couple days later and arranged to meet the couple at the same gas station, and she said she returned with them to Westland. She said they told her she could make money as a prostitute, and she said they gave her the name Candy.

Davis accused Lloyd and Henley of showing her sex acts she would be expected to perform for pay, and she said pictures were taken of her, both alone and also posing with

another prostitute, Star. Davis said Star also was living with the defendants and working as a prostitute to pay off debts she owed to the couple.

Davis testified she worked as a prostitute several times after clients called Lloyd, using a cell phone number posted on Craigslist. Davis said Lloyd and Henley would take her to places where she met customers.

Defense attorneys Todd Perkins and Joseph Niskar

sought to raise questions about Davis' credibility. At one point in her testimony, Davis indicated she didn't leave Westland because she didn't know how to get back to Detroit, but she later conceded that she had made visits to the city while living with Lloyd and Henley.

Davis, currently in a Wayne County juvenile facility for an unrelated domestic violence incident, said she finally told her mother that she had been working as a prostitute. She said they went to Westland police.

Police Sgt. Mark Engstrom

has said that Lloyd and Henley were arrested Jan. 17 after an undercover officer arranged to meet a different prostitute, 18, at the Fairfield Inn in Canton.

Authorities seized a laptop computer that Engstrom said contained evidence of prostitution activity.

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

Iditarod: World's longest dog sled race

The Iditarod is the world's longest dog sled race. The trail runs 1,151 miles from Anchorage to Nome along an old mail route known as the Iditarod Trail. It is run each year to commemorate the emergency delivery in 1925 of diphtheria antitoxin to Nome, Alaska.

The race starts in Anchorage on the first Saturday in March every year in downtown Anchorage. However, the first day is just a ceremonial start, and teams run only from Anchorage to Eagle River, 25

miles away. On the following day, the race is re-started in Wasilla, about 50 miles from Anchorage.

The race trail crosses the Alaska Mountain Range at Rainy Pass, the highest point on the trail at elevation 3,500 feet, and then crosses the Alaskan interior to meet the Yukon River. The race trail takes one of two routes as it crosses the interior and runs on the Yukon River.

In even-numbered years, the race heads north from the cold camp of Ophir and reaches the Yukon at Ruby.

The trail turns down river for 150 miles to Kaltag. In odd-numbered years, the trail heads south from Ophir and meets up with the Yukon River just south of the village of Anvik. From Anvik, the trail follows the Yukon up river for 150 miles to Kaltag.

Once at Kaltag, the two trails meet and are the same to Nome.

The record currently stands just over eight days, 22 hours, set in 2002 by Martin Buser of Big Lake, Alaska. The record longest time to finish the Iditarod is 32 days.

Currently, the top 20 teams usually finish in under 11 days, and the last-place team finishes in 14 or 15 days.

The Iditarod champion receives more than \$68,000 in cash plus a brand new Dodge pickup truck. The last place team receives the Red Lantern Award, known as the Widow's Lamp. It is lighted at the finish line in Nome and lantern burns day and night until the last musher finished the race.

From www.lucidcafe.com/library/iditarod.html

IDITAROD FROM PAGE A1

winter, using some 10,000 surveyor stakes to mark the trail. They also use ribbons and tripod markers in places like the Alaska Mountain Range and the Bering Sea coast.

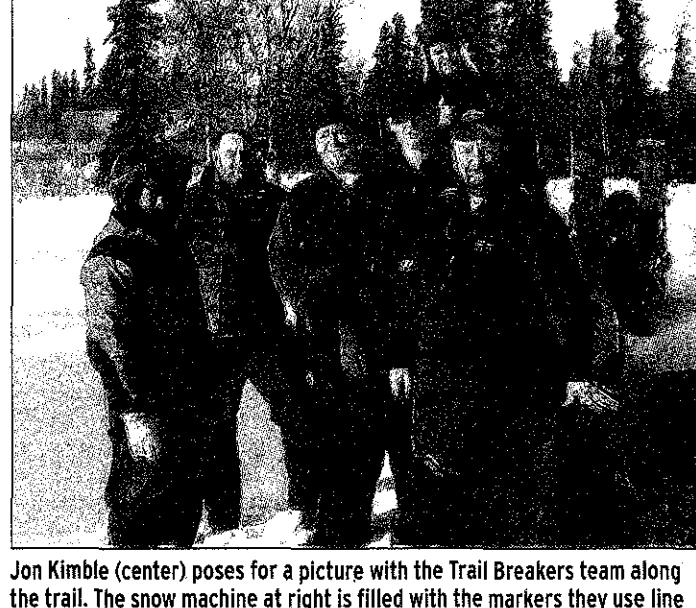
Kimble, a 2005 John Glenn High School graduate, joined the six-member team last year, replacing his boss, Roger Ashcraft, who had heart surgery. Ashcraft is back this year and it will be he and Kimble who will pull four-foot wide, 14-foot long trail groomers on the trail.

BEING PREPARED

Kimble is prepared for long days and bitter cold temperatures. He has stocked up on Polar-Tec gear and invested in a \$400 sleeping bag that's good to -40 degrees "just in case we sleep outside." Most times, the team sleeps in frame houses or cabins, although last year they slept in a tent house where the heat was accidentally turned off and they woke to find their gear frozen.

"Our longest day last year was 22 hours on snow machines," Kimble said, adding that the team carries GPS because "when you're in a lot of snow and breaking trails you can get turned around."

The GPS is good news to his mother, Sheila Kimble, who tracks the Trail Breakers progress on an Air Force Web site. She thinks it's "awesome" that her son 20-year-old son is involved with the Iditarod.



Jon Kimble (center) poses for a picture with the Trail Breakers team along the trail. The snow machine at right is filled with the markers they use line the trail for the mushers.

"I'm nervous this year, but he's been living his dream since he moved to Alaska," she said.

Sheila Kimble admits that last year she was dismayed because she knew how rugged the land and weather is. Her concern was heightened when she talked to a friend who told her that a Trail Breaker was killed the previous year in an avalanche.

"Last year was very, very tough," she said. "But it's quite an honor to be on the team. It's been a good learning experience for him, although it's not near as hard as it is for the mushers and their dogs."

According to his mother, Kimble went to Alaska just out of high school after a friend of his father mentioned that he was looking for workers. He went up there for a summer job and before she knew it, he was getting an Alaskan driver's license.

"His plan was to do community college or an aviation program at Willow Run," she said. "After we visited him up

there, I understand why he's stayed. It's quite a life. It's an incredible place, it's definitely God's country."

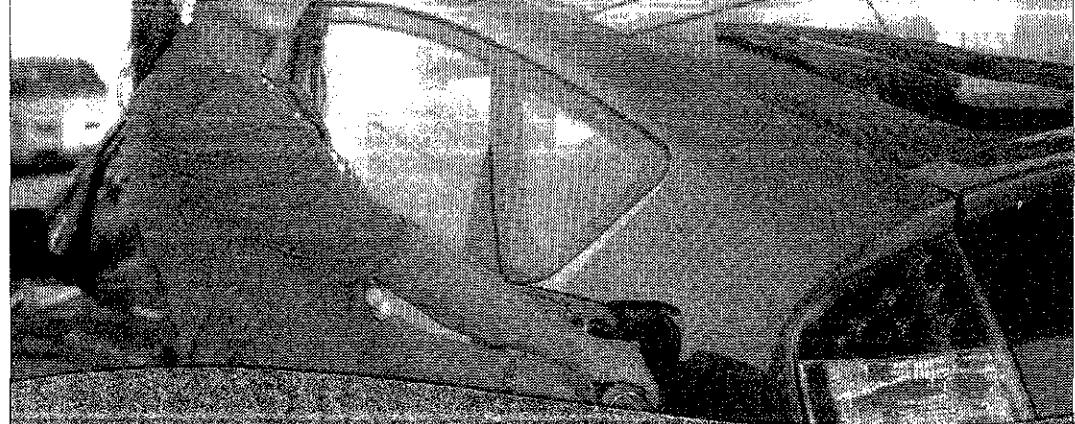
'OUTDOORSMAN'

Kimble describes himself as an outdoorsman who loves to hunt and fish, interests he shares with his brother, Eric, a senior at John Glenn. According to his mother, Eric also plans to head for Alaska. With her husband, David, retired, friends are now asking when they will move to the 49th state. She's frank in her answer: "I can't do those kind of winters," she said.

As a Trail Breaker, Kimble will cross the Iditarod finishing line in Nome ahead of the mushers. He'll watch the end of the race and hope his favorite musher, Lance Mackey, wins the race. Mackey won last year and recently won the recent Yukon Quest International Dog Sled Race.

"He's a good guy," he said. The Kimbles are proud of what their son is doing. Sheila Kimble said her husband thinks it's "just the proudest thing." "When I fret, he's a typical father/husband," she said. "He tells me not to worry. He's very proud of him. They're very close."

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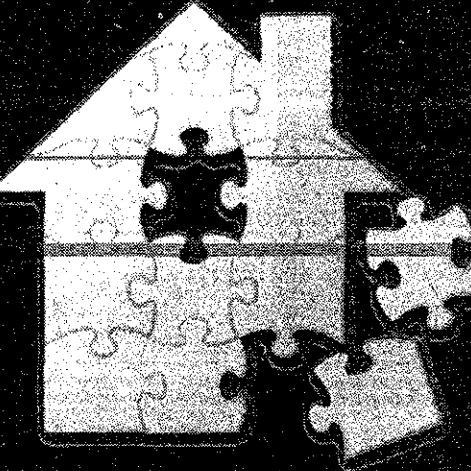
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Ficano pushes Cobo plan in State of County speech

BY HUGH GALLAGHER
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano used his annual State of the County address Wednesday to continue his embattled fight for an expanded Cobo Convention Center.

"The expansion of Cobo is not about headlines. It's about real people and real jobs," he told a standing-room-only audience at the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History.

Ficano has proposed a 120,000-square-foot expansion of Cobo at a cost of \$323 million. Legislation has been introduced to extend a three-county (Wayne, Oakland and Macomb) hotel and statewide liquor tax for seven years to pay for the expansion. Legislation has also been introduced to create a convention center authority and to make Cobo a tax-free zone.

Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson has been a steady vocal critic of Ficano's plan, challenging Ficano's financing arrangements.

Recently, Detroit political leaders have criticized the plan for creating an authority that would take ownership of the hall away from the city.

On Feb. 22, Gov. Jennifer Granholm met with representatives from the three counties and the city of Detroit to begin preliminary discussions about their differences.

On Wednesday, Ficano recognized several supporters from



Ficano

Oakland and Macomb, whom he said would benefit from the expansion.

An opening film and several slides shown while Ficano spoke showed Ficano and Patterson enjoying each other's company.

"We're fighting to preserve our crown jewel and will not sit by waiting to see what happens," he said. "We're going to make something happen for the good of our region and state."

Ficano and others argue that if Cobo is not expanded, the city would lose the annual North American International Auto Show.

"This show is worth nearly \$600 million to this region each year — the equivalent of five Super Bowls or 40 World Series games," he said.

Wednesday's speech did not contain the usual laundry list of new initiatives that spotlighted Ficano's five previous State of the County addresses. He used the language of change and can-do optimism to describe the area's future in spite of recent hard times.

He congratulated county AFSCME union employees on reaching a tentative four-year agreement, though some members were picketing outside the museum.

Accomplishments cited included the deal to buy the Guardian Building as the new County Building and ongoing discussions about purchasing the historic County Building, which the county leases from a private owner.

He also touted the county's TURBO program which provides incentives for redeveloping residential and business property throughout the county.

"Thanks to TURBO, we have:

new retail projects in Highland Park and Detroit; manufacturing facilities in Van Buren Township and Livonia; hotels in Romulus; and food service facilities in Canton Township and Taylor," he said.

Among those recognized by Ficano, were Deborah Rush and her three children, Shawn, Chris and Angela. The Rush family were the subjects of a story by Observer reporter Darrell Clem on the Wayne County Family Center in Westland during the holidays. Following the story, many area people came to the support of the family. They were also recognized by Ficano.

New initiatives by county government and private developments in the county included:

- Creation of the Second Chance Through Expungement Program (STEP). Residents who have only one, nonviolent conviction and have lived a clean life for at least five years will be eligible to set aside the past conviction.

- IAV Automotive

Engineering, a German-based company, will locate its North American headquarters in Northville Township this year. IAV will build a \$16.5 million R&D facility that would create 65 engineering jobs and 180 total jobs over five years.

- A proposal before the county commission to create a Job Creation Fund to offer financial incentives to bring jobs to the county.

- Next month, the county will begin construction of a mile and a half long sewer extension for the Pinnacle Aeropark near Metro Airport.

"This will be the first major infrastructure improvement at Pinnacle and it paves the way for businesses to locate there as part of the aerotropolis," Ficano said.

- Alternegy, a Delaware company, is building a 25,000-square-foot biodiesel fuel production plant in Romulus.

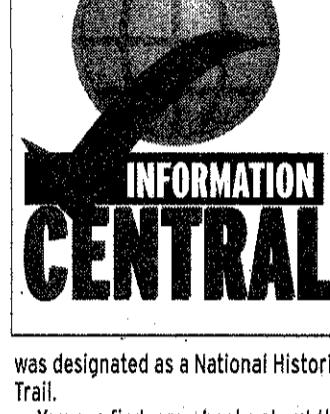
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Giving thanks

Pastor Bill Hales of The Lutheran Church of Our Savior in Westland, delivered the Senate invocation on Thursday, Feb. 14, as a guest of State Sen. Glenn S. Anderson, D-Westland. Lt. Gov. John D. Cherry (right) joined Anderson and Hales at the Senate rostrum following the invocation.

Last great race on earth



restarted at 2 p.m. today, Sunday, March 2. You will surely hear news of the Iditarod in days to come. For more information, go to www.iditarod.com.

Highlighted Activities

Intermediate Microsoft Word: 7 p.m. March 5.

Learn more advanced word processing skills, including how to use graphic elements, bulleting and numbering lists, cut/copy/paste functions and headers and footers. Prerequisite is Introduction to Word. This is a hands-on class. Space is limited. Register in advance at the reference desk or by calling (734) 326-6123.

Everyone's Reading Book

Discussion: 7 p.m. March 11.

As part of the seventh annual Metro Detroit Book Discussion, join us for a sharing of ideas about "The Beekeeper's Apprentice," written by Laurie R. King. Pick up a copy of the book at the library. Please read the book before the meeting. All are welcome.

Information Central is compiled by reference librarian Janet Sovars. The William P. Faust Public Library is at 6123 Central City Parkway, Westland. For more information, call (734) 326-6123.

In 1925, there was a deadly outbreak of diphtheria in Nome. Life-saving serum was transported from Anchorage to Nenana by train, but the last 674 miles were only accessible by dog sled. To learn more, check out the children's book, "The Great Serum Race: Blazing the Iditarod Trail."

By the mid 1930s, the gold rush had wound down and supplies were delivered by air transport. The Iditarod Trail fell into disuse. In the late 1960s, some short dog sled races were held, followed by the first Iditarod race in the 1973. In 1978, the Iditarod Trail

was designated as a National Historic Trail.

You can find many books about the Iditarod at the Library: "Racing Sled Dogs: An Original North American Sport," "Mush! Across Alaska in the Longest Sled-dog Race" and "Iditarod Fact Book: A Complete Guide to the Last Great Race."

