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THURSDAY
April 17, 2008

WESTLAND Observer

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Jury: Guilty on all counts in beheading

BY BRAD KADRICH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

What James Sorensen wanted most out of the trial of Jean Pierre Orlewicz was justice for his 26-year-old son, Daniel, whom Orlewicz was charged with killing.

A Wayne County Circuit Court jury Tuesday gave it to him.

After some 11 hours of deliberation over two days, the jury convicted Orlewicz, 18, of Plymouth Township, of first-degree murder, felony murder and mutilation of a corpse. Judge Annette Berry had given the jury permission to consider second-degree murder and voluntary manslaughter, but after taking another look at several exhibits, the jury found Orlewicz guilty as charged.

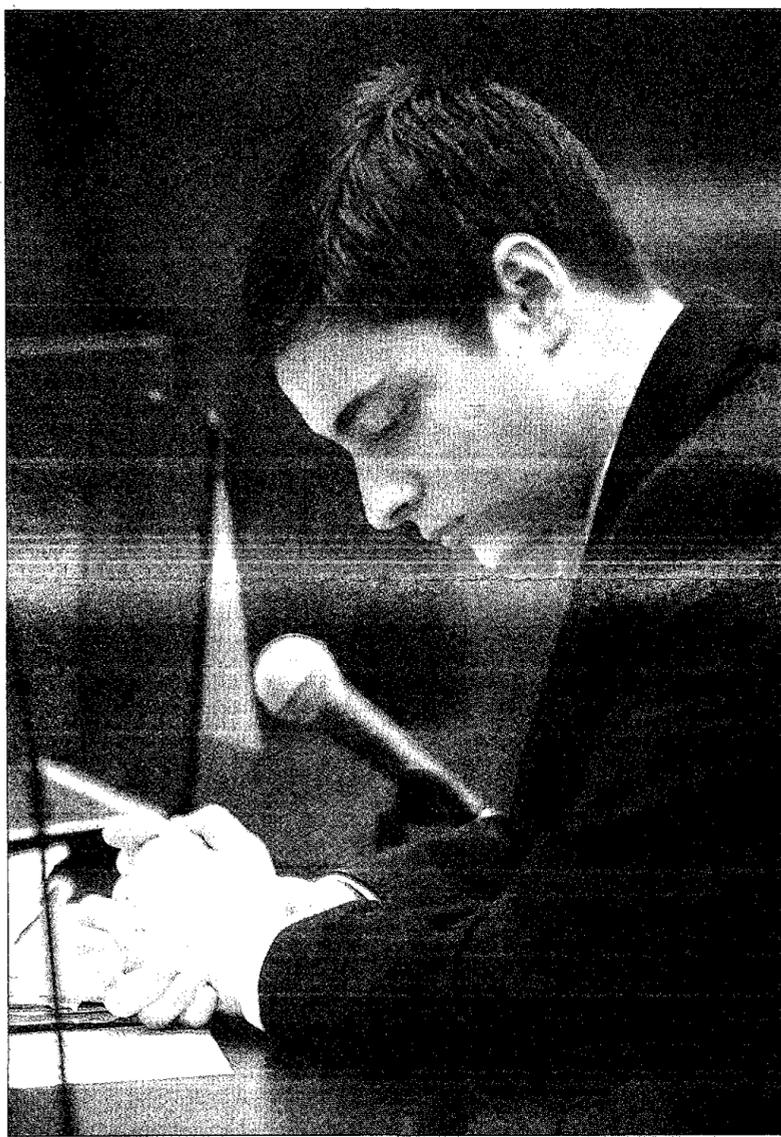
"I'm grateful our son received the justice he deserved," said the elder Sorensen, of Westland. "There's relief that everything worked out, but very sad, too. There's another family (Orlewicz's) that was sitting in this room, and their son is going away for the rest of his life. We have to keep that in balance."

The jury was handed the case Tuesday afternoon, after defense lawyer James Thomas, who wasn't in court for the verdict, rested his case. They deliberated for nearly four hours Monday before Berry sent them home. They were back at it at 9 a.m. Wednesday, and returned the verdict shortly before 5 p.m.

Berry set May 12 as the sentencing date. Orlewicz faces a mandatory life sentence without possibility of parole.

Wayne County Assistant Prosecutor Robert Moran said he thought the gruesomeness of the crime, and the tender age of the defendant, caused the jury to take a long, thorough look.

"They took their time and didn't rush to judgment,"



Jean Pierre Orlewicz waits for the sixth day of his trial to begin.

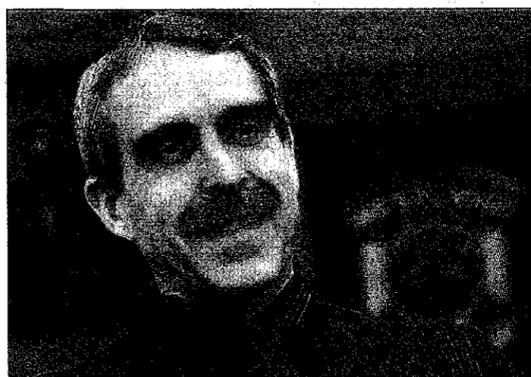
Moran said. "I've never seen a murder more (thoroughly) planned out. To me, there was no question it was first-degree murder. The jury took its time

and came to the same conclusion." Joseph Niskar, another of Orlewicz's attorneys, declined to comment following the ver-

dict. Orlewicz's family passed a phalanx of media without comment.

Please see **VERDICT, A2**

'A view of the bay'



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Westland police Sgt. David Heater reflects on his career in Westland before leaving for a small-town job Up North.

Veteran police officer trades city lights for small town life

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

After investigating murders, robberies, home invasions, violent assaults and other brutal crimes, Westland police Sgt. David Heater is ready for a slower-paced life.

"I've been going at 90 mph for years," he said.

Heater will leave his big-city detective job Friday to become a small-town cop in tiny Harbor Springs, a picturesque place Up North that hasn't had a homicide in almost 50 years. He starts his new assignment Monday.

"Westland's loss certainly is Harbor Springs' gain," Westland Police Chief James Ridener said. "They definitely hit a home run with Dave."

Heater's departure will leave Westland without a polygraph expert, forcing local authorities to rely on other communities. Humble though he seems, Heater is a thinking man's detective.

He grew up in Lansing, the son of a father, William, who was a psychology professor, college administrator and minister, and a mother, Mary Ellen, who had a master's degree in social work from the University of Michigan. They didn't want him to become a police officer. They had loftier goals for him.

Heater, 44, studied photojournalism and received his bachelor's degree from Michigan State University. He also earned a master's degree in liberal studies from Eastern Michigan University. Still, his heart tugged

him toward police work, and he eventually enrolled in the same Lansing police academy as his then-new friend, Ridener.

As a student journalist, Heater recalled taking pictures when a local officer was shot dead. He also covered the funeral and won awards for his work, but the story only drew him closer to a career in police work.

Heater's first job in law enforcement came in Westland, where he has cherished his nearly 21-year career. He has worked as a patrol officer, in drug-related special investigations, as a plainclothes officer, as a SWAT team member, as a polygraph expert and as detective bureau sergeant.

JOB PRIDE

"Being a sergeant was very important to me," said Heater, a Canton resident. "I was very proud to be a sergeant."

Police Lt. Dan Karrick, who is in charge of the detective bureau, said Heater not only has top-notch skills in his job, but he also has compassion for the crime victims he tries to help.

"Dave is going to be sorely missed in the detective bureau," Karrick said.

Heater has been involved in high-profile cases and brought some of Westland's worst criminals to justice. He helped investigate a grisly case in 2004 in which a Garden City man's body was unearthed in a Westland back yard, seven years after he was murdered and buried by a

Please see **HEATER, A3**

Finley: Know how things work in educational process

Editor's Note: This is part of a series of interviews with the five candidate campaigning for two four-year terms on the Wayne-Westland Board of Education in the Tuesday, May 6, school election.

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

As Jennifer Finley sees it, serving on the school board is one way



Finley

in the district. She cares about what happens and about its reputation.

she can be involved in the community and the education process.

With seven children enrolled in Wayne-Westland schools, the Wayne resident says she has a "vested interest"

in the district. She cares about what happens and about its reputation.

"I care about the kind of kids we're putting out there after high school," she said. "It's important, terribly important, to meet the needs of these kids. It's our responsibility, it's our duty and I think I definitely would be somebody who could help the district improve and move forward."

Finley is among five candidates campaigning seeking a seat on the Wayne-Westland school board in

the Tuesday, May 6, election.

A nurse who works for the University of Michigan, Finley describes herself as straightforward and no nonsense. With children in different programs in the district, she understands how things work and don't work well from an educational perspective.

"I have pretty stable head on my

Please see **FINLEY, A3**

JENNIFER FINLEY

Who: Jennifer Finley of Wayne, a graduate of Clawson High School and the Northwest Ohio Nurses Training Center.

Family: She has seven adopted children, ranging in age from 4 to 11, who are enrolled in the district.

Employment: She is employed by the University of Michigan at the East Ann Arbor Medical Procedures Center.

Community involvement: She is a past member and president of the policy committee at the Stottlemeyer Early Childhood Center.

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INDEX

APARTMENTS	C3
CLASSIFIED	C3-C11
AUTOMOTIVE	C9
CROSSWORD PUZZLE	C7
HOMETOWNLIFE	D1
JOB	C10
OBITUARIES	A6
OPINION	A10
PINK	D4
REAL ESTATE	C3
SERVICE GUIDE	C7
SPORTS	B1

Coming Sunday in Health



Treatment advances, changes lives of hemophilia patients

VERDICT

FROM PAGE A1

While the prosecution presented forensic evidence tying Orlewicz to the murder, Moran said Wednesday the testimony of former co-defendant Alexander Letkemann played an important role in the conviction. Letkemann, 18 of Westland, pleaded guilty April 1 to second-degree murder, then described the murder in gruesome detail during testimony last week.

"One of the reasons we agreed to the deal with (Letkemann) was he was cooperating with police," Moran said. "He led them to key evidence, he told the jury what happened."

Moran said though he believed from the beginning it was a case of first-degree murder, the length of the jury's deliberation did give him pause to wonder.

"It makes you nervous," Moran said. "You're on pins and needles. The gravity of the case ... and how horrific the acts, it took the jurors some time to come to grips with the idea an 18-year-old kid is capable of that."