Look for biographies like "Winterdance: The Fine Madness of Running the Iditarod" and "Father of the Iditarod: The Joe Redington Story." The Library also owns the video, "Iditarod - A Far Distant Place."

This year's race began at 10 a.m. Saturday, March 1, in downtown Anchorage. Participants spent the night in Wasilla, where the race is

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OE08585044

CITY OF GARDEN CITY BOARD OF REVIEW DATES



NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO all property owners of the City of Garden City that the Board of Review will meet in session on the following date and time to examine the assessment roll for the current year:

Tuesday March 4, 2008 9:00 a.m.

The Board of Review will meet in session on the following days and times to hear appeals on the assessment roll:

NOTE: Meetings located in THE GARDEN CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT CONFERENCE ROOM with late night appointments on Tuesday & Wednesday

Monday	March 10, 2008	9:00am - 5:00pm
Tuesday	March 11, 2008	1:00pm - 9:00pm
Wednesday	March 12, 2008	1:00pm - 9:00pm
Thursday	March 13, 2008	9:00am - 5:00pm
Friday	March 14, 2008	9:00am - 5:00pm

APPEALS BY APPOINTMENT or WRITE-IN. Write-ins must be received by Monday, March 10, 2008.

Tentative ratios and factors for the 2008 tax year are:

CLASS	PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT RATIO	PROJECTED EQUALIZATION FACTOR
Commercial	47.71%	1.0480
Industrial	47.27%	1.0578
Residential	53.43%	0.9958
Personal Property	50.00%	1.0000

Taxes are paid on **TAXABLE VALUE**, which is the lesser of the calculated Assessed and Capped value, unless there is a property transfer. The capped value is based on the CPI (Consumer Price Index), which will increase 2.3% for 2008. As a result, all Taxable Values will increase 2.3% unless there has been a transfer of ownership or an addition to the property.

The 2008 Assessment Roll will be open for inspection from March 5, 2008 through March 7, 2008 in the assessment office from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. And 1:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m..

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Published February 24, 25 & March 2, 2008

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Reporting agencies must make credit histories available

Dear Rick: Is it true that you can get a free credit report? I see all these ads on the internet for free credit reports and I am somewhat leery.

Yes, you can receive a free copy of your credit report. There are three major credit reporting agencies, Equifax, TransUnion and Experian. Each is now required to provide customers, upon request, a copy of their credit report every 12 months. The key is you must request a report. To receive a free credit report go to www.annualcreditreport.com or call (877) 322-8228. These are the only places you can go to get a free report without strings attached.

There are many others that advertise free credit reports. Unfortunately, most of these so-called free offers have strings attached and in many cases hidden fees.

In the old days, credit reports were only used to



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

obtain credit. Today, credit reports are used by auto insurance companies to determine premiums. In fact, credit reports are also used by potential employers. The

bottom line is credit reports are used in situations that have nothing to do with credit and that is why it is important to make sure your report is accurate.

If you find your credit is inaccurate, take steps to correct it. The Fair Credit Reporting Act outlines an individual's rights under the law.

Unfortunately, the process of removing inaccurate information can be a frustrating time-consuming process. However, the time spent correcting your report

can save you a substantial amount of money.

One other frustration. A report can be accurate at one company and inaccurate at the other two companies. So it is important to review reports from all three companies. Do not request your credit reports all at the same time but rather stagger them throughout the year.

Dear Rick: I'm giving advice to my daughter who is 23 and has been employed full time since last year. Last year, on my recommendation, she opened a Roth IRA. This year her employer plans to offer a 401(k) and there will be no employer match. There are about 10 fund options for the new employees. My recommendation for her is to max out her Roth IRA first. What do you think?

I love the advice you gave your daughter. At her age it is a slam dunk that she funds her Roth IRA first. If she has

additional money, then use the 401(k) plan.

My advice would only be slightly different if she had a matching program through work. In that case, I recommend funding the 401(k) Plan up to the match and then use the Roth IRA.

The advantage of funding the Roth before the 401(k) is having her money grow tax-free vs. tax-deferred. When your daughter eventually retires and begins to withdraw money from her Roth, the money can be withdrawn tax-free. Money in a traditional 401(k) is taxed at the ordinary income tax bracket. Typically, your ordinary income tax bracket is the highest bracket.

The one downside of the Roth you are investing post-tax money. In a 401(k) plan, you are investing pre-taxed money. By funding the Roth IRA first you pay a little higher tax today. The slight increase in tax now is more than offset by the future benefit.

Roth IRAs, however, are not subject to required minimum distributions. Typically, when someone turns 70½ they must begin taking required minimum distributions from their retirement accounts. Roth IRAs grow tax-free for as long as you choose.

Take advantage of a Roth IRA. It's not too late to make a 2007 Roth IRA contribution.

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

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SPORTS

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

Romulus pierces Rockets in district finals

Glenn ambushed, 65-44

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Westland John Glenn needed to play its 'A' game to beat highly-regarded Romulus.

The Rockets actually would have settled for a 'C-plus' showing following a 65-44 setback in the Class A district championship final Friday night at Wayne Memorial.

It was all Eagles as they dominated on both ends of the floor, and the backboards, to improve to 19-3 overall and earn a spot in Monday's regional semifinal against Saline.

"I just think they (Romulus) defended pretty darn good and that set the tone for the game - they played at a championship level," Glenn coach Dan Young said. "They took us out of our offense. They took us out of the flow and we did not rebound the way you have to in a championship game."

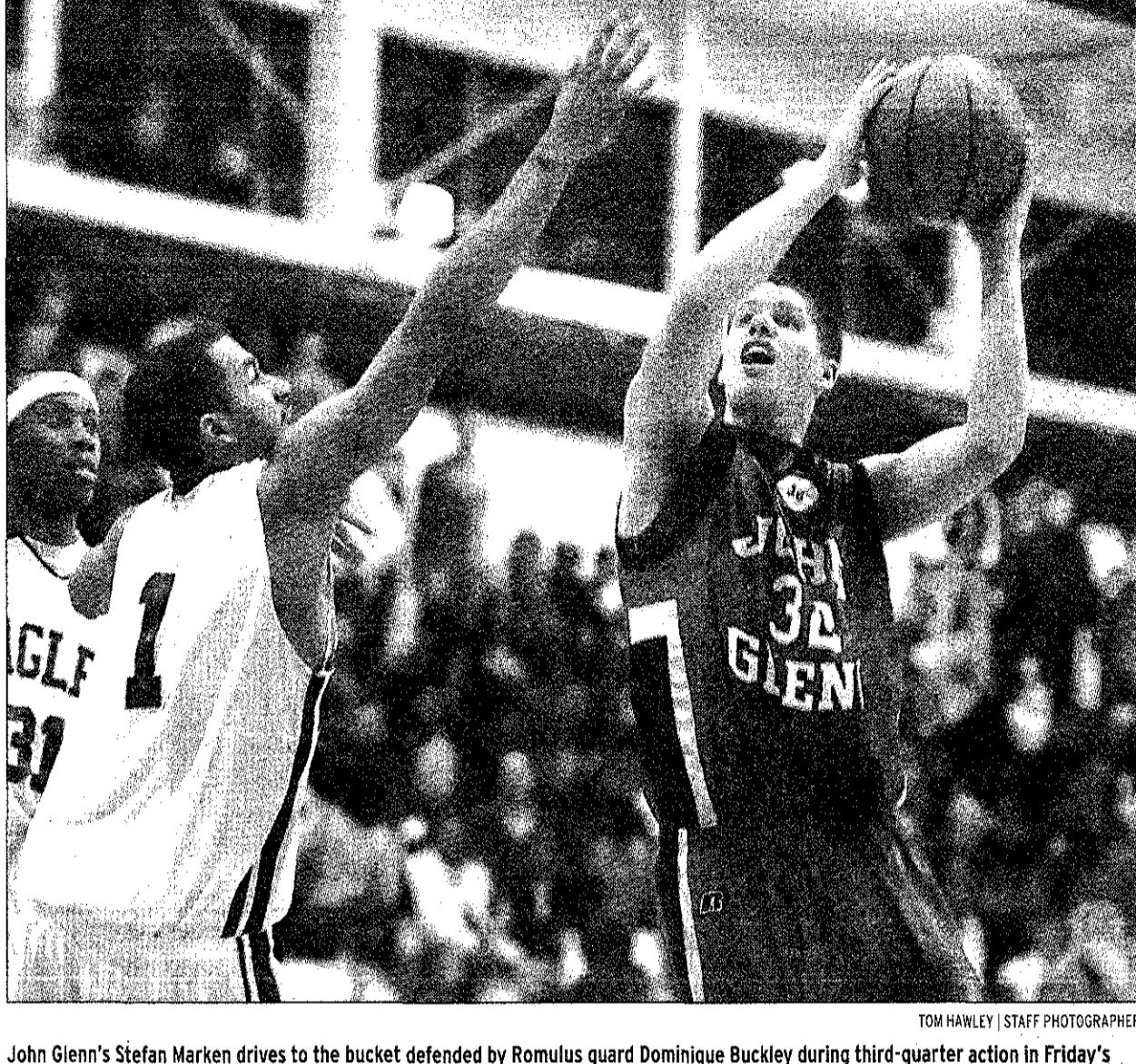
A 19-5 first-quarter run put Glenn on its heels the rest of the night and forced to play catch-up. Glenn also had two starters, Jordan Manier and Earl Hardison, each pick up two fouls during the first four minutes.

The Rockets trailed 33-15 at halftime and never got closer than 11 the rest of the way.

Young didn't even get a chance to use a 1-3-1 zone defense, which worked so well in Wednesday's 66-61 semifinal victory over Wayne.

"We had some zone stuff ready, but we got down quickly," he said. "To do that you have to control the tempo."

Romulus came in as the favorite having lost to only defending state Class A champion Saginaw, Saginaw Arthur Hill and defending state Class B champion Beverly Hills-Detroit



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

John Glenn's Stefan Marken drives to the bucket defended by Romulus guard Dominique Buckley during third-quarter action in Friday's Class A district final at Wayne Memorial.

Please see **GLENN, B3**

Spartans win 'rubber match,' 4-1

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Opportunistic hockey was Livonia Stevenson's calling card Thursday night as the Spartans used the power-play to their advantage in a 4-1 win against rival Livonia Churchill before a near-capacity crowd at the Plymouth Cultural Center.

The Division 1 pre-regional game pitted the state's top-two ranked teams, which split during the regular season.

Stevenson, 23-1-2 overall, advanced to Saturday's regional final against Grosse Pointe North at the St. Clair Shores Civic Arena. (See www.hometownlife.com for more details.)

North, meanwhile, earned a 2-1 pre-regional victory Wednesday night against the University of Detroit-Jesuit.

"They (North) play in that tough league (Michigan Interscholastic), they don't have many nights off and they play hard," Stevenson first-year coach We have our work cut out for us."

The No. 2-ranked Chargers, the only team to beat Stevenson this season, bowed out at 20-6 overall.

Churchill hurt itself with a total of 11 penalties, but none more costly than a pair of infractions coming back-to-back during the final 15 seconds of the second period.

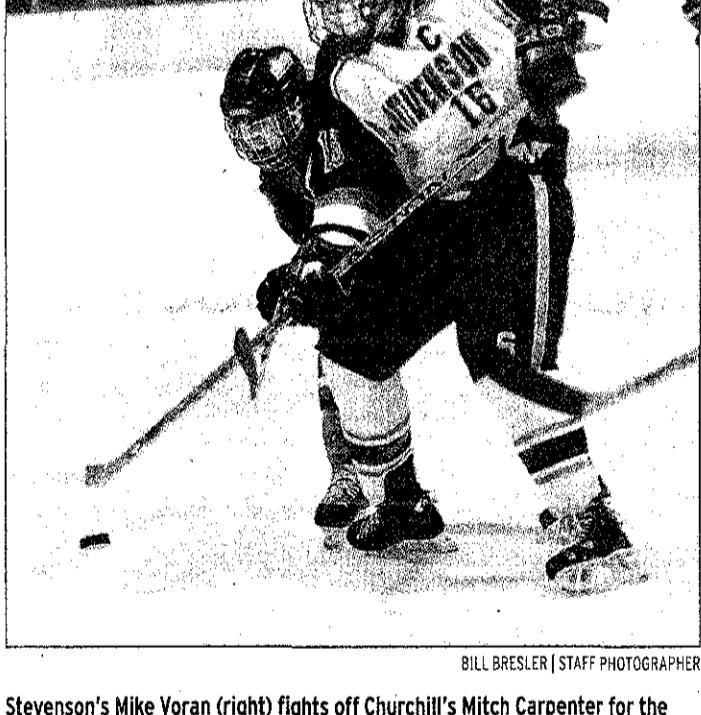
And Stevenson, clinging to a 2-1 lead, made the Chargers pay dearly as John Vella, who took three penalties of his own on the night, tallied back-to-back goals at the 0:44 and 1:32 marks of the final period.

The first goal, coming off assists from Mark Bekkala and R.J. Kierdorf, was a result of a two-man advantage. Vella's second goal was assisted by Mike Voran and Ryan Baratano.

"Even though he took some penalties, we have all the confidence in John Vella as we do in all our guys," Mitchell said. "He's one of the guys who got us here. I just tried to calm him down (between periods) and talk to him about 30 seconds, let him know what he meant to this team."

Meanwhile, the damage had been done as Stevenson was able to keep the Chargers off the board the rest of the way despite being outshot 24-21 on the night.

"Five-on-five we were the



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Stevenson's Mike Voran (right) fights off Churchill's Mitch Carpenter for the puck during Thursday's Division 1 pre-regional at the Plymouth Cultural Center.

better team tonight, but we were way too undisciplined," said Churchill coach Mazzoni, whose team outshot the Spartans 24-21. "In all three games the power-play has been a factor. It was very uncharac-

teristic losing our composure and playing undisciplined.

"I thought he (Derrick Daigneau) played very well (in goal). All four were power-play

Please see **SPARTANS, B2**

Zebras lose rematch vs. Glenn, 66-61

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Westland John Glenn was "in the zone" during Wednesday night's Class A district boys semifinal basketball showdown with host Wayne Memorial.

The Rockets, coming off a stinging 21-point setback just six days earlier to the Zebras in the Western Lakes championship game, used a 1-3-1 defense to turn the tables on their rivals, 66-61.

Glenn, 19-2 overall, advanced to Friday's championship game to play state-ranked Romulus (18-3), which moved on with an easier-than-expected 62-34 triumph over Belleville.

A 23-8 first-quarter run made all the difference for Glenn, which forced the Zebras out of their comfort zone offensively.

"We played more 'zone' than we have all year," Glenn coach Dan Young said. "But a lot of it was will. We were just determined. We were

BOYS HOOPS

Please see **REMATCH, B6**

C'ville bowlers 9th

Livonia Clarenceville just missed out on match play round by one spot in Friday's Division 2 MHSAA Girls Team Bowling Finals held at Sunnybrook Lanes in Sterling Heights.

The Trojans placed ninth in the 18-team field with a total pinfall of 3,112, just 20 behind eight-place finisher Flint Kearsley.

The Trojans posted scores of 164, 111, 175, 140, 133, 202, 143 and 171 in the eight-game Baker set.

They added regular game totals of 882 and 991.

Tecumseh captured the team title by defeating Coldwater in match-play finals, 1,746-1,645.

Tecumseh reached the championship round with wins over Kearsley and Coloma, while Coldwater knocked off Owosso and Bay City John Glenn.