Assistant Prosecutor Robert Moran's closing argument tries to convince the jury that Jean Pierre Orlewicz committed first degree murder when he killed Daniel Sorensen.

Orlewicz took the stand on Monday and claimed he killed Sorensen in self-defense after Sorensen threatened to kill him and accomplice Alexander Letkemann following an

aborted extortion scheme that was supposed to take place in the garage of Orlewicz's grandfather's Canton Township home Nov. 7.

But Moran argued in his

closing statement the self-defense theory is "bogus."

"(Orlewicz) wants you to believe he was afraid of (Sorensen)," Moran told jurors. "Why does he take (Sorensen)



Assistant Prosecutor Robert Moran displays a hacksaw and tarp like the ones he said were used in the alleged crime.

into the garage? Why not say (intended extortion victim Adam Duwe) wasn't coming? Why not do it outside?

"It's because there was no (extortion) plan."

Thomas argued if Sorensen's death was a planned murder, it would have happened differently. Citing testimony Orlewicz knew Sorensen carried a gun, Thomas argued his client, who used a paring knife in the attack, was woefully under-armed.

"This was a crime where someone brought a knife to a gunfight," Thomas argued.

"This was a crime where (Sorensen) was known to carry a gun."

The jury clearly didn't buy Orlewicz's self-defense claims, a fact for which Sorensen's family and friends were grateful.

"Just, 'Thank you,'" Dena Hasan of Westland, a friend of Sorensen, said of her reaction to the verdict. "I know a family just lost their son, but we lost someone a long time ago at (Orlewicz's) hand."

bkadrich@hometownlife.com
(734) 459-2700

AROUND WESTLAND

Battling cancer

Organizers of Westland's Relay for Life, a benefit for the American Cancer Society, are encouraging people to shop for a cure 6-9 p.m. Friday, April 18, at the American Legion post on Newburgh between Joy and Ann Arbor Trail. Items will be available from The Body Shop at Home, Tastefully Simple, Party Lite, Comfort Zone, Longaberger and Silpada Jewelry. A percentage of proceeds will go to Relay. There will be drawings, specials and refreshments.

Garden Club

The Westland Garden Club will sponsor its plant and seed exchange program at 10 a.m. on Sunday, May 18, at the Westland Historic Village Park, on Wayne Road between

ON THE WEB

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

Marquette and Cherry Hill. The public is invited. There will be master gardeners there to answer questions.

Islam seminar

Why Islam-Michigan is hosting a lecture, "Jesus in Islam," at 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 7, at the Westland public library, on Central City Parkway between Ford and Warren. Harry Bissell will talk about Jesus from an Islamic perspective. The public is invited, and admission is free. For more information, call (734) 578-2942 or send an e-

mail to info@whyislammi.org.

Card party

Ss. Simon and Jude Church will hold a Happy Days luncheon and card party 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday, April 18, at the church, 32500 Palmer, east of Venoy, Westland. The cost of the non-smoking event is \$7 per person and there will be table and door prizes and 50/50 raffles. For ticket reservations, call (734) 722-1343.

Park cleanup

Independent Carpet One Floor and Home is celebrating National Green Select Day on Saturday, April 19, by inviting the Westland community to meet at Curtis Woods/Kiwanis Park on Palmer west of Wayne Road to clean up the park. To sign up and volunteer visit Independent Carpet One

Floor and Home on Wayne Road south of Ford or call (734) 729-6200. All volunteers will be entered into raffle for the chance to win 200 square feet of Shaw's Everlasting Style Carpet.

Free seminar

A one-time highly successful, financial investor who made some very poor choices will speak at a free seminar at 5:30 p.m. Saturday, April 19, at Kirk of our Savior at 36660 Cherry Hill, Westland.

John Borbi who spent 30 months in prison for a "white collar crime," will share his story now in hopes that other will not make those same unethical decisions. A pot luck dinner will precede his presentation.

Both are open to the public, no reservations needed.

Free-will offering only. For more information, call Bonnie Hilberer at (734) 646-2237.

Time to tee off
The Westland Municipal Golf Course is celebrating opening day - Friday, April 18 - with free short game clinics and closest to the pin contest on the indoor golf simulator. There will also be a "Green Fee Special" for \$6 as well as hot dogs for just \$1. Call (734) 721-6660 for information. The Westland Golf Course is at 500 S. Merriman, south of Cherry Hill.

Free movie

The William P. Faust Public Library in cooperation with the Westland Friendship Center are inviting local seniors and their guests to enjoy a viewing of *Without Reservations* at the Friendship Center at 2 p.m. Friday, April 19. The film, a John Wayne picture of the postwar era, also stars Claudette Colbert.

Chili cookoff

The Westland Democratic Club will have its third annual chili cookoff Tuesday, April

29, at the Dorsey Community Center. Enjoy chili, beverages and dessert for \$5 or enter your homemade chili in the contest. Tasters are welcome at 6 p.m. Cooks should bring their crock-pot of chili at 5:30 p.m. The winner will compete in the 11th District cookoff.

For more information call (734) 729-1605 or (734) 674-7327.

Mayoral bowl

Westland Mayor William Wild is inviting residents to help raise money for the American Cancer Society's 2008 Relay for Life.

One event, "Skate with Mayor Wild," is scheduled for 1-2:20 p.m. Saturday, April 19, at Westland's Mike Modano Ice Arena, on Wildwood north of Ford. Admission and skate rental are free and participants will receive a free "Wild's Walkers" Relay for Life T-shirt. Donations may be made.

A variety of teams will be raising money for this year's Relay, scheduled for 10 a.m. May 31 to 10 a.m. June 1 at Jaycee Park, at Wildwood and Hunter.

For more information about Relay, call Holly Soranno at (248) 663-3452 or e-mail her at holly.soranno@cancer.org.

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CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST

The City of Westland will hold its public accuracy test on the ES&S M-100 voting equipment for the May 6, 2008 Wayne-Westland and Livonia Schools School Board Elections on Tuesday, April 29, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. at Westland City Hall, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan.

The public accuracy test is conducted to determine that the program and the computer being used to tabulate the ballot results count the votes in the manner prescribed by law.

TERRI BENNETT, CMC Canton Township Clerk	JUDI DUDZINSKI Dearborn Heights Clerk
VELIDA SMITH Inkster City Clerk	LINDA CHOATE Romulus City Clerk
MARY CARNEY Wayne City Clerk	EILEEN DeHART, CMC Westland City Clerk

Publish: April 17, 2008

Notice of Public Sale

Pursuant to State Law, a sale will be held at: **Secured Self Storage**, 6855 Yale, Westland, MI, April 26, 2008 at 1:00 pm.

#135	Robert Harris
#138	Lois Prater
#225	Robert Tuczak
#245	Terry Kucharski
#301	Murray Ziedman
#311	Lenard Hodges/Andrew Draper
#340	Roy Watt
#411	Lois Moore
#422	Kory Myers
#520	National Business Machine
#736	Rose Middleton
#827	Tod Komor
#934	Eric Fitch
#1024	Gary Holden
#1122	Willard Strickels
#1230	Amanda Arnett
#1231	David Rogoff
#1425	Ann-Marie Owens
#1438	Dawn Shaw

Units Contain: Miscellaneous Household items

Publish: April 10 and 17, 2008

CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

The Westland Police Department will conduct an online public auction of miscellaneous seized and forfeited items. The auction will begin on Thursday, April 17th, 2008 and end Thursday, April 24th, 2008. Interested persons should:

- 1) visit www.aitecanton.com
- 2) click on the "Auctions" tab
- 3) in the right column, click on the "Click here for live auctions!"

The following items can then be viewed and are offered for sale to the highest bidder:

Dewalt drills, Canon Power shot camera, Sony PSP, Xbox controllers, Xbox games, Kenwood amp, Kenwood equalizer, Craftsman router, Bang & Olufsen television, Milwaukee saws all, jigsaw, air compressor, Misc cellular phones, Cartier glasses, Coach purse, Louis Vuitton purse, Dooney & Bourke purses, Divinci sound system, blue tooth, and a Phillips Magnavox tv.

All items are sold in "as is" condition. Items may be deleted from this list at any time prior to the start of the auction.

Publish: April 17th, 2008

CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF MEETING

A petition has been presented to the Planning Commission of the City of Westland, Wayne County, Michigan:

Case #1336D - Preliminary Plan Approval for Proposed Nankin Mills Village Planned Unit Development, Part of Parcel #017-99-0048-700 and Parcels #017-99-0027-000, -0028-000, -0029-000, -0047-001, -0047-002, South Side of Joy, East of Newburgh Road, Glenn Shaw

Case #2166 - Proposed Land Division, 6504 N. Hix, Parcel #025-99-0041-000, East Side of Hix Road, South of Warren Road, John J. Czyzewski

Case #2167 - Proposed Land Division, Parcel #005-99-0005-000, West Side of Beatrice, South of Joy Road and West of Middlebelt Road, John W. Faris

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public meeting of the City of Westland Planning Commission will be held in the City Hall, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan at 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, May 7, 2008.

Written comments must be submitted to the Planning Commission before 5:00 p.m. one (1) day prior to the scheduled meeting.

Kenneth B. Sharp, Chairman
WESTLAND PLANNING COMMISSION

Publish: April 17, 2008

CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE TO THE ELDERLY AND DISABLED VOTERS WAYNE-WESTLAND AND LIVONIA PUBLIC SCHOOL SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION MAY 6, 2008

Absent voter ballots are available through the Westland City Clerk's Office, City Hall, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan for those persons that are physically unable to attend the polls or are 60 years of age or older. The voter, before the issuance of a ballot, must complete an application for ballot.

There will be ADA compliant equipment for use at every polling place.

The last day to apply for a ballot by mail is Saturday, May 3, 2008 at 2:00 p.m. Persons qualified to vote absentee may vote in person in the City Clerk's Office until 4:00 p.m. on Monday, May 5, 2008. Office.

TERRI BENNETT, CMC Canton Township Clerk	JUDI DUDZINSKI Dearborn Heights Clerk
VELIDA SMITH Inkster City Clerk	LINDA CHOATE Romulus City Clerk
MARY CARNEY Wayne City Clerk	EILEEN DeHART, CMC Westland City Clerk

Publish: April 17, 2008

CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF MEETING

A petition has been presented to the Planning Commission of the City of Westland, Wayne County, Michigan:

Case #1305C - Public Hearing for Special Land Use Approval for Proposed Coffee House, 8032 N. Wayne Road, Parcel #015-01-0007-001, East Side of Wayne Road, North of Cowan Road, Gerald Agolli (Elio Giovannone)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing of the City of Westland Planning Commission will be held at City Hall, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan at 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, May 7, 2008.

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Kenneth B. Sharp, Chairman
WESTLAND PLANNING COMMISSION

Publish: April 17, 2008

Publish: April 17, 2008

CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF MEETING

A petition has been presented to the Planning Commission of the City of Westland, Wayne County, Michigan:

Case #1336C - Public Hearing for Proposed Rezoning from R-1, Single Family Residential to PUD, Planned Unit Development, Part of Parcel #017-99-0048-700 and Parcels #017-99-0027-000, -0028-000, -0029-000, -0047-001, -0047-002, South Side of Joy, East of Newburgh Road, Glenn Shaw

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Kenneth B. Sharp, Chairman
WESTLAND PLANNING COMMISSION

Publish: April 17, 2008

Publish: April 17, 2008

Man cited for gun play that locked down schools

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The Wayne County Prosecutor's Office has rejected felony criminal charges against a 31-year-old Westland man involved last Friday in what police treated as a barricaded gunman incident on the city's south side. Still, local police have cited the suspect with four misdemeanors, including assault, brandishing a firearm in a threatening manner, illegally hunting fowl and discharging a gun, Sgt. Brian Miller confirmed.

The man surrendered peacefully last Friday morning following a three-hour standoff at Deerfield and Grand Traverse, in the Norwayne neighborhood. He told authorities he didn't

respond to their bullhorn shouts and calls to his cell phone because he had fallen asleep.

The drama unfolded when another 31-year-old man accused the suspect of pointing a 22-caliber pellet gun at him as he drove by shortly after 8 a.m. The suspect called it a misunderstanding and told authorities he shoots birds in his yard.

The suspect went inside his house, and the alleged victim called police. Authorities treated the situation as a barricaded gunman, and Wayne-Westland school officials announced a three-hour lockdown at Wayne Memorial High, Adams Middle School and Lincoln Elementary.

The suspect told police that he had fallen asleep when he went indoors and that he

didn't hear the commotion outside. He said he finally awoke to hear police calling on his cell phone.

Deputy Police Chief Alan Ramsden said no shots were fired and no one was injured during the incident.

Local authorities sought criminal charges, but police Lt. Dan Karrick, who is in charge of Westland's detective bureau, confirmed that Wayne County prosecutors decided against any felony counts.

That left local police with little recourse other than citing the man with the four misdemeanors, and he will have to appear in Westland 18th District Court.

"He will still have his day in court," Karrick said.

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

HEATER

FROM PAGE A1

homeowner now serving 23-40 years in prison.

Heater also became a leading investigator in Westland's worst massacre on Sept. 11, 2003, when a gunman shot and killed four people and wounded two others at a party store on Newburgh north of Ford. The killer ultimately took his own life, but his female accomplice was convicted at trial and sent to prison for life.

"People often don't realize that detectives are human beings, and we carry this stuff with us," Heater said, adding that the party store massacre "is one of those cases I'll always have in my head."

Perhaps more troubling are cases that never got solved, like the October 2006 stabbing death of retired jazz musician Raymond Pankau in his west-side home. Pankau's killer was never caught. His family has never found peace.

"I leave the (Westland) department and go on, knowing that his family can't," Heater said, his voice heavy with regret for not solving the case.

It's those kinds of cases — and the overwhelming workload that local detectives often face — that has readied Heater for a slower pace, a quieter place where he and his wife of 13 years, Carol, can raise their 8-year-old twin sons, Nathan and Eric. Heater's stepdaughter, high school senior Brittany, will stay behind to attend Schoolcraft College, and his stepson, Mike, will keep his job in Canton.

NEW HORIZONS

Heater will face major adjustments. He will leave Westland, a city of 86,000 residents, for a town of 1,600 people along the shores of Lake Michigan. He will shift his career focus to duties like issuing traffic tickets, solving petty thefts and settling small disputes between neighbors.

"We're still solving problems," Harbor Springs Police Chief Dan Branson said by telephone. "They're just not murders. They're not robberies. They're not serial rapists."

Branson welcomed Heater's decision to apply for a rare job opening there, saying Heater will be a positive addition to the small department and the tight-knit community.

Heater will patrol Harbor

Spring streets, ride a bicycle through summer festival crowds and maneuver a patrol boat across the shimmering waters of Little Traverse Bay to catch speeders and thwart any potential wrongdoing — not that there is much. On his new job, Heater will even have time to make sure the homes of local folks are locked and secure while they're away on vacations or wintertime getaways.

He will have to adjust to leaving a 100-member police force for a department that employs a chief and four officers. And, until he starts receiving his Westland pension in a few years, his family will live on a salary in the \$40,000 range, much less than his earning potential here. Heater referred to a motto that often applies to Harbor Springs — "half the pay for a view of the bay."

Although he will miss the camaraderie in Westland, he is ready to embrace a small-town way of life.

"Certainly the small-town environment is endearing," he said. "There are few crimes against people. It's a situation where everybody knows everybody else."

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

Filing deadline in judicial race is April 29

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

With an April 29 candidate filing deadline looming, Assistant City Attorney Mark McConnell has emerged as the lone candidate to replace retiring Westland 18th District Judge C. Charles Bokos.

Despite rumors of other potential candidates, the Secretary of State's office confirmed Monday that McConnell has become the only judicial hopeful to file for the 18th District seat and seek a six-year term.

McConnell, 39, has waged a highly successful fund-raising campaign and has won widespread support from political heavyweights like Bokos, 18th District Judge Sandra Ference Cicirelli, former Judge Gail McKnight, Mayor William Wild and police and fire unions, among others.

Still, McConnell conceded he isn't taking for granted his apparent popularity as a candidate. Judicial hopefuls still



McConnell

have nearly two weeks to file.

"At this point in time, I'm running as if one or more people will be running against me," he said, adding later, "I will keep working hard until the voters put me into office."

Some political observers had wondered whether attorney Jennifer Thor would campaign again after losing an 18th District race in 2006 to Cicirelli, Westland's former mayor.

"I'm not going to run this year, but I appreciate all the support I got last time," Thor told the *Observer*.

Thor and her husband are caring for a new child, she said, "and I'm going to focus on family right now."

Bokos couldn't campaign for re-election because of his age. He will be 70 years old when the November election is held,

an age that by law will prevent him from seeking another term.

Bokos was appointed as judge in 1992 by then-Gov. John Engler to fill a vacancy, and local voters elected him in 1994, 1996 and 2002.

McConnell has worked as a local prosecutor and as an assistant to City Attorney Angelo Plakas. He has been with Plakas' office since 1995, drafting city ordinances and legal opinions, prosecuting cases and negotiating plea agreements.

After earning his degree from the University of Detroit School of Law, he worked for nearly two years for the Michigan Court of Appeals as a prehearing research attorney. He also has had extensive community involvement with organizations like Youth Assistance, Westland Rotary and S.P.A.R.K. (Sports, Parks and Recreation for Kids), among others.

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

FINLEY

FROM PAGE A1

shoulders so I think I'm able to look at things relatively objectively regardless of my personal feelings or circumstances," she said. "I think I have a good perspective as a parent that has a lot of different types of experiences with my kids in the school district."

She also has been involved with the early childhood program at the Stottlemeyer Center, serving as a member and president of its policy committee.

"As far as being more involved, I'd say I'm pretty involved certainly with my students — my children," she said. "There has been a lot of interaction and contact. I'd say I'm known very well on a good note."

Finley also said she has a good foundation in working with budget development and

implementation, hiring, training and mentoring of staff, working with construction and trades through her job.

She sees the role of the school board as setting the standards and policies for the district and, in a broader sense, handling what the district should be doing and what direction it should be going with input from parents, teachers and other community leaders.

"Their job is to guide us in the right direction, keep our kids educated and improve things hopefully as we're going forward," she said.

Finley believes the issues facing the district include funding and declining enrollment. She believes school officials need to look for new sources of revenue, such as grants, and be use that money in the best way possible. An

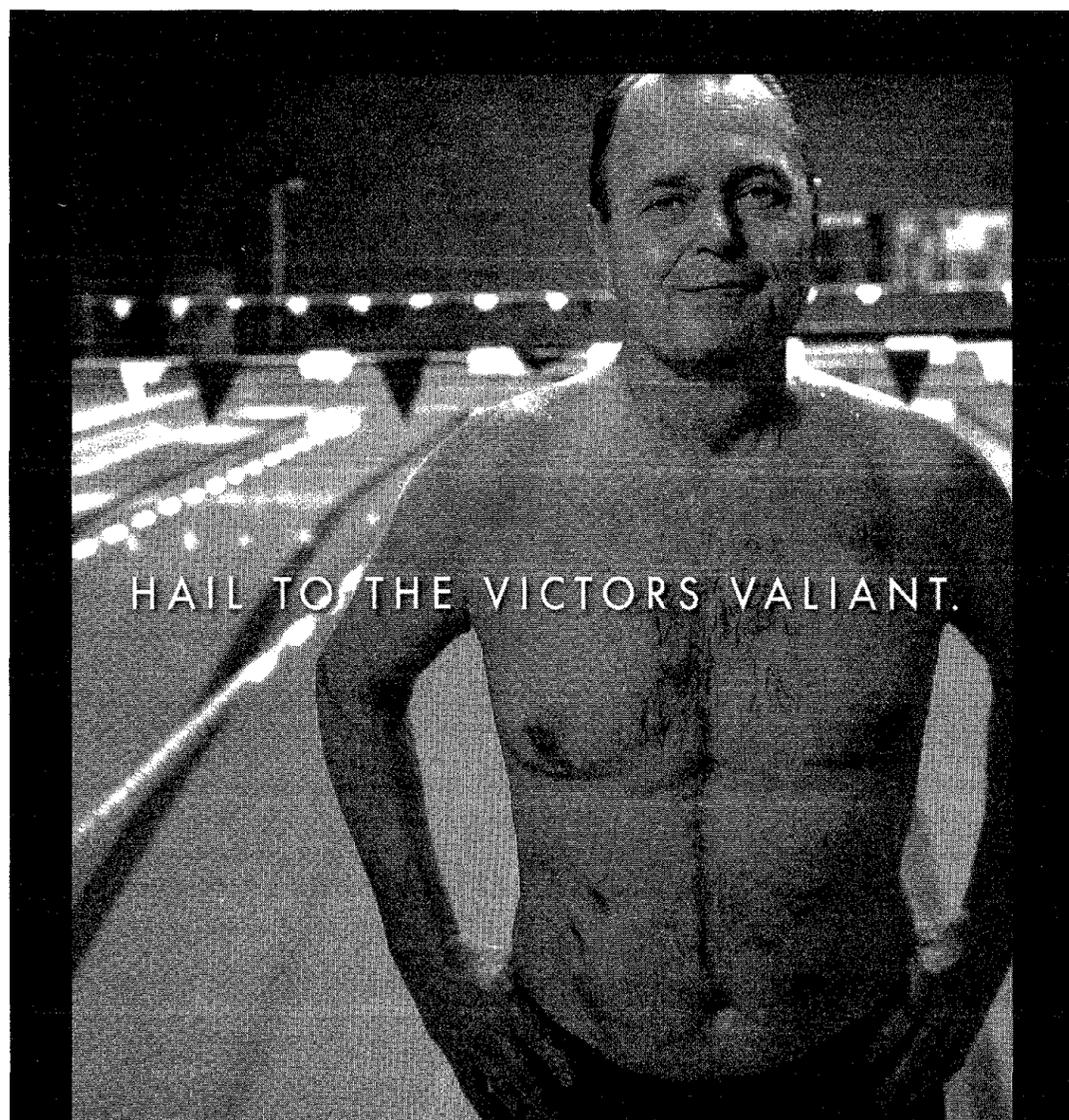
example, she said, was using grant money to hire teachers to work with younger students to improve their reading skills.