WYAA registration

Registration for Westland Youth Athletic Association baseball and softball will be from 10 a.m. to noon Saturdays and 7-10 p.m. Wednesdays through March 29 at the Lange Compound Building, 6050 Farmington Road (north of Ford road and south of Warren).

The WYAA, celebrating its 50th anniversary, will offer baseball programs for T-Ball (ages 5-6), Coach-Machine Pitch (7-8), Mustang (9-10), Bronco (11-12), Pony (13-14), Colt (15-16) and Palomino (17-19).

WYAA softball programs included: slow-pitch (local travel), ages 9-10, 11-12, 13-15, 16-18. A competitive fast-pitch program is also offered for ages 10-, 12-, 14- and 16-and-under. Call (734) 421-0640; or visit www.wyaa.org.

LJAL grid signup

Registration on a first-come, first-serve basis for Livonia Junior Athletic League football and cheerleading will be from 9-11 a.m. Saturday, March 15 at the Frost Middle School cafeteria.

The cost is \$165 for football (tackle) and \$85 (flag).

Football squads will be base on the following ages and weights: flag (6-7); freshman (8-9, up to 125 pounds); JV (9-11, up to 140 pounds); varsity (10-12, up to 170 pounds; and 14-year-olds, up to 135 pounds).

Cheerleading squad will consist of freshman (grades 3-4), JV (grades 5-6) and varsity (grades 7-8).

For more information, call Phil Adkins at (734) 425-4098.



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Lutheran Westland's Adam Zehel tries to steal the ball from Plymouth Christian's Reid Barber in the closing seconds of Friday's Class district final. Sam Ahlersmeyer also converges on the play. Plymouth Christian won 58-55.

Tourney blues

Plymouth Christian ends Warriors' run

Lutheran High Westland started its 2007-08 boys basketball season with a win 59-45 over Plymouth Christian Academy.

But in Friday's Class D district championship final, the host Eagles turned the tables and ended the Warriors' season with a 58-55 triumph.

Brothers Brent and Trevor Zinn paced PCA, now 7-16 overall, with 15 and 13 points, respectively.

Three Warriors scored in double figures led by Sam Ahlersmeyer's game-high 16 points. Josh Kruger and Adam Zehel chipped in with 12 and 10, respectively.

Lutheran Westland led 29-20 at halftime, but the Eagles stormed back with a 22-15 third-quarter run. PCA then outscored the Warriors 16-13 in the decisive fourth quarter.

"It basically came down to execution - they (PCA) did and we didn't," said Lutheran Westland coach Brandon Bekius,

whose team bowed out at 6-17 overall. "We made some turnovers in crucial situations and they capitalized. We had our chances, but did not finish."

PCA was 13-of-25 from the foul line, while Lutheran Westland hit 13-of-23.

Despite the loss, Lutheran Westland made strides toward the end of the year.

"We definitely improved," Bekius said. "We started to make good offensive plays instead of forcing shots."

On Thursday, three players scored in double figures as the Warriors earned a 70-51 district semifinal basketball win over Detroit West Village Academy.

Kruger paced Lutheran Westland, which led 36-19 at halftime, with 17 points.

Ahlersmeyer and Eric Shoots chipped in with 16 and 12, respectively.

West Village, bowing out at 11-7 overall, got 17 points from Randy Williams and 14 from Sammie Hasley.

Lutheran Westland's Adam Zehel tries to steal the ball from Plymouth Christian's Reid Barber in the closing seconds of Friday's Class district final. Sam Ahlersmeyer also converges on the play. Plymouth Christian won 58-55.

Plymouth knocks off Patriots in pre-regional encounter, 4-0

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

Plymouth's hockey team skated into the school's record books Wednesday night with style, flair and – most importantly – a grip on its first-ever trip to the regional finals.

The Wildcats thoroughly dominated host Livonia Franklin, 4-0, in a Division 2 pre-Regional final played at Edgar Arena.

The victory propelled the winners into 6:30 p.m. Friday regional final against 24-1-1 Farmington High at Novi Ice Arena.

Wednesday night's win upped Plymouth's record to 15-9-2 – a record number of victories for the surging Wildcats.

Franklin closed its season with a 9-14-2 mark.

"I feel great for these guys – they've worked really hard all year," said first-year Plymouth coach Paul Fassbender. "They started the season in the shadows of the players on last year's team who a lot of people said were bigger and better, but this year's team went out and got the most victories ever by a Plymouth team."

"The kids played smart tonight and got the puck out of our zone when they needed to. They didn't take too many chances, stayed out of the penalty box and kept their composure."

The Wildcats outshot the Patriots 33-8 over the final two periods. Only a stellar performance by Franklin senior netminder Austin Messler prevented a more lop-sided final score.

Leading the Plymouth charge

PREP HOCKEY

were seniors Jake Jossey, a 5-foot-10, 180-pound forward, and Christian Blick, a 5-10, 180-pound goalie.

Jossey scored the winners' first three goals while Blick – a late-season sensation between the pipes – stopped all 17 shots he faced.

"Jake always plays hard and has a nose for the net," said Fassbender. "He's really picked it up the past two or three games for us."

"Christian is an outstanding leader. He's very vocal and communicates very well with his coaches and teammates. He's a great guy to have back there."

Jossey staked the Wildcats to a 1-0 lead 2:34 into the game with a goal assisted by Evan Swieczkowski.

He doubled Plymouth's lead to 2-0 with 2:6 to play in the second period when he rifled his team's 17th shot of the period past Messler. Swieczkowski and Noel Aspenwall assisted.

Jossey completed his natural hat trick when he controlled a pass from senior captain Jerry Pitts and deposited the puck into the back of the net top shelf. Colin Rolfe also earned an assist on the goal.

Aspenwall added an insurance lamp-lighter with 8:04 left when he scored on a rebound shot with the Wildcats two players down.

Franklin coach Scott Wirgau said the game was a disappointing ending to a season that saw the Patriots triple their win total from a year ago.

"I think Plymouth came out and expected us to play better than we

did and we expected to play better than we did," said Wirgau, a first-year coach. "We were a lot flatter than they were and they seemed to want it more than we did."

"We wanted Plymouth. We felt we matched up well against Plymouth and we came in on an emotional high. We had a really good game last Saturday and we had a great practice yesterday, so we were confident. Maybe over-confident."

Wirgau praised Messler, who stopped 43-of-47 shots.

"He keeps us in every game we play," Wirgau said. "We're really going to miss him next year."

A scary incident marred the final minute of the game. Franklin's Carson Gurski was checked head-first into the boards behind the Wildcats' net. He laid

on the ice for approximately five minutes before getting assisted off by a pair of teammates.

Wirgau said Gurski had suffered poor thumb, collarbone and back injuries. An ambulance arrived at Edgar Arena a short time after the game's conclusion.

Rolfe, meanwhile, was disqualified for the hit and cannot play in the Wildcats' Regional final contest Friday night.

FRANKLIN 5, WL CENTRAL 2: In the regular season finale Feb. 23, Livonia Franklin (9-13-2) scored three times in the final period to beat Walled Lake Central in a WLAA crossover at the Lakeland Ice Arena. Erik Volk led the Patriots with two goals and one assist. David Muller assisted on three of the goals, including two by Volk. Robbie Beattie, Brandon Pump and Tyler Barnes also scored goals for Franklin. Other assists went to Jordan Short, Alex Wypych and Dalton Pennington.

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SPARTANS

FROM PAGE B1

goals, but the first two were open nettiers. One comes off the glass and you don't practice against that kind of bounce."

At the 9:43 of the first period, Bekkala ripped a shot high off the backboard from the point and senior captain Sean Lerg was right on the spot, poking home the rebound for a 1-0 Stevenson lead. Voran also drew an assist on the power-play goal.

In the second period, Churchill senior Nate Milam notched his 45th goal of the season, a power-play effort, at 3:27 on a high drive from the right point that eluded Stevenson senior netminder Pat McHugh. Assists went to Josh Proben and Stefan Kubus.

The Spartans regained the lead, 2-1, at 8:37 of the same period on Voran's power-play goal off a scramble in front of the Churchill net with Vella and Baratono assisting.

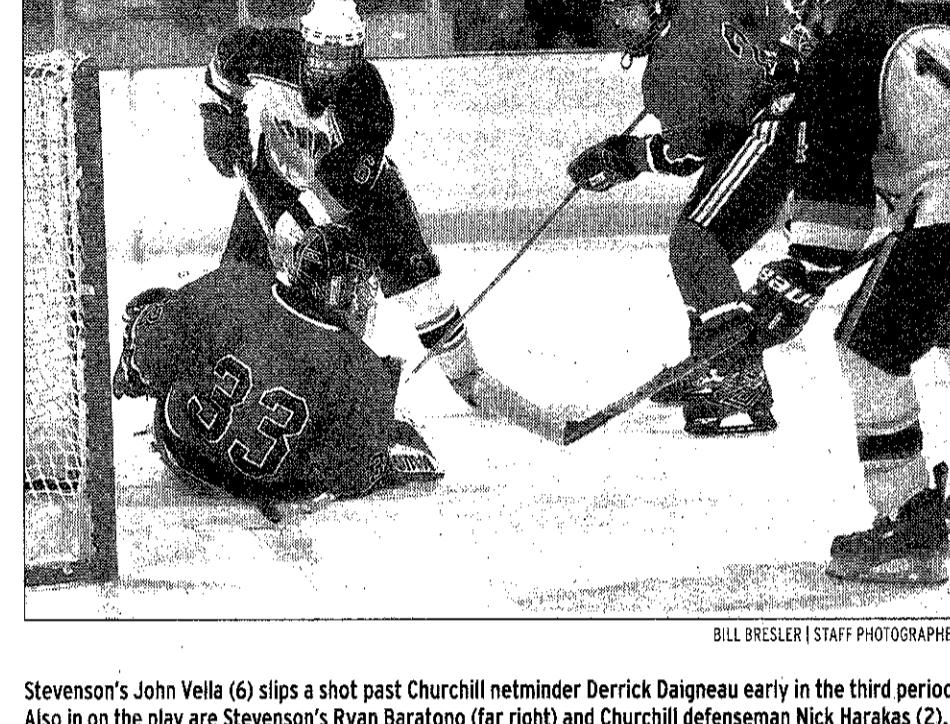
But before the second period had ended, Churchill's Cody Atkins was whistled for a high stick and Garrett Miencier was sent off for delay of game after being ridden hard into the boards behind the Stevenson net.

"We wanted to get out of the five-on-three and we wanted to get back to a five-on-five," Mazzoni said. "When you're in the box, all you do is chase and play catch-up, which doesn't win hockey games. They (Stevenson) were more disciplined and deserved to win."

Once Stevenson padded its lead to three goals, the Spartans continue to forecheck with abandon.

"That was the design," Mitchell said. "We wanted to keep the pressure on them and not allow them the time and the space because they're a good hockey club. And I guess we were able to do that tonight."

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Stevenson's John Vella (6) slips a shot past Churchill netminder Derrick Daigneau early in the third period. Also in on the play are Stevenson's Ryan Baratono (far right) and Churchill defenseman Nick Harakas (2).

And when called upon, McHugh (23 saves) was consistent and steady.

"Pat has been good for us all year," Mitchell said. "And when you're in a tourney situation, you've got to have somebody back there. He did a heck of a job for us tonight."

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MARCH / APRIL

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 CWS	2	3	4 KC	5 CWS	6 CWS	7
8 CWS	9	10 BOS	11 BOS	12 CWS	13 CWS	14 CWS
15 CWS	16 MIN	17 MIN	18 TOR	19 TOR	20 TOR	21 TOR
22 TOR	23 TOR	24 TOR	25 TEX	26 TEX	27 LAA	28 LAA
29 LAA	30 NYV	31 NYV				

MAY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 NYV	2 NYV	3 MIN	4 MIN	5 NYV	6 NYV	7 NYV
8 MIN	9 BOS	10 BOS	11 BOS	12 NYV	13 NYV	14 NYV
15 NYV	16 MIN	17 KC	18 KC	19 ARZ	20 ARZ	21 ARZ
22 ARZ	23 SEA	24 SEA	25 SEA	26 SEA	27 MIN	28 MIN
29 MIN	30 LAA	31 LAA	32 LAA	33 SEA	34 SEA	35 SEA

JUNE

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 SEA	2 DAK	3 OAK	4 OAK	5 SEA	6 SEA	7 SEA
8 OAK	9 SEA	10 SEA	11 SEA	12 SEA	13 SEA	14 SEA
15 SEA	16 SF	17 SF	18 SF	19 SF	20 SD	21 SD
22 SD	23 STL	24 STL	25 STL	26 STL	27 COL	28 COL
29 COL	30 MIN					

JULY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 MIN	2 MIN	3 SEA	4 SEA	5 SEA	6 SEA	7 SEA
8 SEA	9 CLE	10 CLE	11 CLE	12 CLE	13 CLE	14 CLE
15 MIN	16 KC	17 KC	18 SF	19 SF	20 BAL	21 BAL
22 BAL	23 KC	24 KC	25 KC	26 KC	27 CWS	28 CWS
29 CWS	30 CLE	31 CLE				

AUGUST

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 TB	2 TB	3 CWS	4 CWS	5 CWS		

Full-court tactics

Chargers exit under Thurston's pressure

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Redford Thurston's quick start carried the Eagles to a 60-49 Class A district boys semifinal victory Wednesday night over Livonia Churchill in a game played at Livonia Stevenson.

Thurston forced 13 first-half turnovers that led to transition points - and held off the Chargers to move on to the district championship.

The Eagles, now 19-3 overall, will face Farmington High (13-9) for the title beginning at 7 p.m. Friday at Stevenson.

The Falcons stymied Redford Union in the other semifinal on Wednesday, 43-24.

Tallying 15 and 13 points for Thurston, respectively, were senior forward Delmichael Youngblood and junior guard Josh Miller.

Adding 11 points, all in the second half, was senior forward Jarmel Bloodsaw.

Junior guard Greg Morgan finished with nine points and four assists, but seven of his points came in the first quarter to help the Eagles get going.

Still, the Eagles had some

BOYS DISTRICT HOOPS

anxious moments during the second half, largely because of Churchill 6-foot-3 senior forward Ryan Rosenick (11 points, 12 rebounds).

Rosenick powered his way to several baskets and had a lot to do with keeping Thurston players from driving the lane during portions of the contest.

Churchill (12-9) did close the gap to 37-33 early in the third on a Rosenick layup and it was 43-37 late in the frame following a basket by senior forward Nick Seger, who finished with seven points.

But a timely triple by Bloodsaw and a layup by Miller, after he stole the ball near mid-court, bumped Thurston's lead to double digits once again.

Key moments down the stretch for Thurston included back-to-back field goals by Bloodsaw with less than three minutes left, to make it a 56-43 margin.

"That gave us some breathing room," said Eagles' head coach Brian Bates. "We needed that. We were struggling with what they were doing to us."

Bates had praise for the hard-nosed effort turned in by Rosenick.

"Rosenick's so good, I was really worried about him crashing the boards," Bates said. "But I thought we rebounded well, too, although it was by committee."

Churchill head coach Jim Solak said the applause that fans gave Rosenick near the end of the game couldn't have been more appropriate.

"He's done that for three years now, he's going to be hard to replace," Solak said. "He averages 12 rebounds a game and he just plays his heart out every game."

"I'm proud of where he came from as a sophomore to where he finished."

Junior guard Ryan Woods led the Chargers in scoring with 15 points.

Solak said his team just made too many costly turnovers, which resulted in too deep of a hole to escape.