She added that the district needs to find out where students leaving the district are going — whether it's for economic reasons or a move to charter schools or academies in the area.

Finley works three days a week for the University of Michigan at the East Ann Arbor Medical Procedures Center, which will allow her to be available for meetings and functions during the day.

"I think that in four years, if I'm actually elected and if things were improved, I'd like to be part of the reason we improved and were better," she said.

smason@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2112



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The U-M Cardiovascular Center is known the world over for helping patients like Ralph. His successful heart transplant and subsequent care got him back to being the competitive swimmer he once was. From the compassion and encouragement of Ralph's doctors, like Dr. Haft, to his RNs, especially Marguerite who made him feel like he was the highlight of her day, to those like his social worker Ruth, who were there with a shoulder to lean on — it's true: what you remember most about U-M are the people who are there for you along the way. That's the Michigan Difference.



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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Poker tournament

The Knights of Columbus will host a charity Texas Hold 'Em Tournament to benefit various charities Saturday, April 19, at The Shark Club, 42070 Ford, Canton. Tournament registration begins at 11:30 a.m., dealing at 12:30 p.m. Buy in of \$40 includes \$5 bounty chip. One \$20 add-on prior to start of tourney. Cash games will be running before and during the tournament. There will be a full menu and bar available. For more information and to reserve a tournament seat, visit www.kofc8284.eventbrite.com, or call Tom at (734) 502-7016 or Fred at (734) 765-8739.

Benefit auction

Are you looking for a relaxing evening of fun? Are you looking for a chance to benefit two good causes? If so, Wayne Rotary and the City of Wayne Recreation Department will hold the 2008 Auction and Tailgate Party at 6 p.m. Friday, April 25, at the Wayne Community Center, 4635 Howe Road, Wayne. The cost is \$10 a person and includes three food items catered by Chef Tony. Auction items range from sports memorabilia to art items, including paintings, glassware and jewelry. There also will be a silent auction items. Proceeds will benefit the soon-to-be-built Boundless Playground

as well as Wayne Rotary Scholarships for high school seniors in the Wayne-Westland Community Schools. For more information or tickets, call (734) 721-7400

Fish Dial-A-Ride

Fish Dial-A-Ride of Western Wayne County is seeking volunteer drivers. A nonprofit community service group, it provides door-to-door rides to non-emergency medical and other necessary appointments for senior and disabled residents of Garden City, Livonia and Westland who are unable to drive and have no alternative transportation. Volunteers can specify days, times, and areas they're willing to drive. For additional information, call (888) 660-2007 and leave a message.

Open house

The Arc of Northwest Wayne County's Lekotek Program, which offers unique play sessions for developmentally disabled children ages up to age 12, will host an open house with free pizza, raffles, balloon magic and ice cream from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Saturday, April 26, at its site, 26049 Five Mile, Redford. Visitors will get a tour and a chance to get acquainted with the program. Reserve a spot by calling Lana at (313) 532-8524 or by e-mail at lanag6356@aol.com. Visit the Web site at www.thearcnw.org.

Love of Lace XV

The Great Lakes Lace Group Inc. will present Love of Lace XV 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, May 3, at the Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile, east of Farmington, in Livonia. The event is a day of lace making, with demonstrations, try-it tables, vendors and displays. Admission is free, public is welcome. For more information, go

online to www.GLLGI.org.

Mom-2-Mom Sale

Academic Pathways Cooperative Preschool will host a Mom-to-Mom Sale 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 26, at Mt. Hope Congregational Church, 30330 Schoolcraft, between Merriman and Middlebelt, Livonia. The sale will feature a bake sale, kids clothing, baby/toddler gear, toys and more. Admission is \$1 and strollers are allowed. If interested in renting a table, send a e-mail Melinda at melinda@brycefamilynet.net.

Free workshops

Dr. William H. Karl, a certified wellness doctor and nutritional expert, will share what he has learned about genetically modified foods and how they may affect your health, at a workshop - "How Many Genetically Modified Foods Are You Eating Without Knowing It?" - at 3 p.m. Friday, April 18, at the Alfred Noble Library in Livonia, 32901 Plymouth Road, between Merriman and Farmington Road. The workshop is co-sponsored by The Foundation for Wellness Professionals. Call (734) 425-8588 for more information and to reserve your seat. He also will present a seminar, "Your Thyroid Does All That? Yes and More" 7-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 7, at the Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile, between Merriman and Farmington Road. Karl will share his expertise about the thyroid gland and its function, what you need to know about the common medications that are prescribed, and explain what tests are available to help you figure out what to do next. Seating is limited, so (734) 425-8588 to register. Visit www.KarlHolisticHealthCare.com, for more information.

2 Westland residents receive county award

Two Westland residents have received awards as part of the Wayne County Commission's annual Women's History Month celebration.

Westland Deputy Mayor Courtney Conover and Diane Diem were nominated for the 2008 Visionary Woman Award by Commissioner Rnaele Bowman, D-12th District. They received the awards at a ceremony held March 20.

"Courtney Conover is an extraordinary woman," said Bowman. "She demonstrated through her personal and professional endeavors her commitment in promoting the best interests of her local community."

Conover, whose professional background is in broadcast journalism, worked as communication coordinator at city government cable station WLND for four years before being appointed the city's deputy mayor in January 2007.

"She is a strong government leader who helps provide an efficient and effective city government for Westland residents," Bowman said.

Diem has been long-time mentor for the Westland Youth Assistance Program. As a mentor, Diem would be matched with a young person for the course of six months.

"Diane Diem understands the importance of community involvement," said Bowman. "For the past 12 years, she has served as a mentor to 10 youths. She develops bonds



Commissioner Rnaele Bowman (right) presents a resolution to 2008 Visionary Woman Award winner Courtney Conover, Westland deputy mayor. On hand for the presentation was Conover's husband, Scott.



Commissioner Rnaele Bowman (right) presents a resolution to Westland resident Diane Diem, who was honored by the Wayne County Commission during its recent Women's History Month celebration.

with young ladies based on trust and respect, helping them raise their self-esteem, encouraging the development of their natural gifts and building their self-esteem.

4-H to hold children's garden event

Michigan State University Extension of Wayne County will be establishing a 4-H Children's Garden on the grounds of its western Wayne County office in Wayne.

The garden will serve as an

educational site for schools and the community, as well as a site where members of the Junior Master Gardener 4-H program can continue their horticulture experiences and complete their community service work.

To help create this community-centered garden, MSUE of Wayne County is inviting youth and their families to a 4-H Children's Garden Event noon-4 p.m. Saturday, April 26, at the RESA/Extension Education Center at 5454 Venoy, Wayne. The event will feature activities that allow youth to help plan the garden, games, food and displays.

The 4-H Junior Master Gardener program engages children in novel, "hands-on" group and individual learning experiences that develop a working knowledge of gardening, an appreciation for the environment, and cultivate the mind. Families or youth with questions on the event or the Junior Master Gardener/4-H program can contact 4-H Educator Laurie Rivetto at (734) 727-7236 or Consumer Horticulture Educator Kristine Hahn at (734) 727-7234.

Soldiers fund holds annual dinner benefit

The Fallen and Wounded Soldiers Fund, a Michigan-based nonprofit organization, will be holding its third annual auction benefit dinner to support U.S. veterans 6-10 p.m. Saturday, April 26, at Laurel Manor in Livonia.

The keynote speaker is Col. Oliver North (Ret.). Congressman John Dingell is the honorary chairman, and WDIV's Chuck Gaidica will

emcee the affair. The program features both silent and live auctions as well as a pre-event private reception.

Tickets are \$100 per seat, 10 seats per table. Corporate sponsorship opportunities are available for levels ranging from \$2,500 to more than \$15,000. Proceeds from the event will be used to help veterans and their families. Last year's benefit

dinner helped raise more than \$150,000. To become a sponsor, call Chris Cornelius at (248) 417-6984 or by e-mail at FWSF1@aol.com. Co-founded by Christopher Cornelius, Tino DelSignore and John Gingell, the Fallen and Wounded Soldiers Fund. Proceeds from corporate and private donations as well as fund-raising events are used to support the organization's mission.

CITY OF WESTLAND SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION WAYNE-WESTLAND AND LIVONIA SCHOOL MAY 6, 2008

TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CANTON AND THE CITIES OF DEARBORN HEIGHTS, INKSTER, ROMULUS, WAYNE AND WESTLAND, County of Wayne: NOTICE is hereby given that School Board Elections will be held in parts of the Township of Canton, and parts of the Cities of Dearborn Heights, Inkster, Romulus, Wayne and Westland for Wayne-Westland Community School District residents and parts of the City of Westland for Livonia Public School District residents on Tuesday, May 6, 2008 from 7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. at which time candidates of the following offices will be voted upon: Two (2) Wayne-Westland Community School Board Trustees for four (4) Year terms ending June 30, 2012 for those residents in parts of Canton Township and the Cities of Dearborn Heights, Inkster, Romulus, Wayne and Westland; and Two (2) Livonia Public Schools School Board Trustees for four (4) year terms ending June 30, 2012 for those residents in parts of the City of Westland.

The places of voting for the School Board Elections to be held on May 6, 2008, will be as follows:

Wayne-Westland School Precincts

Locations - Westland

- 1 Madison School, 1075 S. Carlson
- 2 Kettering School, 1200 Hubbard
- 3 Stottlemeyer School, 34801 Marquette
- 4 & 8 Patchin School, 6420 Newburgh
- 5 & 29 Edison School, 34505 Hunter
- 6 Adams Middle School, 33475 Palmer
- 9 Jefferson School, 32150 Dorsey
- 10 Lincoln School, 33800 Grand Traverse
- 11 Elliott School, 30800 Bennington
- 13 Schweitzer School, 2801 Treadwell
- 14 Marshall Middle School, 35100 Bayview
- 17 P. D. Graham School, 1255 S. John Hix
- 20 Wildwood School, 500 N. Wildwood
- 22 Westland Meadows Club House, 30600 Van Born
- 24 Lutheran High School Westland, 33300 Cowan
- 26 Hamilton School, 1031 Schuman
- 31 Hayes School, 30600 Louise St.
- 34 & 38 Dyer Social Service Center, Senior Wing - 36745 Marquette
- 39 Landings Apartment Club House, 7000 Lakeview

Canton Township

- 2C Tri-City Christian Cntr., 3855 Sheldon Road
- 15C Walker-Winter School, 39932 Michigan Avenue
- 28C Agape Christian Cntr., 45081 Geddes

City of Inkster

- 4001 Hicks School, 100 Helen Ave.
- 2001 & 2002 Inkster Rec. Cntr., 2025 Middlebelt
- 6001 Central Activities Rm. Twin Towers, 2000 Inkster Rd.

City of Romulus

- 6 - R Rudgate Clubhouse, 7040 Shawnee Drive

City of Wayne

- 1 & 2 WA Senior Activity Center, 3500 Sims Ave.
- 4 & 5 WA Taft-Galloway School, 4035 S. Gloria
- 6 & 7 WA Hoover School, 5400 Fourth St.
- 8 - WA Roosevelt-McGrath School, 36075 Currier

Livonia Public School Precincts

Locations - Westland

- 12 & 25 Cooper School, 28550 Ann Arbor Trail
- 15 Greenwood Villa, 7600 Nankin Ct.
- 21 Johnson School, 8400 Hix
- 27 Perrinville School, 33344 Ann Arbor Trail
- 30 Hayes School, 30600 Louise St.
- 36 Western Wayne Skill Center, 8075 Ritz
- 40 & 41 Hellenic Cultural Center at St. Constantine Church, 36375 Joy

The polls for said elections will be open at 7:00 a.m. and will remain open until 8:00 p.m. on said day of election. Every qualified elector present and in line at the hour prescribed for the closing thereof shall be allowed to vote. Voting sites are ADA compliant.

- TERRI BENNETT, CMC
Canton Township Clerk
- VELIDA SMITH
Inkster City Clerk
- MARY CARNEY
Wayne City Clerk
- JUDI DUDZINSKI
Dearborn Heights Clerk
- LINDA CHOATE
Romulus City Clerk
- EILEEN DeHART, CMC
Westland City Clerk

Publish: April 17, 2008

OE0804050_2x4.5

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

The Architect will receive sealed bids for:

GENERAL CONSTRUCTION OF:

GARDEN CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
CAMBRIDGE CENTER DOOR AND FRAME REPLACEMENT

Bid Proposals will be received until the time and the place, as follows, where and when the opening of bid proposals will be conducted by the Owner in public:

Date: May 5, 2008

Time: 1:30 p.m. EST

Place: Board of Education
Garden City Public Schools
1333 Radcliff Street
Garden City, MI 48135

Attn: Sheryl Quinn, Business Manager

Bidding Documents will be available for examination and distribution on or after April 14, 2008.

Examination may be made at the Office of the Architect, TMP ASSOCIATES, INC., Architects - Engineers - Planners, 1191 West Square Lake Road, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48302; the McGraw-Hill Construction Dodge Plan Room, Southfield, Michigan; or the Construction Association of Michigan, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan.

Qualified Bidders may obtain bidding documents from the Office of the Architect, consisting of one (1) set of Drawings and Specifications.

Return Bidding Documents to the Architect within ten (10) days after opening receipt of proposals. Documents are to be complete, in clean and usable condition and free of marks or other defacement.

A sworn and notarized statement disclosing any familial relationship existing between the bidder and any member of the school board, school superintendents, or chief executive must accompany each bid. A board shall not accept a bid that does not include this statement. This statement is on the proposal execution form.

Bid Proposals shall be on forms furnished by the Architect, accompanied by a satisfactory Bid Bond or Certified Check for five percent (5%) of the Base Bid Sum maximum possible proposal amount.

Bidder shall agree not to withdraw Bid Proposal for a period of sixty (60) days after date for receipt of bids.

Accepted Bidder shall be required to furnish satisfactory Performance Bond and Labor and Material Payment Bond in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders.

The right to reject any or all Bid Proposals, either in whole or in part, or to waive any informalities therein is reserved by the Owner.

This project is to be bid at the prevailing wage rate.

Publish: April 17, 2008

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Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property.

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, PS Orangeco, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc. will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage (formerly Shurgard) located at 36001 Warren Rd Westland, MI 48185-6591 (734)729-7095 on 4/25/08 at 10:30 am. Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due.

- Personal property described below in the matter of:
- 1046 - Joseph A Donaldson - Shopvac, Freezer, TV
- 1068 - Jeanine Schifino - Microwave, Mattress, Boxspring
- 1086 - Yolanda Charleston - 1086 - TV, Microwave, Portable Stereo
- 1202 - Michelle Carter - Mattress, Washer, Dryer
- 1314 - Robert Frost - Desk, 4 Boxes, Wardrobe
- 2026 - Erin Richardson - TV, Mattress, Microwave
- 2028 - Nedra Banks - Stove, Headboard, 10 Boxes
- 3068 - Diane Price - Dresser, Vanity, Entertainment Center
- 3190 - Keith Judkins - China Cabinet, Mattress, 4 Chairs
- 3220 - Cornell Barringer - 100 CDs, Speakers, 4 Totes
- 4016 - Christina Hughes - China Cabinet, Loveseat, 10 Totes
- 4096 - Claudia E Barber-Martin - 50 Boxes, 2 Totes, Misc Items
- 5014 - Wilfred Bailey Jr - Microwave, 1 Tote, Entertainment Center
- 5056 - Claire Joslin - Couch, 10 Boxes, Armoire
- 5068 - Aaliyah Muhammad - China Cabinet, 4 Chairs, Table
- 5096 - Fayvian Watts - 20 Boxes, Bed Mattress, Misc Items
- 5120 - Jeremy R Semeniuk - Dryer, Mattress, Box Spring
- 5134 - Fred Croft - Dresser, Mattress, Boxspring
- 5182 - Roseitta Jones - 10 Boxes, 3 Totes, Misc Items
- 6066 - Lena Sturgis - Freezer, 2 Chairs, Mattress

Publish: April 10 & 17, 2008

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CITY OF WESTLAND SYNOPSIS OF MINUTES MTG. 7 4/7/08

Presiding: President Godbout
Present: Graunstadt, Johnson, Kehren, Pickering, Reeves, Stottlemeyer
87-Approved minutes of 3/17/08.
-Approved req: Lions Club White Cane Sales from 4/25-5/4/08 & 11/29-12/24/08.
89-Approved req from Brigandi Westland, Inc. transf. of 2007 Class C Licensed Business w/Dance Permit at 27758 W. Warren from Shar-Ron Sunshine Ltd. & 90-Denied Brigandi Westland, Inc. Field Req. for Entertainment Permit.
91-Approved public hearing 4/21/08 for CDBG XXXIV, 2008-2009.
92-Approved req. Westland Bowl to hold Outdoor Flea Market 5/31, 6/28, 7/12 & 8/9/08.
93-Approved req. to transf. 2007 Class C Licensed Bus. @ 36475 W. Warren, from Applebee's of Mich., Inc. to Applebee's Rest. Mid Atlantic LLC.
94-Approved req. to transf. 2007 Class C Licensed Bus. in escrow at 35000 W. Warren from Jonathan B. Pub Westland, Inc. @ cancel Off Premise Storage.
95-Approved Rev. Site Plan for prop. ext. renov. KFC, 2339 S. Wayne, e. side of Wayne, n. of Glenwood.
96-Postponed req. from Marwan Taleb for ltr. of support to use TURBO Dev. Prgm on two new projts.
97-Approved Checklist Activity: \$531,976.32 and Prepaid: \$5,191,179.84.
-Meeting Adjourned at 8:38 p.m.
Minutes available at the Clerk's office.

JAMES R. GOUBOUT
Council President

EILEEN DEHART
City Clerk

Publish: April 17, 2008

OE0809875-2x4.5

Cranbrook series provides a rare view of collections

See Cranbrook as you've never seen it before — backstage and behind the scenes.

Cranbrook is presenting Behind the Scenes: Exploring Cranbrook's Collections, a new educational series that puts visitors face to face with rarely seen treasures from Cranbrook's historical and archival collections.

Throughout the year, these programs will give participants an opportunity to explore Cranbrook from a new angle, gaining fresh insight into the vast collections that make Cranbrook's museums, historic homes and archives so distinctive.

Participants will see everything from rare William Morris textiles to vast botanical and mineralogical collections to handmade drawings by one of the 20th century's master architects.