"We made a couple nice runs in the second half," he said. "But during one stretch we missed five out of six free throws and two open threes. When you're coming from behind, you need to convert those. But the kids never gave up."

GLENN

FROM PAGE B1

Country Day. The Eagles also defeated Detroit Pershing.

"We certainly respected them (Glenn) going into this game," Romulus coach Nate Oats said. "They're a well-coached team and they run a great motion offense.

"But I don't think they've seen the kind of defense we played all year and that's a credit to our schedule. We're used to playing at a high level."

Glenn committed total of 20 turnovers and shot only

13-of-39 from the floor. The Rockets, usually money at the foul line, shot an uncharacteristic 12-of-18.

Romulus senior forward Devin Pankey gave Glenn fits with a game-high 19 points, while Will Clyburn and Martell Anderson chipped in with 13 and 12, respectively.

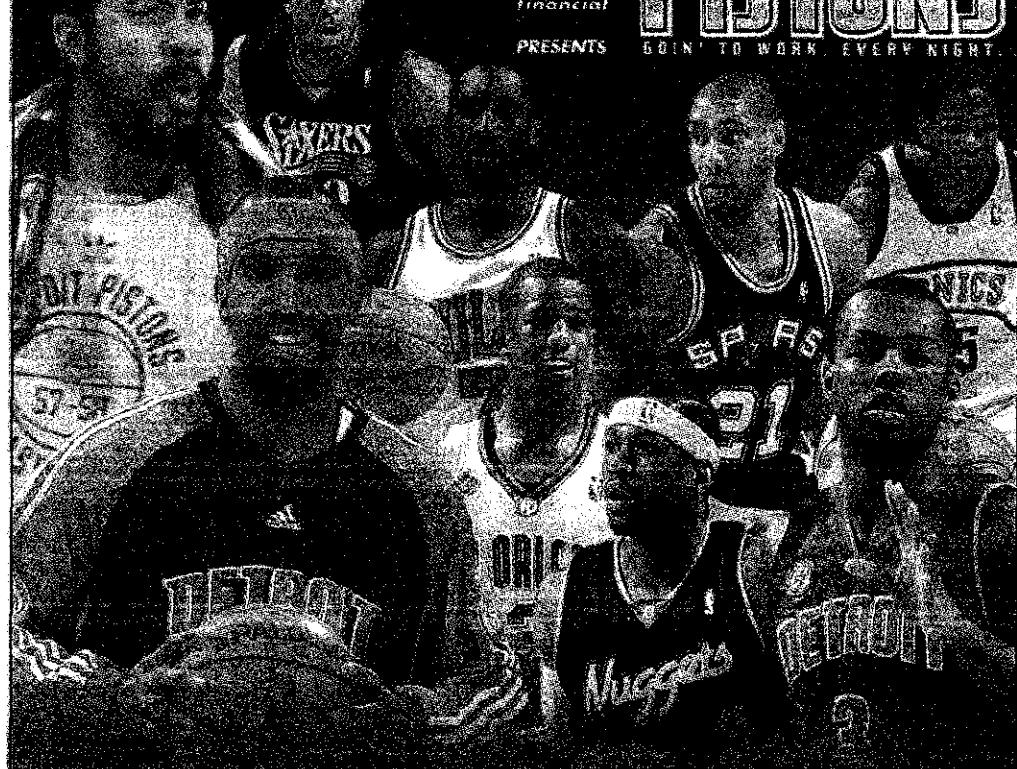
Iowa State signee Dominique Buckley, the team's senior point guard, finished with six points, but dished out eight assists and controlled the action.

Glenn's only player to score in double figures was senior forward Stefan Marken, who finished with 15 points.

Senior point-guard Keshawn Martin added 11, while the team's leading scorer, Earl Hardison, wound up with just six.

"We wanted to deny Keshawn everything, pressure their other guard Austin (Anderson) and stay up on Earl," Oats said. "We also did a great job keeping Earl off the boards. We decided not to guard their screens 20-feet off the ball and sag more inside because they like to play off that and drive. I think it took some of their aggression away."

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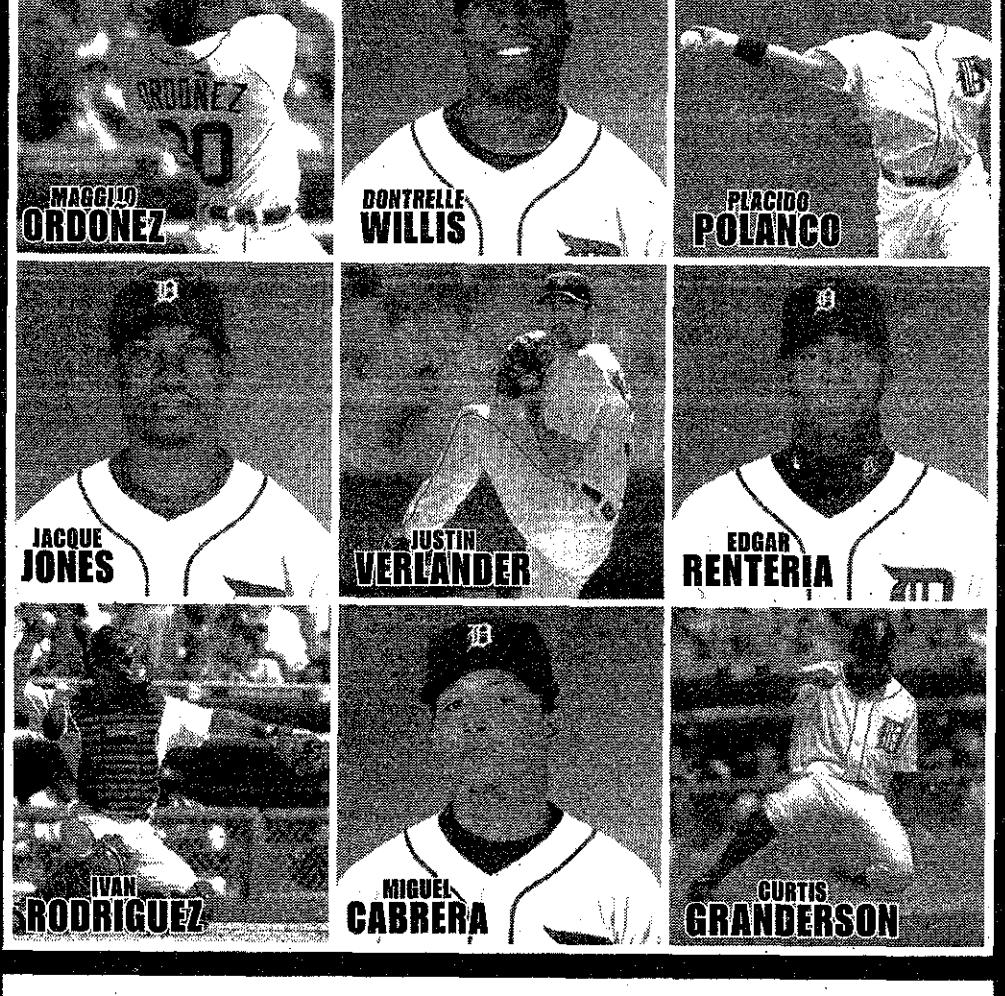
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HEALTH

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Preventive medicine

Drug could prevent kidney damage from dyes

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
O&E STAFF WRITER

Dr. Aine Kelly suspects the average patient is unaware of the risks for kidney damage from the dye used to provide contrast in computed tomography (CT) scans. Patients usually receive the dye or contrast agent intravenously before an angiogram, angioplasty, or CT scan which uses X-rays to produce cross-sectional images of the body.

The good news is that a recent study found that an inexpensive drug, N-acetylcysteine, taken beforehand can protect patients at risk of kidney damage from the iodine-containing contrast agent.

Kelly, an medical doctor and assistant professor in the radiology department at the University of Michigan Medical School, led researchers in analyzing data from 41 randomized controlled studies of drugs to reduce the chance of contrast-induced kidney damage during angiograms which use the same dye as CT scans. She suggests patients ask their health care provider prior to undergoing a CT scan about the possibility they could be at risk for nephropathy, the medical term for dye-induced kidney damage. About 25 percent of high-risk patients suffer kidney damage from the dyes. In the study published in the *Annals of Internal Medicine* in February on the effectiveness of drugs for preventing

contrast-induced kidney damage, N-acetylcysteine offered protection and cost about 25 cents.

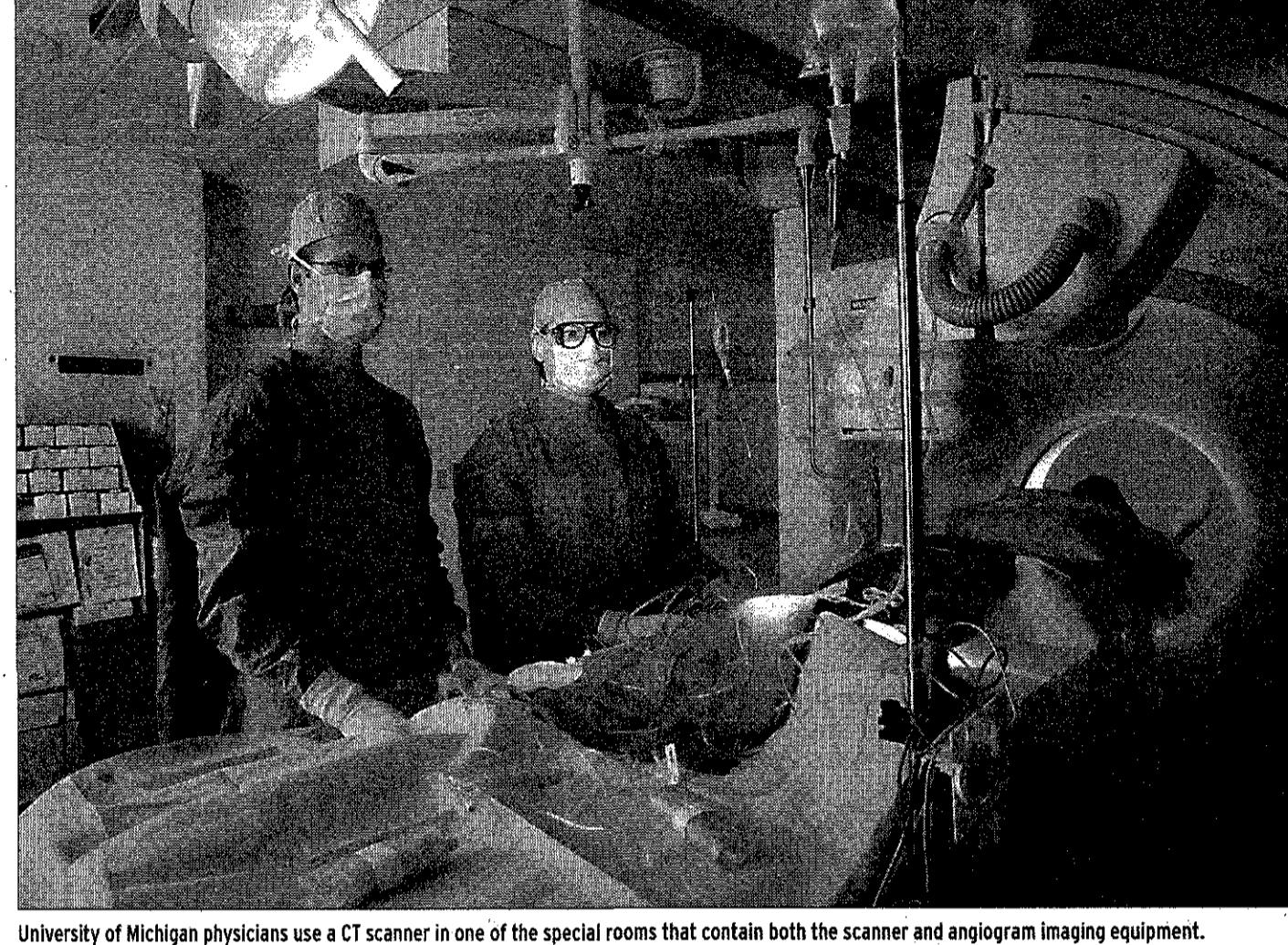
"The contrast agent impairs the excretory function," said Kelly. "The work unit of the kidneys is the nephron. Some blood vessels are constricted and toxic substances don't get excreted as well, stay in the blood stream and cause problems. In some patients there's a possibility that a transplant or dialysis might be needed. Sometimes it can be a life or death thing. If it shuts down completely, the kidneys could be permanently damaged."

Even patients without kidney problems should probably request a blood test to determine creatinine levels. A rise in creatinine indicates the kidneys aren't functioning efficiently.

"There is a small risk (even for normal kidneys) for about one in 10. They'll get it for two or three days until it is excreted in the urine," said Kelly. "My advice is if middle-aged or older, there's no harm to be aware of your kidney function. They should probably have kidney function checked."

"Second is to drink lots of fluid. It helps flush the contrast out. Drink lots of clear liquids not alcohol, but make sure your doctor doesn't have you on a special diet. A lot of times, fluid is restricted for kidney problems."

Although the initial analysis looked at angiogram data only, Kelly's future plan is to study CT scan patients



University of Michigan physicians use a CT scanner in one of the special rooms that contain both the scanner and angiogram imaging equipment.

to see if N-acetylcysteine or another drug like theophylline could lower the risk of kidney damage caused by contrast agents. Kelly specifically came to this country to do research at the University of Michigan after working as a physician in Ireland and then training as a radiologist in the United Kingdom. She decided to do the study after talking to colleagues who were giving patients N-acetylcysteine pre-scan. She was curious as to whether

there was evidence the drug offered protection against contrast-induced kidney damage so she could better advise colleagues and patients. Kelly says the problem of kidney damage is not a recent one.

"It's probably been happening all along," said Kelly. "The studies went back 15 years. CT took off in the '80s and early '90s. Angiograms have been around for 30 years. I suspect patients are unaware of it from talking

with patients and my own friends and relatives."

The benefits of CT scans and angiograms still outweigh the risk of kidney damage from the contrast agent.

"In most situations when a CT scan is ordered it's to answer a serious situation," said Kelly, "a patient is suspected of having cancer or a clot in the lung, or a kidney stone which needs to be diagnosed and specific treatment begun quite soon."

Kelly is hopeful that

researchers will soon find a safer way to diagnose diseases. She has seen progress over her 12 years in radiology.

"Contrast agents are getting better," said Kelly. "We have different contrast agents. Contrast agents are becoming less toxic than they used to be. It's certainly become much less of a problem. Maybe we could make it such a tiny risk it would be less of a worry."

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(734) 953-2145

Vibration platform tightens abs

Brad from Wixom e-mails asking if there is anything he can do to tone up his abs. He has been trying crunches and ab work, but he still feels flabby.

Brad, you may want to try a vibration platform. A new study found standing on a vibration platform for only 15 minutes a day could help you get those washboard abs.



Peter's Principles

Peter Nielsen

Researchers put mice on a vibrating platform for 15 minutes a day for 15 weeks. At the end of the study they found the mice had 27 percent fewer abdominal fat cells. They also saw a decrease in triglycerides in the liver. Now those are some well-toned mice!!

One more note, the mice did not lose weight, but experts believe the vibration changes fat distribution in a beneficial way. Experts believe humans can achieve the same results. I have actually been on one of these platforms and it is a great workout!

Pam from Keego Harbor e-mails about her teenage son. He smokes and she is worried he may be doing more. What can she do?