Registration is required for each event. Admission is \$35 per person or \$25 per person for members of Cranbrook Art Museum, Cranbrook Institute of Science or Cranbrook House and Gardens. Coming up are:

■ **A Blooming Good Time: Investigating Michigan's Native Spring Flora**, 9:30 a.m. to noon Saturday, May 17, at Cranbrook Institute of Science and Cranbrook House Workshop. Michigan's landscape is filled with colorful and rare flowers, trees and plants. Learn how to identify many of these species common to woodland and wetland environments. The program will begin at Cranbrook Institute of Science for a look at the museum's botany collection, then will move on to the bog and wildflower gardens of Cranbrook House for an up-close examination of several early blooming varieties. Event will be held rain or shine. Participants will be walking approximately

one mile over uneven terrain. Capacity: 50 people.

■ **An Artist's Space: An In-Depth Look at the Influence of Cranbrook Artists on Craft In America**, 1:30-3:30 p.m. Sunday, June 29. This summer, Cranbrook Art Museum will host the national traveling exhibition, "Craft In America: Expanding Traditions," a groundbreaking visual exploration of the history and cultural significance of America's craft movement. A number of Cranbrook Academy of Art artists and faculty are featured in this exhibition.

This program will offer an in-depth look at their contribution to the movement and will include a rare, behind-the-scenes tour of the original craft studios in which these artists worked and created. A guided tour of the exhibition is also included.

■ **Natural Impressions: Finding Motifs of Nature in Cultural Relics**, 7-9 p.m. Friday, July 18, at Cranbrook Institute of Science. Fabrics, pottery, architecture — the arts are filled with representations of elements from the natural world. Institute of Science Director and Archaeologist Michael Stafford will present an engaging lecture exploring the natural world as it is expressed in the cultural materials and artifacts of the Great Lakes region. He will be joined by David Pepper of Okame Antiques, who will explore a similar theme from an Eastern perspective including Japanese cultural items through the centuries. The talks will be highlighted by the presentation of special pieces from the Institute's collections. Capacity: 120 people.

Each program is limited to 25 people per session unless otherwise indicated. To make your reservation, please call (248) 645-3142 or register at www.cranbrook.edu.

Having emergency fund vital to investing

I was recently asked about investment liquidity. A man lost his job last year and is still unemployed. His severance pay has run out. He has investments either in retirement accounts or in a variety of insurance-type products, including a variable universal life insurance policy and a variable annuity. He wants to know how to access the money he needs and what he should do in the future to avoid this problem.

The first issue is the need for an emergency fund. It is essential to being a good investor. I recommend at least three to six months of living expenses in a fund that is available in case of emergency.

In an area where the economy is struggling, people need to build up an emergency fund if they do not already have one in place. To be an effective emergency fund, money cannot be invested in equities or volatile investments. Short-term CDs, money market accounts and ultra short-term bond funds are appropriate for emergency funds. In the past, people would use home equity loans for an emergency fund. However, that option is no longer available to many people.



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

This individual has life insurance he purchased for a tax shelter. He made a two-fold mistake. The first is letting the tax tail wag the dog. Never make an investment decision based purely

upon tax consequences. In any investment, the key is the economics of the investment. If the economics don't make sense, it will still be a bad investment regardless of tax consequences. Life insurance is not a good tax shelter. In order to collect, you have to die.

The other mistake he made was believing that life insurance is an investment. If you don't need insurance to protect loved ones from financial shortfalls in the event of your death, you shouldn't buy it. In most cases, when you combine life insurance and investments, you get the worst of both worlds — high fees and low returns.

Liquidity is an issue that should concern every investor.

Before you buy, always ask how do you get your money out.

In this case, the bulk of his portfolio was tied up in a variable annuity. Since the individual is under 59½, the tax consequences for removing money are heavy. The money would be taxed at ordinary income rates (not the favorable capital gains rate), and there would be early withdrawal penalties.

The adverse tax consequences, the costs and liquidity issues are a few reasons why I am not a fan of variable annuities. We all make mistakes when it comes to handling our money. The key is to learn from our mistakes.

I find many investors never forgive themselves and constantly beat themselves up for the mistakes they have made. The past is the past and there is nothing you can do to change it. Look ahead, learn and make better decisions going forward.

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 from noon to 3 p.m. Sundays on WDTK-AM (1400).

Got Game?
Yep, got scores, too.

Check today's SPORTS

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SOUTHGATE: www.mclaughlins.com
734.285.5454
NOVI: www.thomasvilleofnovi.com
248.344.2551

Friday April 18 9 am - 8 pm
Saturday April 19 9 am - 4 pm

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Member FDIC. All accounts subject to individual approval. See a banker for details. Offers valid in MI only. CD: Annual Percentage Yield (APY) is accurate as of this publication date. 2.50% APY applies to the 9-month term. Limited-time offer may be withdrawn at any time. This offer cannot be combined with any other CD offer. Circle Gold Checking Account with \$100 minimum opening deposit is required. Other rates and terms available. Minimum opening term deposit \$1,000. Penalty for early withdrawal. HYS: Account cannot be accessed using an ATM or Debit Card. \$10,000 minimum opening deposit is required. Personal accounts only. \$6,000,000 maximum deposit per customer. Minimum transaction amount of \$10,000 for withdrawals. Nonqualifying transaction fee of \$25 each for any withdrawal under \$10,000 in a statement period. High Yield Savings Account APY based on collected balances for new personal accounts. 2.50% APY for balances of \$50,000 or greater, 2.25% APY for balances of \$10,000 to \$49,999, 1.00% APY for balances up to \$9,999. Fees may reduce earnings. APYs accurate as of this publication date and may change before or after account opening. Charter One is a division of RBS Citizens, N.A.

Jews unite in celebration of Passover

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
OSE STAFF WRITER

This year Passover is bringing together Jews of different denominations for seders to celebrate their release from Egyptian slavery around 1280 B.C.E. The dinner features a retelling of the Exodus when Moses lead the Children of Israel into the desert after a series of 10 plagues finally convinced Pharaoh "to let my people go."

Congregation Beit Kodesh, a conservative synagogue in Livonia, gathered with the reformed Jewish temple Congregation Bet Chaverim in Canton for a mock children's seder (SAY DER) led by Rabbi Peter Gluck of Bet Chaverim last Sunday. It consisted of a reading of the Haggadah (HAH-GAH-DAH), a book used to guide participants

through a seder. Although the customs of these denominations vary, their beliefs remain the same. They will observe Passover from sundown Saturday, April 19, to sundown Sunday, April 27.

Like most Jews, Jeff Kirsch of Farmington Hills shares the traditional seder meal on the first two nights with his family - wife Paula, son David, 24, daughter Michelle, 26, her son Chase, 2 1/2, and friends. The Kirsch family will also attend services at the synagogue on the first two and last two days of Passover.

"The Haggadah book describes the seder and talks about the Jews leaving Egypt. It gives everyone a sense of what Passover is all about and how it's celebrated at each person's home. To me it's about freedom. It's about hope, not being a slave to anybody, being

able to have your own dreams and fulfilling what you want. It's a very important holiday to us," said Kirsch, education director of the Sunday School for children of the Livonia and Canton congregations.

Roberta Malkowski is busy taking reservations and organizing the dishes to be brought to the Bet Chaverim congregational seder Saturday. The Northville woman will then celebrate Passover with the Klegon family, her close friends in Bloomfield Hills Sunday.

"We go through telling of the crossing of Jewish people across the desert and the 10 plagues and have Matzah, the unleavened bread. One of the most symbolical reasons why we have it at Passover they were fleeing as slaves and did not have time to let bread rise," said Malkowski. "The children are very much involved. One of

most important parts is asking the four questions and usually reserved for the youngest. One question is why is this night different than all other nights. On all other nights we eat leavened bread.

"Our seder is done in Hebrew and English so everyone is able to participate. Everyone gets to read a passage. Passover's always been a favorite holiday of ours because it's so inclusive of family and service is held in your home. You are actually holding a service in your home or with a congregation."

Malkowski grew up outside New York City and used to bring her college roommate home with her for seder.

"It's kind of like a Thanksgiving dinner where you invite everybody around," said Malkowski.

Rabbi Boruch Cohen is inviting Jews in the Birmingham-Bloomfield area to participate in Passover Across America community learning seders at the Birmingham-Bloomfield Chai Center Saturday-Sunday. The synagogue is one of only 20 locations in the country to host the seders sponsored by the National Jewish Outreach Program of New York, a continuing Jewish adult education organization. Passover Across America seders are conducted entirely in English.

"Jewish spirituality is very community oriented," said Rabbi Cohen. "Many people



PHOTO BY JEFF KIRSCH

Rabbi Peter Gluck leads a mock seder for the children of congregations Bet Chaverim and Beit Kodesh last Sunday.

celebrate with family, but others either don't have family around here or want to experience a seder with a rabbi done with a sense of meaning and spirituality."

Cohen's six children, ages 3 to 16, will attend the community seder and share songs they learned at school. "Passover America is to help people understand what seder's all about," said Rabbi Cohen. "Part of the beauty of a community seder is because it's read straight through without any understanding of text, begging for people to ask questions. To the modern ear it's sometimes a bit foreign. What is this saying to me that scholars have asked throughout history? The answers are revolutionary. This is the style of Jewish learning, you take a text

and talk about it. In the discussion is just a burst of truly amazing stuff.

"Passover in Exodus is a historical dimension. There's also a concept of Exodus in an everyday dimension. A person is body and soul together in a sense when the soul can get enslaved to bodily pursuits and lose touch with their spiritual identity. One of the fundamental themes of the holiday is to re-establish contact with one's spiritual identity. A sense of freedom for the soul, which is really the key for the seder celebration, has been somewhat lost in the American seder. We want to reconnect with the real beauty and meaning of what's going on."