Pam, it is crucial to get your son to quit smoking because it may lead to more unhealthy behavior. A new study found teenagers who smoke are five times more likely to drink and 13 times more likely to use marijuana. Experts believe the nicotine in tobacco products can produce structural and chemical changes in the brain that can cause teens to be more vulnerable to alcohol and other drugs. Researchers also found teenagers who smoke have a higher risk of depression and anxiety disorders. It is time to get them to quit, now!

If you have a health or fitness question you would like answered in the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, e-mail Peter through his Web site www.peternielsen.com. Contact him Peter Nielsen's Personal Training Club in West Bloomfield or Nielsen's Town Center Health Club in Southfield.

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

MARCH

Food for thought

Workshop with Dr. William Karl, D.C., on how nutrition affects health and longevity 7 p.m. Monday, March 3, at the Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile, east of Farmington Rd.

No charge. Call (734) 425-8588 for more information and to reserve your seat.

Exercise boot camps

Begins Monday, March 3, 6-7 a.m. Monday-Friday (\$300) or Monday, Wednesday and Friday (\$180) for four weeks, and 6:30-7:30 p.m. Monday, Tuesday and Thursday (\$180), at Total Life Fitness Building, 9562 Telegraph, Redford. One day women only boot camp Saturday, March 1 (\$60). Space limited to first 15 people. Call (313) 561-LIFE or (313) 622-2837.

Breastfeeding classes

10:30 a.m. to noon Monday, March 3, 10 and 17, at the Oakland County Health Division, 27725 Greenfield, Southfield. Classes for mother and baby are taught by public health nurses and cover everything from pumping to starting solids and weaning. Information targeted to first year of breastfeeding. For information or to register, call (248) 858-4003 or (888) 350-0900, Ext. 84003.

Sharing & Caring

Dinner and support for newly diagnosed breast cancer patients and their partners with Annette Spencer, 6:30 p.m. Thursday, March 6, at Beaumont Hospital Cancer Center, Royal Oak. Sharing & Caring offers education and support programs for breast cancer survivors. For reservations, call (248) 551-8585.

Fibromyalgia lecture

7-9 p.m. Tuesday, March 4, with Dr. Peter Ianni, a behavioral pain psychologist, present a demonstration of surface EMG and Biofeedback at the Farmington Community Library, 32737 West 12 Mile, Farmington Hills. RSVP a few days before the lecture if you will be attending, by sending e-mail to smo23915@aol.com. Cost is \$5 to help pay for the cost of the room. For more information, call (248) 344-0896. Loren DeVinney, P.T. will discuss the role of physical therapy in the treatment of fibromyalgia and how Biofeedback and physical therapy complement each other in a multidisciplinary treatment program. There will also be a round table question discussion. New Fibromyalgia patients, spouses or friends are welcome to attend the meeting.

Workshop series

Teens Using Drugs: What To Know and What To Do, an ongoing series, is presented by Ronald Harrison, SW in the St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center, Classroom EC4, 5305 Elliott, Ypsilanti. Part One: What To Know, runs 7:30-9 p.m. Tuesday, March 4, and provides information on understanding and recognizing teen substance abuse problems. For details, call (734) 973-7892, send e-mail to jessa@med.umich.edu or visit www.teensusingdrugs.org.

Think trim class

Give up dieting and find out why willpower or deprivation never work. Instead change your thinking about food and learn how to develop a healthy approach to eating and exercise. You won't have to give up the foods you love and you'll acquire skills to be trim and healthy for a lifetime. Class

takes place 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, March 5, at The Community House, 380 S. Bates, Birmingham (\$24). Presented by Loraine Stefano, A.C.S.W. For details, call (248) 828-7333 or visit thinktrim.com.

Smoking cessation clinic

With Dr. Arthur Weaver 10:30 a.m. to noon March 7, 10-14, and 17, at Metropolitan Seventh-day Adventist Church fellowship room, 15585 Haggerty, north of Five Mile. For more information, call (248) 349-5683.

Low vision support group

Meets 1-3 p.m. on the first Thursday of each month at the Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main. For more information, call Ellen Stross at (734) 453-0750, Ext. 232.

Divorce support group

Group discussion 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, March 11, Attorney Patricia Kasody-Coyle will also be available to answer questions on a first come, first served basis, in the Women's Resource Center (room 225) of the McDowell Center, Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty, Livonia. Call (734) 462-4443.

Fibromyalgia support

The Metro Fibromyalgia and CFS Support Group features speaker Esther Morton on Pain Relief at Your Fingertips, Serenity ear acupressure program 1-3 p.m. Thursday, March 13, at Merriman Road Baptist Church, 2055 Merriman, south of Ford. Donations accepted. Group meets monthly on second Thursday. For information, call Lucy Rowley at (734) 462-1768.

Vegetarian seminar

Nutrition and cooking seminar 2:30-5:30 p.m. Sunday, March 16, at Plymouth Seventh-day Adventist Church fellowship room, 4295 Napier, between Ann Arbor and Warren roads. Lectures by a physician and nutritionist will be followed by cooking demonstrations with recipes and menu plans. Suggested donation is \$10 per person. To register, call (248) 349-5683 or (313) 531-2179.

Art of aging

Ninth annual Art of Aging Successfully 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday, March 27, at Greater Grace Temple, 23500 W. 7 Mile, Detroit icon Sonny Elliot talks about his decades of working in radio and TV and his personal triumphs and tragedies. Cost \$18 for age 55 and older; includes sit-down lunch. To register, call Donna at (313) 573-2297. Hosted by the Institute of Gerontology at Wayne State University.

PLAY Project Level I Workshop

With Rick Solomon, M.D., 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 29, for family members of children with autism and education and health care professionals, at The Futures HealthCare Therapy Center, 3231 South Gulley, Dearborn. Visit www.futurestherapycenter.com or call Dawn Ham-Kucharski at (734) 407-2500, Ext. 459.

Volunteers needed

For Camp Discovery for children with epilepsy (June 29 to July 3), at Sherman Lake YMCA Outdoor Center in Augusta, northwest of Kalamazoo.

Volunteer training from experts on epilepsy and camp procedures Saturday, June 28. Free room and board. For information or an application, visit [www.epilepsymichigan.org](http://epilepsymichigan.org), call (800) 377-6226, option 1, Ext. 231, or send e-mail to sdarroch@epilepsymichigan.org.

'Do You See What I See' campaign raises awareness about vision loss

Do You See What I See? For seniors who suffer with an eye disease known as Age-related Macular Degeneration (AMD) the answer is always no because the central area of the retina known as the macula is losing function. The retina is made up of layers of nerve cells that sense light and allow you to see.

Picture a large black hole in the center of your sight that robs you from seeing complete images and eats away at your vision from the inside out. That is what happens for 10 million Americans who suffer from AMD, a devastating eye disease and the leading cause of vision loss in people 65 years or older in the U.S.

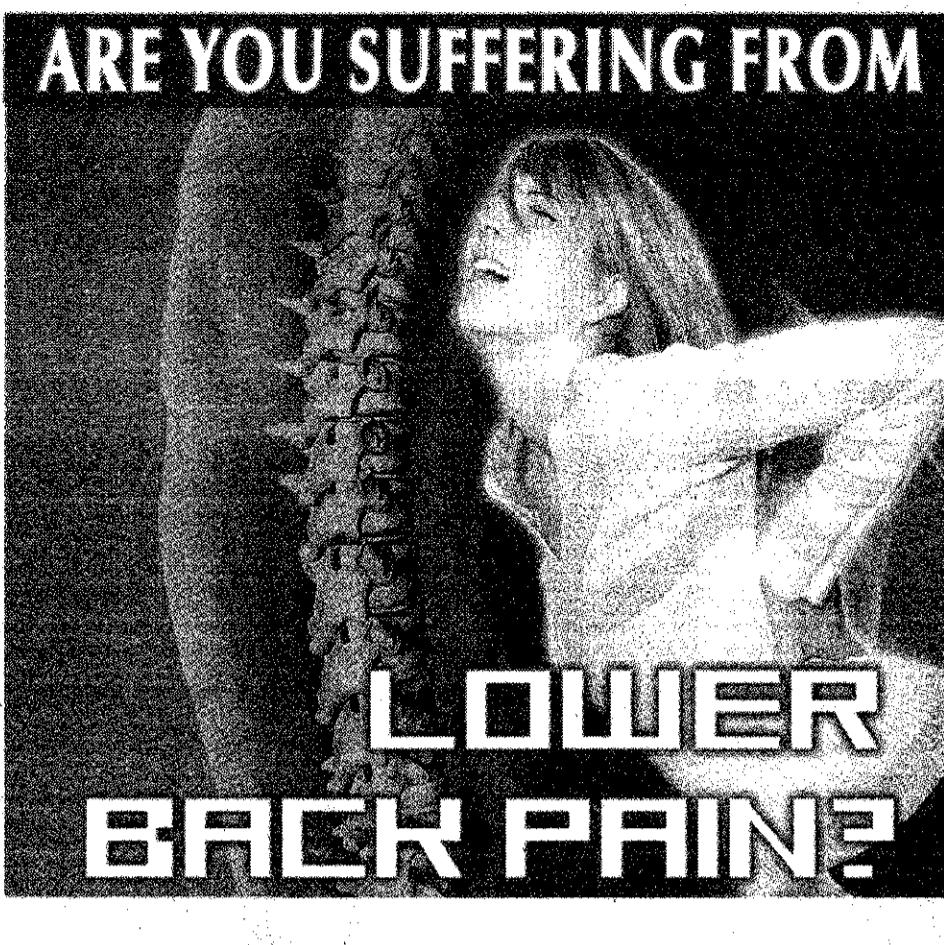
In honor of March's AMD Awareness Month, EyeCare America is launching a campaign to educate people about risk factors (age, race, family history) and treatment options. For seniors who have not been diagnosed with AMD, the national organization would like to connect those people with a free eye exam through its AMD EyeCare Program. The eye exams will be provided by more than 7,000 volunteer ophthalmologists across the U.S. For more information, call (866) 324-EYES (3937). Eyeglasses, medicines, hospital services and fees of other medical professionals are not included.

"There is no cure for AMD, but early detection and treatment may lessen severe vision loss and slow the progression of the disease," said Dr. William Tasman, chairman of the EyeCare America program.

To supplement its award-winning referral program, EyeCare America has recently created a new Web site specifically designed to assist online users in learning more about eye problems such as AMD. The site, eyecareamerica.org, contains up-to-date clinical information about AMD and other eye diseases reviewed by certified ophthalmologists with links to current treatments and an interactive tour of the eye's anatomy. Visitors can share important health topics with family and friends through a convenient e-mail forward function and order free brochures that give in-depth information on treatment, tests/diagnosis, and causes and risk factors for a wide variety of common eye diseases.

Other easy to use functions include online tools such as a vision simulator which allows users to see how vision would be affected from common eye diseases, and informative videos created by the American Academy of Ophthalmology that will provide visitors with a complete interactive experience.

Established in 1985, EyeCare America, the public service program of the Foundation of the American Academy of Ophthalmology, is committed to the preservation of sight by providing eye care services to the medically underserved and for those at increased risk for eye disease. More than 90 percent of the care made available is provided at no out-of-pocket cost to the patients. EyeCare America includes programs for seniors, glaucoma, diabetes, AMD, and children.



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Clinical studies have shown that "spinal adjustments applied by chiropractors are shown to be more effective than alternative treatments for low back pain," and that "the percentage of chiropractic patients who were very satisfied with the care they received for low back pain was triple that for patients of family physicians and general practitioners." Regular chiropractic care is also a highly effective form of care for discomfort caused by pregnancy, sciatica, and pain caused by disks that are herniated, wedged, bulging, or protruding.

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Daniel Laframboise, DC

Dr. Dan holds both a Fellowship and a Diplomate in Chiropractic Pediatrics through the International Chiropractic Pediatric Association.

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S'craft women reach tourney final with win over Muskegon

COLLEGE HOOPS

MU decks Cardinals

A 22-5 run to end the first half catapulted the Schoolcraft College women's basketball team to a 78-57 triumph Friday over Muskegon CC in the semifinals of the Michigan Community College Athletic Association tournament held at Flint Mott CC.

Schoolcraft, 26-3 overall, trailed 20-19 with six minutes left in the half before taking control and taking a 41-25 advantage at intermission.

Janelle Harris led Lady Ocelots with 18 points and 11 rebounds, while Antoinette Brown chipped in with 14 points and eight rebounds.

Heidi Warczinsky finished with 11 points, 10 assists and eight rebounds, while Sheray Brown finished with 10 points and 10 rebounds for the Eastern Conference champions.

Lenisha Williams led Muskegon (24-3) with 18 points.

Freshman forward Tabatha Wydryck scored 21 points lifting the fourth-seeded Madonna University women's basketball team to a 70-51 Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference first-round playoff win Thursday night at home over Concordia University.

The Crusaders, 13-16 overall, took on WHAC regular season co-champion Davenport University (27-4) in a semifinal game Saturday in Grand Rapids.

Wydryck, who hit 8-of-13

shots from the floor including 4-of-7 from three-point range, got plenty of support as Cali Crawford and Christie Carrico each added 13 points. Carrico also grabbed 11 rebounds, while Crawford dished out six assists.

Caryn Inman chipped in with 12 for the Crusaders, who led 37-

29 at halftime. Jennifer O'Neil scored 13 points and grabbed nine rebounds for the Cardinals, who finished 14-17 overall.

Lady Ocelots win opener

Eastern Conference top seed Schoolcraft College opened Michigan Community College Athletic Association playoff action Wednesday with a 66-56 win over visiting St. Clair County CC.

Antoinette Brown paced the nationally-ranked Lady Ocelots, now 25-3 overall, with 18 points. Heidi Warczinsky added 11, while Janelle Harris finished with nine points and 11 rebounds.

Sheray Brown also helped the Schoolcraft cause with eight points and seven rebounds.

Kim Lackowski and Kelly Burton led the Lady Skippers (13-15), who trailed 37-28 at intermission, with 22 and 15 points, respectively.

REMATCH

FROM PAGE B1

ready to play and last Thursday hurt. We talked all season about winning a league championship and it hurt. We felt horrible about it and we paid a hard price."

It was a different Keshawn Martin, meanwhile, than in the previous meeting for Glenn.

The 6-foot speedy senior point-guard, who led the Rockets with 22 points, put on a dazzling first-half performance with his penetrating moves and dribble drives.

The Michigan State football signee also drained a pair of first-half 3-pointers as Glenn led by as many as 17 early in the second period.

"We were on our heels early in the game and that's the best Keshawn played against us in the three games," Wayne coach Wayne Woodard said. "He took the ball to the basket hard and hit outside shots."

"He's a great athlete. I watched him on the football field and he's the best athlete on the floor."

Despite finding itself mired in

a deep hole, Wayne rebounded during the second quarter behind the three-point shooting of 5-11 senior guard Martez Abney, who came out smoking with four consecutive triples to start the period.

Abney tallied 15 of his game-high 25 points to spark a 22-13 second-quarter run as the Zebras clawed back to within six at intermission, 36-30.

"The 1-3-1 we hadn't seen before," Woodard said. "We did not expect it. We had to take a timeout to get our shooters in the right shooting spots."

Martin, however, scored six points in the third quarter as the Rockets re-upped their lead to 55-43.

But Wayne refused to fold, slicing the deficit to five, with only 3:05 remaining on Abney's fifth triple of the game.