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Passages

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BARBARA S. MORRISON

Age 69, passed on to eternal life April 13, 2008 after an 18 month battle with brain cancer. Beloved wife of 35 years of William, Loving mother of Deborah (Reiner) Rommelmann of El Paso, John Michael Manns of Colorado Springs and Deborah (John) Clark of Greenville. Grandmother of Kristine and Ashleigh. Sister of Beverly Buchanan of San Francisco, David (Kris) Shawen of Toledo, Sally (Charlie) Raphael of Williamsburg Virginia and Rich (Kari) Shawen of Portland Oregon. Born to Donald and Helen Shawen in Toledo. Attended DeVilbiss High School in Toledo and Schoolcraft College in Livonia. Barbara worked as an accountant for Coordinated Arts in Plymouth and Enviro Fab in Redford before joining Midwest Benefits in Southfield where she became Director of Finance overseeing the Accounting, payroll and Human Resource departments. When the company was sold she moved to a part time position as accountant for Ann Arbor Dermatology. Barbara especially loved musicals, plays, cooking, traveling in their motor home with a group of friends and volunteering with her Rotarian husband for work with District 6400 of Rotary International. She was a Rotary Paul Harris Fellow and Benefactor. Services held at North Ridge Church on Thursday April 17, 2008. Memorials suggested to Hermelind Brain Tumor Center of Henry Ford Health Systems, Arbor Hospice or the Plymouth Rotary Foundation. Leave condolences at: www.schrader-howell.com

ELOYIS R. ROTHWELL

Age 87, April 15, 2008. Wife of the late Philip M. Rothwell. Mother of Ellen Stewart and Laura Ambrose (Brian). Grandmother of Emily Pachla (Steve), Andrew Stewart, Sarah Ambrose, and Jessica Ambrose. Memorial service, Saturday 2 PM at Kirk in the Hills, 1340 West Long Lake Rd., Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302. Memorial Tributes to Alzheimer's Association, 20300 Civic Center Drive, Suite 100, Southfield, MI 48076 or Kirk in the Hills.

JOHN "JACK" BEAVIS

Age 78, Novi, MI, passed April 11, 2008. Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington, MI

MARSHALL E. STREET (GABBY)

Age 88, April 15, 2008. Beloved husband of the late Willie Mae. Dear father of Pam (Larry) Bruder, Candy (Bill) Chenoweth and the late Marshall W. Father-in-law of Sue. Grandfather of Joe (Paula), Michelle (Doug), Susie (Mike), Josh and Woodie. Great-grandfather of Derek, Sammie, Millie, Brock, Jordan, Madison, Nathan and Morgan. Visitation Thursday 2-9pm. Funeral Services Friday 10am at the John N. Santeiu and Son Funeral Home, 1139 Inkster Rd. (between Ford and Cherry Hill).

PETER B. NIELSEN

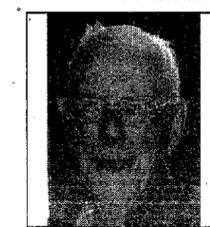
Age 87, of Livonia. Passed away in his home on April 11, 2008. Preceded in death by his wife, Miriam and sons, Alan and Craig. Loving father of Roy (Kerry), Paul and Denise (Greg) Stratton. Proud grandpa of Nicole, Amber, Steven, Stacy, Leslie, James and Haley and great-grandpa to Joshua and Gavin. Memorial service Saturday, April 19, 6:30pm at Emmanuel Lutheran Church on Seven Mile, west of Farmington. Memorials to Angela Hospice, 14100 Newburgh, Livonia, MI 48154, or Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 34567 Seven Mile, Livonia, MI 48152.

MARGERY A. STARNES

Age 80, of Metamora, formerly of Pleasant Ridge & Birmingham, passed away April 10, 2008 at Wm. Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak. She was born May 27, 1927 in Pleasant Ridge. She is survived by her husband Robert, whom she married July 15, 1950 in Royal Oak, her children Robert (Cynthia), James (Cynthia), Deborah, Laura (William) Wiley, Virginia (Steven) Taylor & the late Carol, siblings: Barbara Thunell, Donald Boothroyd & the late Douglas Boothroyd. Two grandchildren Bradley & Katherine also survive. Margery was a member of the P.E.O., & The Delta Zeta Sorority, & was a graduate of Albion College. She loved to travel, life & her family and friends. Visitation took place Monday, 2-9pm at Wessles & Wilk Funeral Home, 23690 Woodward Ave., Pleasant Ridge. A celebration of Life Luncheon will be on Sat., April 19th, from 11am-1pm at Pasquales Restaurant, 31555 Woodward. Memorials are suggested to the charity of your choice.

LILLIAN WADE

Age 79, of 29865 Speidel Rd., East Rochester, OH, died April 12th at the Hospice House in Poland, Ohio. Survivors include a daughter, Margaret Shultz of East Rochester, OH, & sons, Timothy Wade of Delton, MI, and Ronald Wade of Wolverine Lake, MI. Services were held at the Stark Memorial Funeral Home in Salem, OH. Private burial will be held at the Fort Custer National Cemetery in Augusta, MI.



WILLIAM H. BURGUM

Age 93, of West Bloomfield, died April 13, 2008, at William Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak. Mr. Burgum was born November 13, 1914 in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He was a veteran of the United States Navy, #118 Construction Battalion, serving in the South Pacific, New Guinea, Philippines and Australia from 1942-1945. Mr. Burgum was a civil engineer. He was a resident of Birmingham for 65 years where he served as Planning Commissioner, 1951-1958, City Commissioner, 1958-1964 and Mayor, 1963-1964. Mr. Burgum was a member of the Birmingham Rotary since 1960, serving as president, 1964-1965. He was a strong supporter of the YMCA and the Community House in Birmingham. Mr. Burgum is survived by his wife, Louise and children, Thomas L. (Bonnie) Burgum and Katherine (Robert) Schneider. He is also survived by his grandchildren, Jill, Stacy, Tom (Melissa) Burgum, Robin (Steve) Hauck, Robert Schneider, Martha (Andy) Enright and Benjamin Shealey, and three great-grandchildren. Memorial service at Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, 1800 W. Maple, Birmingham, Thursday, April 24 at 11am. Memorials appreciated to Rotary Foundation, c/o Birmingham Rotary, 380 S. Bates, Birmingham, Michigan 48009 or Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, 1800 W. Maple, Birmingham, Michigan 48009. Arrangements entrusted to Lynch & Sons Funeral Directors, 248-435-0660.



MIKE KEETH

Age 59, passed away April 11, 2008. He was a life long Plymouth resident and business owner of Colonial Heating and Cooling. He is survived by his loving partner Diane, his children Richard, Lisa, Kenny, Steve and Sherman. Also survived by his brother Don, his sister Leslyn and many loving grandchildren. Mike was a dear friend to many, loved by those who knew him and will be truly missed.

RUTH F. BERKEY

Age 86, of Westland, April 12, 2008. Beloved wife of the late William. Loving mother of Emily (Bernard) Brock and Pamela Grubbs. Dearest grandmother of seven and great grandmother of 11. She is also survived by her sister Juanita (and the late Adam) Dellinger. She was preceded in death by her daughter, Vickie and her parents, Edward and Edna Cash. Funeral service was Tuesday, 3:00 PM, at Michigan Memorial Funeral Home, (next to Michigan Memorial Park) 30895 Huron River Dr., Huron Twp., (734) 7832646. Visitation was Tuesday 2:00-3:00 PM. Interment at Michigan Memorial Park.



VILMA "VAL" LEE KESSLER

April 13, 2008, Age 75. Resident of Clarkston, MI. Survived by her husband of 51 years, Paul; by her children, Paul A. Kessler and Lisa Marion; and by her grandchildren, Michael and Anne Marie. Marion. Funeral Service Friday 11 AM at A.J. Desmond & Sons Funeral Home, 2600 Crooks Rd. (between Maple & Big Beaver). Family will receive friends Thursday 2-9PM.

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.)

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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.

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RELIGION CALENDAR

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

APRIL

Sanskrit chanting
An ongoing, weekly class taught by Ania Kocpzyński, 7-8:30 p.m. Thursdays, at Renaissance Unity, 11200 E. 11 Mile, Warren. No pre-registration required. A free-will collection is taken at the session. For information, call (586) 353-2300 or visit www.renaissanceunity.org.

Rummage sale
Congregational Pre-Sale 7-9 p.m. Thursday, April 17; Public Rummage Sale 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, April 18, and 9:30 a.m. to noon (52 bag sale) Saturday, April 19, at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 39020 Five Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 464-0211.

Holy Cow rummage sale
Pre-sale noon to 4 p.m. and 5-8 p.m. Thursday, April 17 (cost is \$3); 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, April 18, and 9:30 a.m. to noon Saturday, April 19, at St. John's Episcopal Church, 574 S. Sheldon, Plymouth. For more information, call (734) 453-0190 or visit www.stjohnsplymouth.org.

Rummage sale
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, April 18, and 9:30 a.m. to noon Saturday, April 19, in the fellowship hall at 39020 Five Mile, between Newburgh and Haggerty roads. \$2 bag sale on Saturday.

Evening of evangelization
The Archdiocese of Detroit's Office for Evangelization invites all area Catholics to join Rev. Alex Kratz of the Archdiocesan Mobile Evangelization Team 7-9:30 p.m. Friday, April 18, at St. Michael the Archangel Church, 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth Rd., Livonia. The evening will begin with a Holy Hour, followed by small-group discussions, teaching, and fellowship. The series continues on May 9, and then resumes Sept. 19, and runs through December. All interested Catholics welcome. Call (734) 261-1455, Ext. 200.

Card party
St. Simon and Jude Church will hold a Happy Days luncheon and card party 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday, April 18, at the church, 32500 Palmer, east of Venoy, Westland. The cost of the non-smoking event is \$7 per person and there will be table and door prizes and 50/50 raffles. For ticket reservations, call (734) 722-1343.

Mom2Mom
9 a.m. to noon Saturday, April 19, at Garden City First United Methodist Church. Admission \$1. Tables still available for \$20. Call Rhonda at (734) 795-6921 for more information.

Sisters in Christ
Women's conference 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, April 19, at St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, east of Beech Daly, Redford. Cost is \$40 pre-conference registration, \$50 at door. Call (313) 534-7730.

Bethany Suburban West
All separated, divorced and singles welcome. Monthly breakfast 9:30 a.m. Saturday April 19, at Leon's Family Dining 30149 Ford Road, south side (next to Tim Horton's), Garden City. For details, call Kathy, (734) 513-9479.

Day of Reflection
Bethany Central Board is offering a Day of Reflection hosted by the Rochester Bethany II a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, April 19, at St. Andrew's Catholic Church. This Mini Conference will have two topics: Social Security Benefits for Divorced People and the Catholic Annulment Process. There is no cost for conference and lunch will be served. For details, call Audrey (248) 613-5461.