Martin then answered by kissing a high-banker off the glass on a drive with 2:35 remaining to push Glenn's lead back up to seven, 59-52, and the Rockets were able to hang on for the victory.

"Offensively we were just better," said Young, whose team hit

23-of-53 shots from the floor after going 14-of-55 in the previous meeting. "We were sharing the ball and the tempo allowed us to get in the flow. It also helped us on the defensive end."

Senior forward Earl Hardison chipped in with 13 points and 12 rebounds for the victorious Rockets, while junior Austin Anderson scored 11 and dished out eight assists. Stefan Marken contributed eight points.

Wayne, meanwhile, connected on 22-of-52 shots from the floor.

"We knew they (Wayne) could score in a lot of different areas," Young said. "We just tried to do some things to slow them up."

Senior guard Mike Lee, who torched Glenn for 32 in the WLAA final, finished with 18. Jeremy Lovelady added seven as the Zebras bowed out with a 19-3 record.

"We just did not defend early in the game," Woodard said. "We gave up transition layups. We were down 15 right off the start and you can't afford to do that against a good team. We cut it to five (points) and had a couple of chances, but just didn't get over the hump."

Madonna men pass first WHAC test

D.J. Bridges scored 18 points and Charlie Henry added 17 as the Madonna University's men's basketball team earned a spot in Saturday's Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference semifinals with a hard-fought 70-67 win Wednesday night over visiting Siena Heights.

The Crusaders, 19-12 overall, overcame a 37-32 halftime deficit

and will travel Saturday to Fort Wayne to face 19-12 Indiana Tech. (Game time is 3 p.m.)

Jon Battle, a transfer from Indiana Tech, added 13 points.

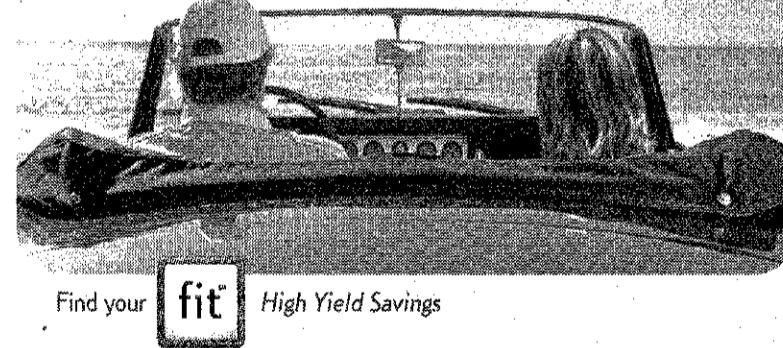
Cedric Sims (Wayne Memorial) contributed nine points and a team-high 10 rebounds. Keith Hearns (Livonia Stevenson) came off the bench to score eight.

The Crusaders won despite hitting 14-of-27 free throws (51.9 percent). MU was 23-of-55 from the field (41.8 percent).

Sean Nowaczyk led Siena Heights (10-21) with 16 points, while Corey Umfress and Brian chipped in with 12 and 11, respectively.

Champine also grabbed 10 rebounds.

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Hugh Gallagher, editor (734) 953-2149. hgallagher@hometownlife.com



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The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

www.hometownlife.com



PHOTOS BY TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Christian Cash as Jean-Paul Marat and Stephanie Lee as Simonne Evrard rehearse a scene from 'Marat/Sade,' a drama which takes place in an insane asylum. Marat is stabbed to death by Charlotte Corday (played by Melissa Humphrey, not pictured) while taking a bath.

This is madness

'Marat/Sade' deals with dark side of human nature

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Michael Ludlum likes to think of Hannibal Lecter, the serial killer in the *Silence of the Lambs*, when re-creating the Marquis de Sade. The Canton man plays the French aristocrat in the Schoolcraft College production of *Marat/Sade* opening March 21.

Marat/Sade is a play within a play, and based in part on history. De Sade, for whom sadism was named, wrote plays while an inmate in an insane asylum in Paris. Set in 1808 in an asylum where patients are putting on a play, the drama culminates with the assassination of revolutionary journalist Jean-Paul Marat in a flashback to 1793. Marat and de Sade spend much of the play debating relevant issues of the time.

Besides learning his lines Ludlum had to research the period after the French Revolution. He is a part-time Web development instructor at the college who's fairly new to acting. He appeared in his first Schoolcraft play, Shakespeare's *Measure for Measure*, last season.

"I analyzed the character and the historical figure," said Ludlum. "The Marquis de Sade wrote things in a very manipulative way to enforce his beliefs."

'MARAT/SADE'

What: Peter Weiss' drama about the Marquis de Sade, Jean-Paul Marat and patients in an insane asylum in early 1800s France
When: 6:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 21-22 and March 28-29 (dinner theater), and 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, April 4-5 (performance only)
Where: Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty, between Six Mile and Seven Mile, Livonia
Tickets: \$24 (dinner theater), \$12 (performance only). Vegetarian dinner available. Call (734) 462-4596.

James Hartman did his research before he took on the job of directing Peter Weiss' play at the University of Cincinnati many years ago. This is the third time the Schoolcraft College professor has staged the play. He warns, the production is not for children. Hartman remembers walking to the car with his stomach in knots after seeing the play at a theater in Cincinnati.

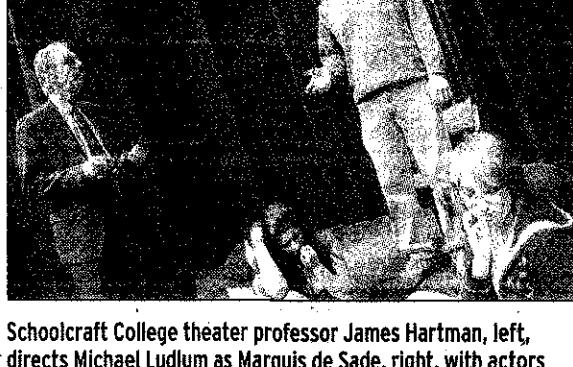
"I got permission to go through an asylum. I needed background information," said Hartman. "I saw some pitiful, awful and horrifying things some of which I put on stage, some things I could not. It was a scary experience."

Ever since directing the play 14 years ago at Schoolcraft College, Hartman says at least one audience member at

Please see MADNESS, C3



Trevor Wnuk as Herald rehearses a scene for the Schoolcraft College production of 'Marat/Sade.'



Schoolcraft College theater professor James Hartman, left, directs Michael Ludlum as Marquis de Sade, right, with actors from left, Diana Oswald, Lia Liade Blasi, and Paige Pavlos as they rehearse a scene from the college's production of 'Marat/Sade.'

Mama Jazz receives Salute to Women



Midge Ellis (right) received the Salute to Women Award from the Livonia Branch of the American Association of University Women at the annual luncheon. Janet Bennett (left) is chairperson for the award.

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Midge Ellis started promoting jazz back in high school in Kentucky. The 84-year-old Livonia woman hasn't stopped since. In recognition of her support for the music Ellis was recently presented with the 2007 Salute to Women award from the Livonia Branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW).

Once a year, women are nominated for their contributions to the community. Laura Callow received the award in 1978 for her work on behalf of furthering the Equal rights Amendment.

"We look for women who have made a contribution to the community and Midge certainly has made a number of contributions through her career. She actually improved not only life in Livonia but the region," said Callow, co-

president of the AAUW, Livonia branch. "She brought many musicians to the Clarenceville school district helping to further and preserve the true American art form which jazz is."

SCHOOL DAYS

Ellis chuckles when she remembers her student days in Corbin, Ky.

"The first band I hired was in high school. I was on the prom and year book committees and talked them into bringing a big band to the prom instead of a year book," said Ellis. "I've been promoting jazz since 1945. I started right after my husband got out of the service and we joined a country club and started bringing in bands for dances in Greenwood, Mississippi, then Baton Rouge."

Ellis has been bringing musicians to the Livonia area for nearly 40 years. Local jazz fans

were fortunate to be able to see and hear the big bands thanks to her efforts on behalf of the Clarenceville series. The big band concerts ran from 1969 to 1982 in the high school's Louis Schmidt Auditorium in Livonia.

"They had built the new auditorium. It was big and beautiful and the taxpayers were saying why do we have it," said Ellis.

"We brought in children's programs that didn't pay for themselves. I suggested bringing in bands. At the time big bands were traveling all over the country. We got Buddy Rich. He was the first."

Over the years Stan Kenton, Maynard Ferguson, Woody Herman, Harry James, and Count Basie were among the bands spotlighted on the series. While in town the musicians shared their knowledge with

Please see SALUTE, C2

Friendships need a break sometimes

I have a friend that gets into a lot of trouble ... I mean, A LOT of trouble. She's even been to juvie. She has spent a lot of time at my house but she keeps getting arrested for things. I want to help her and be a good friend to her, but now she's mad at me for hanging out with other friends. What should I do?
Caring Friend
Westland

It sounds like you really need to ask yourself if this is the kind of friend you want to have in your life. Have you been friends for a long time? How good of a friend is she to you? It sure sounds like you go out of your way for her ... does she go out of her way for you? Besides, it's OK to have lots of different friends. Why is this friend

angry that you've been hanging out with other people? Being possessive of you isn't being a good friend.

Sometimes, friendships need a break. Maybe this is a good time to take a breather from the friendship and explore other activities and other friends. You might want to ask your parents for help and support during this "break" so that you can think clearly about what you want in a friend. But, make sure you're not saying negative things about this friend to other people. Just because you two aren't getting along right now is no reason to be mean. And this includes teaming up with other friends to harass or bully this friend. Just focus on what you want and surround yourself with people that will help you, not hurt you.

I'm trying to stay sober but everyone around me drinks or uses drugs. My friends, my family ... everybody! What should I do?
Almost Sober
Garden City

It's important to surround yourself with people that are not using drugs or alcohol. If you're not comfortable attending Alcoholics Anonymous, you might want to try Al-Anon. There are lots of teens dealing with families that are alcohol or drug involved, as well as dealing with sobriety themselves. Many local churches, community centers, hospitals, and Salvation Army centers have AA, Al-Anon, and Al-Anon groups. One of the biggest things you can do to help yourself is to avoid places where there will be alcohol and/or drug use. If you're family is having a big celebration where you know most of them will be drinking heavily, choose not to go. But be prepared, your family isn't going to like it. Simply tell them that you aren't interested in being around a bunch of people that are drinking. Creating a new support circle of friends who don't use is important too. Seek out activities that don't involve alcohol and drugs, and you'll find people who don't drink or use drugs. Sounds simple enough - right? It's a little more challenging than that because you're using friends aren't going to like you breaking away from their circle. Just remember to keep your own best interests at the top of your list. You are in charge of realizing your goals ... make sure you're on the right road to get to them!

One of my really good friends recently died and I'm having a really hard time dealing with it. It's hard to see his parents, it's hard to go to school, it's hard to go to the movies ... everything reminds me of him. Help!
Grieving In Garden City

It is so hard to lose someone you care so much about. It's especially hard when that person is so young, with his whole life ahead of him. It is going to be hard to do things or go places without reminding you of the loss of your friend. It's important to recognize that this is normal. It's also important to understand that there are different stages of the grief process. Denial, anger, bargaining, and acceptance are all normal feelings. When we're in the denial stage, we almost don't remember that the person died. We look for the person in public places, we go to the phone to call the person, or we think about the person in the present tense. During the anger phase, we tend to feel angry at the person who left, angry at God, and angry that we don't have control over the situation. When we are in the bargaining stage, we tend to avoid doing things that we used to do with the person who died as a way of trying to keep the person alive in our minds. Finally, during acceptance, we can move forward in our lives and have memories of our loved one that brings a smile to our faces and lifts us up, rather than bringing us down. Give it time. Recognize that grief is a process. And by all means, talk to a school counselor, a parent, or another adult that you're comfortable with about what you're feeling. Reach out to other kids that knew your friend ... you might find out that you're not alone in how you feel.

Monica Fulton is the supervisor of the Family Resource Center in Garden City working on youth and family problems. She has a master of arts degree in clinical psychology. She can be reached at monicafulton@sbcglobal.net.

SALUTE

FROM PAGE C1

students. It was during this time the late *Detroit Free Press* columnist Bob Talbert gave Ellis the nickname, Mama Jazz. Talbert, who announced many of the concerts, began noticing how the musicians would go to Ellis to sew on buttons and take care of them like a mother.

"We had clinics and brought in jazz students. The 940 seats would be full. They would come in from high schools from all over Michigan," said Ellis.

NOT SLOWING DOWN

After 1982, Ellis was so busy as coordinator of special events at Schoolcraft College she didn't have time to book bands. Then in the early 1990s she and vibraphonist Jack Brokensha met with the owner of the Botsford Inn to bring jazz to the Farmington area on a weekly basis. The Jack Brokensha Quartet with Matt Michaels, Dan Jordan and Jerry McKenzie played the historic venue for several years as the Wednesday jazz nights were so popular.

Then Ellis was asked to use her organizational skills to coordinate the Michigan Jazz Festival, the dream of big band leaders Johnny Trudell and the late Emil Moro. The event had been held at Freedom Hill for the first time in 1995. For the next four years it was held at the Botsford Inn before outgrowing the space and moving in 1999 to Schoolcraft College where it continues to take place. The next event is scheduled for July 20, and as always showcases Michigan jazz music.

cians on multiple stages.

Ellis serves as vice president, treasurer and director of the annual event which means she organizes the fund-raisers to make the festival a reality. Right now she's working on the April 13 program featuring jazz pianist Cliff Monear and his group, the annual Father's Day brunch, and a fall fundraiser Oct. 12. For more information, call (248) 474-2720.

"We look for somebody who's done an outstanding job in the community (over a lifespan)," said Janet Bennett, chair of the Salute to Women award. "Midge provided that kind of support for jazz. She brought public attention to Louis Schmidt Auditorium which is marvelous for its acoustics and the Livonia Symphony now uses it. She made a real contribution."

Bennett was the one who informed Ellis that she was receiving the AAUW's Salute to Women. The award is hanging in place of honor in Ellis's living room.

"When she called and told me I'd won I couldn't believe it especially when it was for the education of jazz," said Ellis. "That's been my mission in life to teach about jazz so they can love it as much as I do. I love it because it's an American art form. It started here in the United States. The freedom in the music is what our forefathers fought for. There's such a freedom because of the improvisation. The musicians are not reading the music. They can play a solo one night and the next night not be the same. Each instrument plays such a vital part in the music."

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Livonia Symphony Orchestra celebrates springBY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The weatherman is calling for another 3 to 5-inches of snow but Tom Bjorklund doesn't seem to care. He's looking forward to the Livonia Symphony Orchestra's Marching into Spring concert Saturday, March 8, at Clarenceville High School Auditorium in Livonia.

On the program is Robert Schumann's *Spring Symphony* which was inspired by the February of 1841, *First Cuckoo of Spring* by Frederick Delius, and several marches. For sure the cuckoo calls that identify with nature should be fun and there's nothing like a rousing march to boost the spirits.

"The music committee has put together some neat pieces," said Bjorklund, president of the LSO board of directors.

"I'm looking forward to it. The Schumann symphony is going to be a lot of fun to listen to. I encourage people to come and listen."

"It's such a bargain to listen to our great musicians in an auditorium with great acoustics for a grand total of \$17 and only \$5 for students and children. We lowered the price (for chil-

MARCHING INTO SPRING

What: Livonia Symphony Orchestra concert featuring Schumann's 'Spring Symphony' and marches
When: 7:30 p.m. Saturday, March 8
Where: Clarenceville High School Auditorium, 20155 Middlebelt, south of Eight Mile, Livonia
Tickets: \$17 adults, \$5 children and students. Call (734) 421-1111 or visit www.livoniasympphony.org

dren and students) a couple of years ago and it's nice to see an increasing number of young people because they enjoy the music."

Like all nonprofits, the LSO continues to struggle to raise the funds to keep the LSO alive.

"It's not just our problem," said Bjorklund. "There's not a symphony orchestra in the country that can get by just with ticket sales. Fund raising is an important part. With the economy in Michigan as it is, I encourage people to send in their donations and attend the golf outing in June and the concerts."

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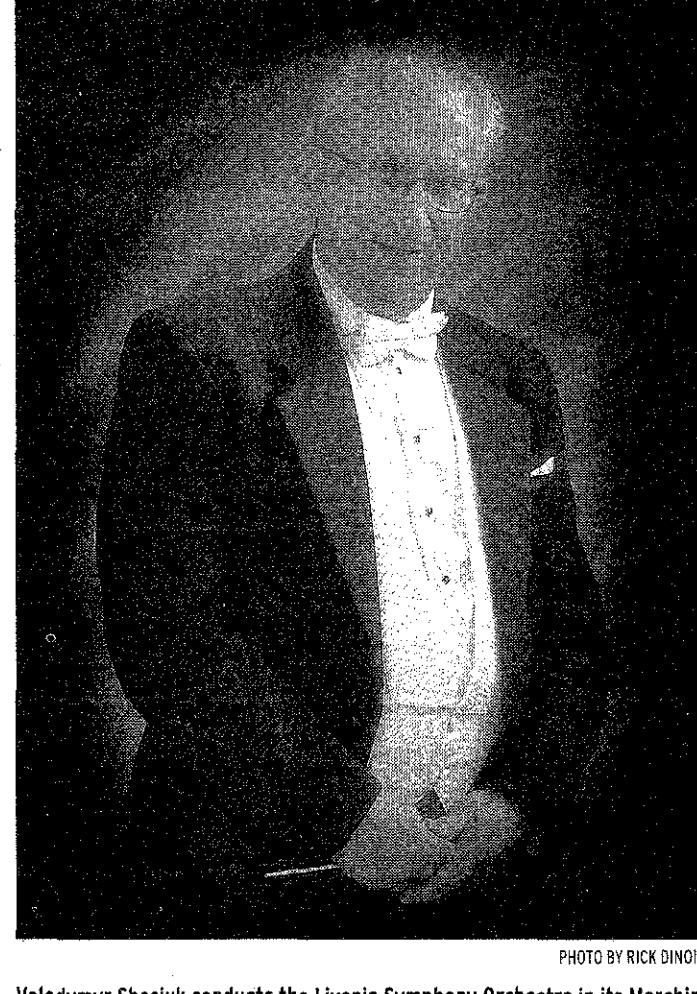


PHOTO BY RICK DINOTAN

Volodymyr Shesiuk conducts the Livonia Symphony Orchestra in its Marching into Spring concert on March 8.

Bowlathon to raise money for Goodwill work programs

Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit is registering teams for the first annual Goodwill's Motor City Bowlathon. The month long event, which culminates on March 31, encourages Metro Detroiters to bowl for Jobs at 11 area bowling centers in an effort to raise thousands of dollars to put people to work in Southeast Michigan. Bowling centers include Beech Lanes in Redford; Drakeshire Lanes, Farmington Hills; Mayflower Lanes, Redford; Thunderbird Lanes, Troy; Westland Bowl, Westland; and Woodland Lanes, Livonia.

Registration information and other details are available online at www.MotorCityBowlATHON.com. Blue Ribbon Quality Bowling Centers will host the event at 11 locations throughout Metro Detroit.

"The Bowlathon is an opportunity for families, co-workers, neighbors and friends to get together, have a fantastic time and contribute to a cause that impacts everyone in Michigan," said Ed Deeb, president and CEO of the Michigan Food & Beverage Association and the Michigan Business & Professional Association, and co-chairman of Goodwill's Motor City Bowlathon. "Every pin that falls and every dollar raised will help put people to work in this region."

The total cost to participate in Goodwill's Motor City Bowlathon is \$150 per team of three, four or five individuals. Each participating team member will receive two games of bowling, shoe rental, two pieces of pizza or two hot dogs, and a soft drink. Proceeds from all registration fees benefit Goodwill Industries of

Greater Detroit.

"Everyone in Southeast Michigan recognizes the importance of jobs to the future of our communities," said Jerry Harris, proprietor and general manager of Blue Ribbon Quality Bowling Centers member locations in Novi and Farmington Hills and co-chairman of the Bowlathon. "We're looking forward to providing the places where bowlers from across the region can come together to support this initiative."

Eligible participants will have the opportunity to win a number of prizes including a lease on a new vehicle for the individual bowler with the highest score among all participants and two trips to tropical destinations. Any bowler recording a perfect 300 score during the Bowlathon will have the chance to win an All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV) from Motor City Harley-Davidson.

The first bowler rolling a turkey (three strikes in a row) on each team will win a \$15 Meijer Gift Card courtesy of Meijer.

Participants will also be entered into a raffle for a number of other prizes. Those wishing to contribute to the Bowlathon, but are unable to bowl may submit suggested donation of \$30 via the Web site. By doing so, donors will be eligible for the raffle. In addition to prizes awarded for bowling accomplishments, Goodwill's Motor City Bowlathon also will award a prize to the team producing the best one- to two-minute video promoting the fund-raiser.

Entries will be shown on Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit's YouTube Web

site, www.youtube.com/goodwilddetroitpr. The winning team will receive up to five digital video camcorders.

"At its core, the mission of Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit is to put people to work, not just in the city of Detroit, but throughout Southeast Michigan," said Lorna Utley, president and CEO of Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit.

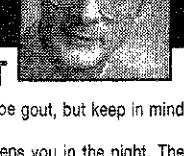
The organization's clients include individuals facing a wide range of barriers to employment. Many were recently laid off and left lacking the skills to find new work in the changing economy. Others require assistance developing life skills necessary to communicate with customers and handle stressful situations. Still others suffer from physical or mental disabilities or have transportation or housing issues.

Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit provides people with opportunities to become independent, self-supporting citizens through training, work experience and employment in the community. In 2007, the organization successfully put nearly 1500 residents to work in the counties of Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties and provided nearly 14,000 individuals with employment and training services.

Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit provides people who have disabilities and other barriers to employment with opportunities to become independent, self-supporting citizens through training, work experience and employment in the community. For information, visit www.goodwilldetroit.org.

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**WHEN IN DOUBT, DON'T CALL IT GOUT**

Gout appears most commonly in the foot. Any foot pain could be gout, but keep in mind that all foot pain cannot be attributed to it.

The usual presentation of gout is as a sudden pain that awakens you in the night. The pain quickly becomes unbearable, worsened by the touch of a sheet or a breeze from door closing. The great toe at its base is the most common site for an attack; the toe becomes swollen and intensely purple to red. To an onlooker, you look like you suffered a fracture or experienced a spider bite.

If you are unfortunate, and cannot obtain medical help, the attack will gradually resolve on its own, though it could take four to five days to do so.

The most unusual attack of gout can occur in other parts of your foot, like in the mid-foot, the ankle or where the Achilles tendon anchors. Otherwise, the usual features abide: Sudden onset while at rest, intense pain initially and gradual lessening of pain over time.

Then there is the very unusual attack of gout. This pain comes on gradually over hours to days, lasts for days to weeks, is distracting but not compelling, and presents in odd places on your foot, like the fifth toe or the side of the great toe.

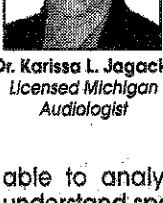
Gout is unlikely to be the cause of such pain. If the pain persists, don't live with it. Bring the problem to the attention of your doctor. His training allows him to consider other possibilities and initiate treatment that will end this attack and prevent the next one.

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Deanna received crowns and bridges and used Dream Dentistry to alleviate her fears. "Parkside was the miracle I had been waiting for," she says. "I felt no pain and I was never afraid!"

Since her treatment, Deanna says her self-esteem has skyrocketed. "I no longer cover my mouth when I smile and I love being photographed! I haven't felt this good in 40 years!"

Deanna recommended Parkside Dental Team to all her family and friends and advises, "If you're suffering from dental pain, don't wait another minute. Give Parkside Dental Team a chance!"

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Spaghetti dinner to raise funds for Women's Resource Center

The Women's Resource Center at Schoolcraft College holds its annual Spaghetti Dinner & Wine Glow Tuesday, March 18, in the VisTech center on campus, 18600 Haggerty, between Six Mile and Seven Mile, Livonia.

Guests can mingle during the Wine Glow which begins at 6 p.m. The 7 p.m. dinner and 8 p.m. program follows.

Tickets are \$30. For more information, call (734) 462-

4443. Proceeds go to support the Women's Resource Center which provides scholarships and programs for Schoolcraft College students.

During the 2006-2007 academic year 519 men and women received more than \$200,000 in grants and scholarships which came from multiple sources like the Spaghetti Dinner. Last year's Basket Raffle was especially popular with the crowd rais-

ing an additional \$1,500. This year themes include State of Michigan, Gardener's and Mystery baskets. Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5 and available at the event.

The WRC has earned national recognition for From Chocolate Chips to Micro Chips to Blue Chips, the educational training program that's helped more than 600 women transition from working inside to outside of the home.

League to hold used book sale

Members of the League of Women Voters of Northwest Wayne County are busy working on their 26th annual used book sale March 14-16, at Livonia Mall on the northwest corner of Middlebelt and Seven Mile.

The Preview takes place 9 a.m. to noon Friday, March 14. Admission is \$3.

Regular hours for the sale run noon to

8 p.m. Friday, March 14; 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday, March 15, and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, March 16.

Bag sale is \$6, two for \$11. Most books and magazines cost \$1 or less.

Videos, CDs and DVDs are individually priced.

To donate, call (734) 421-4420.

MADNESS

FROM PAGE C1

every production has asked when he's going to do the play set in an asylum again. Hartman places actors as patients in the aisles of the theater to make the audience feel as if they are in an asylum.

"They're moaning or shouting things out," said Hartman. "I want the audience to be very involved in it. It helps draw the audience in. The two leads get very loud and emotional. It was done by the Royal Shakespeare Company in London in the 1960s and made such an impact it is included in many theater history books."

Hartman finds the play intriguing partly because it's based on history. He says it does create some controversy.

"A lot of speeches are very relevant to what's going on in our lives today," said Hartman. "We do have poverty today and people talk about freedom and how far the government can be in your life."

Critics describe the drama as total theater as it combines singing and movement with drama. The relatively large cast of 18 is composed of relatively new talent.

Melissa Humphrey is still struggling to define the line between her character and the one her character plays in Marat/Sade. Charlotte Corday is the French aristocrat who assassinates Marat.

This is Humphrey's first time acting in a production at Schoolcraft College. Originally she became interested in theater as a student at Macomb

Community College after landing the lead role in a Shakespeare play in 2000.

Like de Sade, Humphrey enjoys writing dramas and plays. She's published poetry and a short story and writes for the school newspaper, *The Connection*, and is on the staff of the national literary magazine, *The MacGuffin* from Schoolcraft College. Humphrey is working towards a master's degree in English while minoring in theater.

"The patient who plays Charlotte Corday is a narcoleptic and suffers from melancholia. She's so depressed as a patient," said Humphrey of Redford.

Christian Cash plays Jean-Paul Marat, the French revolutionary journalist. The 40-year-old Fenton actor says it's been an educational experience and forced him to rethink positions involving politics and equality of the classes.

Cash regularly performs with the Spotlight Players, a community theater group based at The Village Theater of Cherry Hill in Canton.

"I don't want to scare them away. It is a theatrical extravaganza," said Cash of Fenton. "Marat is one of the leaders of the French Revolution of the people against the aristocrats. De Sade wrote plays to rehabilitate the inmates and for the aristocratic crowd to come and see the plays. It all really did happen. My character gets everybody worked up (in the asylum). He's a paranoid schizophrenic. It all ends in complete chaos and bedlam."

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Celebrate Finnish heritage with Saarinen lecture, band concert

You've heard of singing in the shower? Get ready for songs about saunas...and hunting, fishing, forests and cold winters in the U.P. from the Marquette band, Conga Se Menne.

The group that combines traditional Finnish schottisches and polkas with blues, funk, Latin, reggae, rock, and Caribbean beats, will perform a concert called "Finnish Reggae and Other Sauna Beats," from 8-10 p.m., Saturday, March 15 at Cranbrook's Art Museum, in

Bloomfield Hills. The concert, co-sponsored by The Finlandia Foundation National and The Finnish Club of Detroit, will include a cash bar and traditional Finnish refreshments. Doors will open at 7 p.m., allowing time to check out the museum's current exhibit, "Eero Saarinen: Shaping the Future," a look at the life and work of one of America's most innovative architects. Admission to the concert, which includes entrance to the exhibit, is \$15 per person for the general public

and \$10 per person for members of the Finlandia Foundation National, Finnish Cultural Center and the Finnish American Club of Detroit. The event is free for ArtMembers@Cranbrook. To reserve tickets, call (248) 645-3314.

The foundation also is sponsoring a lecture, featuring Susan Saarinen, Eero Saarinen's daughter, and Mark Corr, director of Cranbrook Archives, at 7:30 p.m., Friday, March 14, at the deSalle Auditorium at Cranbrook.

Art workshop focuses on O'Keeffe

Three Cities Art Club presents a free O'Keeffe workshop 7-9 p.m. Monday, March 3, in the lower level of the Canton Township Hall, 1150 Canton Center Road, south of Cherry Hill.

Club member Elizabeth Gullikson will give the opening presentation on one of America's most acclaimed artists of the 20th century, Georgia O'Keeffe. Guests as

well as club members will then be able to choose a work by O'Keeffe and try their hand at reproducing it. This is an open studio event and there will be no instructor on hand.

Bring a starter kit of watercolors or acrylic paints, a couple of brushes, a container of water, and paper or canvas. An easel would be helpful if you plan to use acrylics. Supplies are available for a 15 percent

discount by mentioning Three Cities Art Club at D & M Art Studio, 8691 N. Lilley at Joy, Canton.

There is no charge to attend a Three Cities Art Club meeting but membership is only \$20 a year and there are many benefits. For more information, call Marilyn Meredith at (248) 557-3800, ext. 123 weekdays or send e-mail to threecitiesartclub@hotmail.com.

REUNIONS

Dearborn Fordson Class of 1969

Planning a reunion. Please contact Kathy Nisun at (248) 363-5679 or e-mail: kayniniu@aol.com or Shoebridge@Kivington@nu-core.com.

Detroit Christ the King Elementary Class of 1963

A 45-year reunion is being planned for 2008. Searching for classmates. The reunion date has not been set. Contact Dennis Place at (734) 354-0223 or e-mail den-place@bigfoot.com.

Detroit High School of Commerce Class of 1958 January, June and August

Planning reunion for Sept. 13. Call J. Wilkinson, 316-8034 or B. King 248-547-1693

Garden City High School Class of 1960

Mini-Reunion Luncheons held the second Saturday of every month at 1 p.m. in the banquet room in the Plymouth Denny's on Ann Arbor Road, east of I-275. Anyone interested in more information can call Gary Simon at (734) 751-4101 or send e-mail to GCMCL@yahoo.com.

Class of 1989

Need classmates to register online with names, addresses and e-mail addresses to Paula at gch1989reunion@hotmail.com and check out web site at www.myspace.com/gchs20threunion.

The reunion date has not been set yet.

Dearborn High School Class of 1963

A 45 year reunion planned Aug. 1, 2008. Father Patrick O'Kelley Hall, Dearborn. Contact Betsy Cushman at 313-565-5972 or ecushman@comcast.com

Dearborn Edsel Ford Classes of 1958

The 1958 January and June Classes of Dearborn and Edsel Ford High Schools are having a combined 50-Year Reunion on Saturday Aug. 2, 2008 at the Dearborn Country Club.

Judy Richards Goerke 313-562-9031, judygoerke@yahoo.com or Shirley Chiado Peters 248-348-9443, shirley.peters@villageford.net may be contacted for further information.

Grosse Pointe North Class of 1991

Call (800) 677-7800, visit www.taylorreunions.com or e-mail: info@taylorreunions.com.

Lincoln Park High School

Looking for members of Lincoln Park High School class of 1958 for 50 year reunion. Contact: Nancy 313-535-8777 or nc6897@sbcglobal.net

Livonia Franklin Class of 1969

A reunion is in the pre-planning stages. For more information, contact Kathy Nisun at (248) 363-5679 or e-mail: kayniniu@aol.com.

Milford High School Class of 1978

Planning a 30th reunion. All interested class members should contact the reunion committee as soon as possible. Their contact email address is: miford78@gmail.com.

Plymouth High School Class of 1968

Searching for classmates for a 40th reunion on July 19, 2008. Only about 63 percent of the class have been located. Contact Sue (Keith) Johnson at (734) 451-1048 or contact phs40threunion@charter.net.

Plymouth-Canton High Schools Classes of 1988

Plymouth Canton and Plymouth Salem classes of 1988 20-year reunion will be held on Saturday, Aug. 2, at Laurel Manor in Livonia. Contact ceplassoft1988@yahoo.com for more information.

Romulus High School Class of 1958

A 50-year class reunion Saturday, May 3, 2008, at Lakes of Taylor, 2550 Northline, Taylor. For details, contact Al Preis at (734) 697-0092, Janet Miller at (734) 697-7483 or Terry Bird at (734) 697-4232.

Art workshop focuses on O'Keeffe

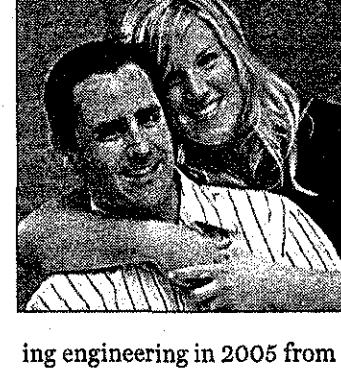
Three Cities Art Club presents a free O'Keeffe workshop 7-9 p.m. Monday, March 3, in the lower level of the Canton Township Hall, 1150 Canton Center Road, south of Cherry Hill.

Club member Elizabeth Gullikson will give the opening presentation on one of America's most acclaimed artists of the 20th century, Georgia O'Keeffe. Guests as

well as club members will then be able to choose a work by O'Keeffe and try their hand at reproducing it. This is an open studio event and there will be no instructor on hand.

Bring a starter kit of watercolors or acrylic paints, a couple of brushes, a container of water, and paper or canvas. An easel would be helpful if you plan to use acrylics. Supplies are available for a 15 percent

ENGAGEMENTS



Dew-Kusmierz

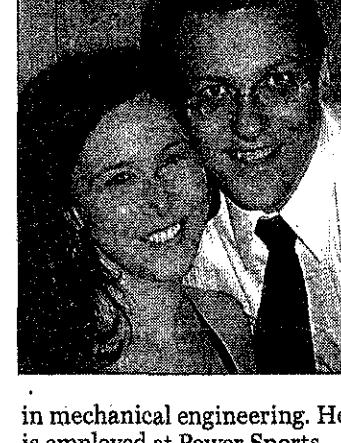
Rick and Carolyn Dew of Canton announce the engagement of their daughter, Lauren Ashley Dew, to Matthew Scott Kusmierz of Howell, son of Michael and Linda Kusmierz of Bay City.

The bride-to-be received a bachelor of science degree in biochemistry from Michigan State University in 2005. She is a third year medical student at Wayne State University School of medicine.

The future groom received a bachelor's degree from Central Michigan University and a master's degree in packag-

ing engineering in 2005 from Michigan State University. He is currently working as a packaging engineer at Nissan.

A June 2008, wedding is planned at MSU Alumni Chapel in East Lansing, Mich.



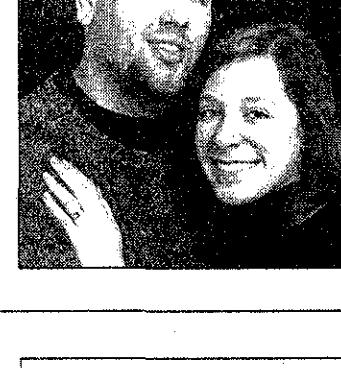
Foley-Kasten

Kristen Colleen Foley and Timothy Robert Kasten are engaged to be married.

The bride-to-be is the daughter of Debbie Foley of Plymouth and Pete Foley of Plymouth. She is a graduate of Canton High School. She will be graduating in May 2008 with a bachelor's degree in architecture from Lawrence Technological University. She is employed at Studio Design. The future groom, son of Fred and Cathy Kasten of Plymouth, is a graduate of Salem High School. He is attending the University of Michigan-Dearborn, majoring

in mechanical engineering. He is employed at Power Sports.

A May wedding is planned for Weller's in Saline.



Kingery-Ambs

David and Christine Kingery of Westland announce the engagement of their daughter, Sara Louise Kingery, to Mark Ambs of Kalamazoo.

The bride-to-be is a 2006 graduate of Central Michigan University. The groom is a graduate of Mattawan High School.

A June wedding is planned.



Spencer-Jacovetti

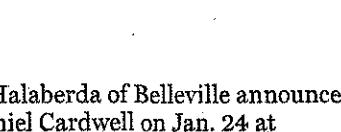
John and Lorrie Spencer of Lakeland, Fla., formerly of Redford, announce the engagement of their daughter, Crystal Marie, to Christopher Jacovetti, son of William and Karen Jacovetti of Livonia.

Crystal is a 2001 graduate of Thurston High School and is currently attending college in Lakeland, Fla.

Christopher is a 1999 graduate of Catholic Central High School and resides in Daytona Beach, Fla., where he is employed as an operations manager with Sunbelt Rentals in Ormond Beach.

An August 2008 wedding is

planned. The couple will make their home in Daytona Beach, Fla.



BIRTH

Jacob Daniel Cardwell

Daniel Cardwell and Tracey Halaberda of Belleville announce the birth of their son, Jacob Daniel Cardwell on Jan. 24 at Oakwood Hospital in Dearborn.

Grandparents are Jessica and Mike Cardwell of Pinckney and Daniel and Barb Halaberda of Wayne.

Great-grandparents are Gerry Cardwell of Westland and Joe and Merlene Kittka of Westland.

OBITUARY POLICY

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 obits@hometownlife.com

or fax to: www.hometownlife.com

Attn: Obits c/o Charolette Wilson

734-953-2070

or Liz Keiser

734-953-2067

or toll free

866-818-7653

ask for Char or Liz

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Deadlines:
Sunday edition 5 p.m. Friday
Thursday edition 11:00 a.m. Wednesday

Offices and Hours:
Eccentric office 805 E. Maple, Birmingham
Observer office 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia
Hours 8:30 - 5:00 Monday - Friday

POLICY

All advertising published in the Observer and Eccentric Newspapers is subject to the conditions stated in the applicable rate card. Copyists are available from the advertising department. Observer and Eccentric Newspapers reserves the right not to accept an advertiser's order. Observer and Eccentric Newspapers sales representatives have no authority to bind this newspaper and only publication of an advertisement shall constitute final acceptance of the advertiser's order. When more than one insertion of the same advertisement is ordered, no credit will be given unless notice of typographical or other errors are given in time for correction before the second insertion. Not responsible for omissions. Publisher's Notice: All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 which states that it is illegal to advertise "any preference limitation, or discrimination". This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal housing opportunity basis. (F.R. Doc. 724983 3-3-172) Classified ads may be placed according to the deadlines. Advertisers are responsible for reading their ads, the information contained and reporting any errors immediately. The Observer and Eccentric Newspapers will not issue credit for errors made after THE FINAL INSERTION.

INSERTION: Equal Housing Opportunity Statement: We are pledged to the letter and spirit of U.S. policy for the achievement of equal housing opportunity throughout the nation. We encourage and support an affirmative advertising and marketing program in which there are no barriers to obtain housing because of race, color, religion or national origin. Equal Housing Opportunity slogan: "Equal Housing Opportunity". Table III - Illustration of Publisher's Notice.

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Instruction Services

Help Wanted-General 5000

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Western Wayne County & Farmington Area

Previous experience preferred. Must be available on Thursday morning, Saturday evening/Sunday morning. Reliable transportation. Possible earnings of \$40-\$50 per delivery. Some porch delivery. No collections.

Call Toll Free
1-866-887-2737

Observer & Eccentric

Help Wanted-General 5000

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For Livonia fleet service co.

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Own tools and good driving record. Green pay! Flexible hours. Fax to 734-953-8605

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Help Wanted-General 5000

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Call 248-474-0283, 734-593-8911

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DIRECT CARE WORKER

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Must have at least 3-5 years previous experience in accounting, billing and reimbursements, and data management.

Good communication skills and team work also required. Send resume and cover letter to J. Chesler, The Corner Health Center, 47 N. Huron, Ypsilanti MI 48197 or jchesler@cornerhealth.org EOE

EMERGENCY SERVICES DISPATCHER

For nonprofit teen health center. F/T w/ benefits.

Must have at least 3-5 years previous experience in accounting, billing and reimbursements, and data management.

Good communication skills and team work also required. Send resume and cover letter to J. Chesler, The Corner Health Center, 47 N. Huron, Ypsilanti MI 48197 or jchesler@cornerhealth.org EOE

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The City of Wayne is accepting applications for the purpose of establishing an Emergency Services Dispatcher eligibility list.

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HELPING A STRESSED CO-WORKER


WORKWISE

by
Mildred L.
Culp

do deserve to work in a comfortable environment. How can you help?

Not everyone agrees on the same method. In fact, while there may be established methods to reduce personal stress, there doesn't seem to be even one for helping a co-worker. Instead, there's a smattering of tactics to consider when situations arise:

-- Ann Latham, president of Uncommon

Clarity Inc., in Easthampton, Mass., recommends, in cases of diminishing productivity, that you "set some boundaries and figure out how to work around them. Focus on specific facts, such as 'This is what you're doing and this is the impact on me,' to avoid putting him on the defensive or passing judgment. Limit your comments to behavior, impact and solution-seeking questions."

For example, she explains, "When you slam the phone down and begin to sob, first I am startled and then I find it difficult to recover my train of thought. This has

happened three times this week. Is there something I could do, or you could do, that would help us both get more accomplished?"

If this method seems unsuitable, consider interceding more frequently, "whenever you perceive that a co-worker is having a hard time dealing with demands of the job, taking a toll on productivity or having problems overall." This idea comes from researcher Jeanne Hurlbert of Optinent Resources L.L.C., in Baton Rouge. But she refers to an "overture" explaining that this is what you perceive and that the person could use help at work now.

"Don't only allow the person to vent, but help make plans about how she can actually decrease the stress," points out Bob Livingston, licensed clinical social worker in private practice in San Francisco. "Talking lead to the sharing of empathy... (about) the anger, frustration, fatigue and sadness. This demonstrates that you understand what is happening. For example, you might say, 'I am so tired from all of this work that I haven't had time to have any fun. Do you feel the same way I do?' This might open the door for further discussion."

A completely different approach -- being ready to act -- comes from Jay Liebowitz, associate professor in the Palumbo Donahue School of Business at Pittsburgh's Duquesne University. "Determine what the co-worker is likely to do," he advises, "by asking a question that begins with the phrase, 'Does this mean that you're

going to...?'" He also recommends making certain that the person wants advice before offering it, or doing something that will help him navigate his way through the situation.

MORE TACTICS

Hurlbert further recommends drawing attention to the larger world by discussing subjects other than work that you have in common, such as hobbies or current events. Is your co-worker isolated from other people? She suggests sharing your contacts, internally and externally, to increase the person's social interaction and support (and decrease your need to help). Encourage him to enjoy a hobby, even if it's reading a good book.

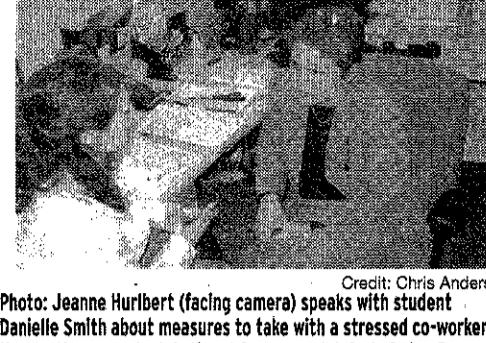
Guard against assuming the person's burden. (Latham). Don't react and watch the stress attack stop. (Joanie Winberg of Happy Wednesday Inc., in Lakeville, Mass.). If there's no progress, consider consulting with your boss about the impact on your work (Latham), or your boss and HR, but only if the problem is serious (Hurlbert). Don't respond with "Suck it up," which doesn't console and, in fact, makes the stress worse or a comment in jest about job performance, which could be misinterpreted as a slam' (Livingston).

Don't make these mistakes, either:

-- "reasoning with the person" on the spot
(Winberg);
-- ignoring, belittling or criticizing the person
(Hurlbert); and
-- giving advice, guessing at motivations and

Observer & Eccentric
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Credit: Chris Anderson

Photo: Jeanne Hurlbert (facing camera) speaks with student Danielle Smith about measures to take with a stressed co-worker. Hurlbert's research at Optinent Resources L.L.C., in Baton Rouge, focuses upon social networking.

assuming you understand the situation completely, when your new information is that the behavior is out of character or problem-inducing (Latham).

The bottom line, Latham indicates, is to be professional, protect your productivity and assure safety for yourself, the person and your other co-workers. Keep trying, in other words, until you find the approach that works.

(Dr. Mildred L. Culp is an award-winning journalist. Copyright 2008 Passage Media.)

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WEIGHT WATCHERS

is looking for a dynamic, service oriented person to work full-time in our Farmington Hills call center. This person will work directly with our members processing registrations and answering program questions. Current and future Weight Watchers members are invited to apply! Please send resume and salary requirements to Human Resources, P.O. Box 9072, Farmington Hills, MI 48333-9072, or fax to (248) 699-3906. EEOC

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Send resume to 11847 Levan Rd., Livonia, MI 48150.

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All inquiries confidential

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48076 or call 248-203-9000

and ask for Galina Petlak or

Karrie Schmitt.

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DENTAL ASSISTANT

Oakland Hills

cosmetic practice

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Help Wanted-Medical 5080
DENTAL ASSISTANT

Westland

Friendly, strong listening

skills with ability to carry

out direction. Must be organized & detail-oriented.

Fax resume: 734-522-2436

or email: resumecard@msn.com

No phone calls please

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Help Wanted-Dental 5040
DENTAL ASSISTANT

Downtown Plymouth dental



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