Pax Christi conference
8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, April 19, at Christo Rey Church, Lansing. Theme focuses on bringing an end to racism. Registration fee \$40 until April 12, \$45 after, visit www.paxchristi.org, send e-mail to TirakPaxMi@aol.com or call (517) 482-2558.

MAMA'S Coffeeshouse
15th anniversary celebration Saturday, April 19, at Birmingham Unitarian Church, 38651 N. Woodward, near Lone Pine Rd., Bloomfield Hills. Open Mic at 7:15 p.m., show at 8 p.m. Features The Biddies (Jan Krist and Kitty Donohoe), Floyd King and the Bushwackers, Joel Mabus, Matt Watroba, Jim Bizer and Mustard's Retreat. Admission \$15, \$13 seniors and age 16 and under. For information, call (248) 569-0965. To reserve a slot for Open Mic, call (248) 626-4650.

Save our church concert
A variety of singing groups perform 5 p.m. Saturday, April 19, at St. Paul A.M.E. Church, 2260 Hunt at Chene, Detroit. Proceeds to help save Immanuel Grace A.M.E. Church at 490 Conner. Call (313) 821-0181. Church mortgage payment due May 13.

Blood drive
8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, April 20, at St. Edith Catholic Church, 15089 Newburgh, Livonia. Walk-ins welcome. Call (734) 464-1222.

Gospel concert
The Sacred Heart Choral Assembly of Sacred Heart Parish in Detroit performs 4:30 p.m. Sunday, at St. Michael the Archangel Church, 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth Road, Livonia. The concert is sponsored by the Choirs of St. Michael's, under the direction of Mrs. Cindy Stempin, and is open to the public. No tickets required; a free will offering is requested.

Church schedule
Garden City Presbyterian Church continues its 10 a.m. Sunday worship service with traditional hymns, scripture readings and choral music (fellowship follows). Youth Sunday School and nursery care also available at 10 a.m. Adult Sunday School at 8:30 a.m. Informal gathering 6 p.m. every Sunday with scriptures and discussion at the church on Middlebelt, one block south of Ford Rd. Call (734) 421-7620.

Spring rummage sale
10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday-Friday, April 24-25, and 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 26, in the hall at St. Joseph Parish, 16101 Rotunda Dr., Dearborn. Call (313) 336-3227.

Rummage sale
9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 26, at Redford Aldersgate United Methodist Church, 10000 Beech Daly, two blocks south of Plymouth Road. Toys, clothes, shoes and purses, small appliances, books, kitchen stuff. Proceeds go for church and district mission projects. Call (313) 937-3170.

Used book/media sale
9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, April 26, at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church, 47650 North Territorial at

Beck, Plymouth Township.
Rummage sale
Books, clothes and lots of odds and ends 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, April 26, at First United Methodist Church, 6443 Merriman, Garden City. There will be a bag sale at 12:45 p.m.

Bible meets Broadway
8 p.m. Saturday, April 26, the Livonia Youth Choir and the St. Paul's Singers, under the direction of Pat Hutchison and April Toews, perform music from The Sound of Music. Fiddler on the Roof, Into the Woods, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, and more, at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, 27475 Five Mile, west of Inkster Road. For information, call Pat Hutchison at (248) 347-4134. The evening begins at 6:30 p.m. with a dinner in the church's social hall where each group will offer a short performance. At 8 p.m., the choirs will move to the sanctuary for their general concert which also features some Churchill High School alumni who have also been a part of the Livonia Youth Choir and/or St. Paul's. Tickets may be purchased at the door for \$3. Tickets for dinner and concert are \$6.00 and available by calling (734) 422-1470 as soon as possible as seating for the dinner is limited.

Irish festival
1-9 p.m. Sunday, April 27, at the grounds of St. Patrick's Senior Center, 58 Parsons, behind Orchestral Hall. Hundreds of Irish dancers, singers, musicians plus food, games, raffles. Proceeds go to St. Pat's center. Call (313) 833-7080

Seekers of spiritual intelligence
Beacon Hill Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) explores the multi-faceted theme of spiritual intelligence during the 1 p.m. Sunday worship service in April at St. Michael Lutheran Church Chapel, 7000 N. Sheldon, south of Warren, Canton (enter through the south double doors next to the play area) For information, call (313) 402-6900 or (313) 806-PRAY, send e-mail to beaconhillccdoc@aol.com.

Reformed Protestant services
The doctrines and teachings of solid, Reformed Protestantism are preached by Rev. Sean Humby 3:30 p.m. Sundays at the Detroit Preaching Station of the Free Church of Scotland (Continuing), at Cherry Hill School, 50440 Cherry Hill, corner of Ridge, Canton. For information, call (734) 402-7186, send e-mail to sean.humby@att.net, or visit www.members.aol.com/rsiworship/detroit.html.

Vacation Bible School
Registration began April 7 for Vacation Bible School to run July 14-18, at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 39020 Five Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 464-0211.

UPCOMING
Spring fund-raiser
10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, May 3, at Cherry Hill United Methodist Church, 321 S. Ridge Rd., south of Cherry Hill, Canton. A variety of vendors will be displaying and selling products. No admission fee. Refreshments and Bake Sale available. For information, call (734) 495-0035.

Clothing bank
Canton Christian Fellowship Clothing Bank is open 10 a.m. to noon on the fourth Saturday of every month at the

Please see **CALENDAR, A7**

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE A6

church, 8775 Ronda Drive, south of Joy, between Haggerty and Lilley. The Clothing Bank is open to everyone in the community who is in need of new or like-new clothing. Donations are also accepted. For information, call (734) 404-2480 or visit www.CantonCF.org.

Bethany Suburban West
Monthly Dance 8 p.m. to midnight Saturday May 3, at St. Robert Bellarmine, 27101 W. Chicago at Inkster Rd., Redford. Cost \$10. Doors open 7:30 PM. Call (734) 261-5716.
Cinco de Mayo/Game Night 7:30-10 p.m. Friday May 9, at the St. Linus Annex across from the doors of the Church. Call (734) 513-9479 or (313) 996-8644. Cost will be either a snack, dessert for at least 10 people or a couple of large bottles of pop (regular and diet) or \$5 and we will supply the paper products and the coffee.
Monthly Breakfast Meeting 9:30 a.m.

Saturday May 17, at Leon's 30149 Ford Rd., Garden City. All separated, divorced and singles welcome; for details call (734) 513-9479.
Bethany Together Dance 8 p.m. to midnight Saturday, May 31, Don Hubert V.F.W. Hall 27345 Schoolcraft (1-96 service drive), east of Inkster Rd., Redford. Admission \$15. For information, call (586) 264-0284.

Rummage sale
1-7 p.m. Wednesday, May 7, and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday, May 8, at First Presbyterian Church, Birmingham. For information about donating, working, or shopping, call the church at (248) 644-2040, visit <http://fpcbirmingham.org/RummageSale>, or send e-mail to fpc.rummage.sale@gmail.com.

Father Kern award dinner
In honor of the Rev. Clement Kern Thursday May 8 (6 p.m. reception and silent auction, 7 p.m. dinner, 8 p.m. award ceremony). Tickets \$100. For information and reservations, call (248) 666-1194.

ONGOING

Single Place Ministry
Single Place Ministry continues to meet Thursdays 7:30-7:45 p.m. for social time, 7:45-8 p.m. opening, 8-9 p.m. program, at First Presbyterian Church, 200 E. Main St., Northville. Call (248) 349-0911 or visit www.single-place.org. Cost is \$5.

Prince of Peace Church
Recovery, Inc., meets at 10 a.m., every Wednesday at the church, Walnut Lake Road and Green, West Bloomfield. Recovery, Inc., is an international, non-profit, self-help community based service organization that helps people with nervous and emotional disorders reduce their suffering and improve their quality of life. Call Martha Paul at (248) 682-9362 or e-mail her at marthapaul@sbcglobe.net.

Sunday services
Come to hear about the love of Jesus Christ for you 8:15 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. Sundays at Faith Lutheran Church, 30000 Five Mile, west of Middlebelt, Livonia. For information, visit www.livonfaith.org.

Tai chi and strength classes
Orchard United Methodist Church is hosting a Tai Chi class 7-8:30 p.m. Mondays in the Mac at the church, 30450 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills. The cost per class is \$10 or \$40 prepaid for five classes. The strength class takes place 9:30-10:30 a.m. Monday and Wednesday. Cost is \$5 per class. Drops in welcome. For information, call (248) 626-3620 or visit www.orchardumc.org.

Church offerings
Riverside Park Church of God, Sunday worship is at 10 a.m., Wednesday bible classes (child through adult) at 7 p.m. Youth outings held monthly. The senior group (age 50 plus) has lunch together every month. The men get together for breakfast the first Saturday of the month plus we offer choir practice for all singers. All visitors welcome. The church is at 11771 Newburgh at Plymouth Road, Livonia. Call (734) 464-0990 for details.

Church services
Want a unique church experience? Join in Sunday mornings at 10 a.m. for a service that will lift your entire family, but be prepared for what will happen after just one service at Riverside Park Church of God, 11771 Newburgh (corner of Plymouth Road), Livonia. Call (734) 464-0990 for information.

Thursday fellowship dinner
All are welcome, 6 p.m. dinners catered by The Cookie Lady, Susan Navarro, at St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford. Cost is \$6. Call (313) 534-7730.

Thrift store
Open Wednesdays 9:30-11:30 a.m. and Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford. Call (313) 534-7730.

Tai Chi class
Orchard United Methodist Church (30450 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills) is hosting a Tai Chi Class by Sam Purdy, Wu Style Tai Chi. This meditative form of Martial Arts is great for reducing stress and is great for

over-all health memory and balance. Everyone is welcome from beginning to experienced participants at any time. Classes began 7-8:30 p.m. Jan. 14, and continue every Monday thereafter. Cost per class depends on number of participants. For information or to reserve your space, call (248) 701-1587 or (248) 626-3620. Visit www.orchardumc.org for updates.

Living Water series
Mark McGilvrey leads a 10-week video series called H2O starting 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 13, at Memorial Church of Christ, 35475 Five Mile, Livonia. Call (734) 464-6722. The group is open to men and women who would like to review the basic teachings of Jesus who claimed to be living water.

Couple prayer series
St. Colette Church, 17600 Newburgh, Livonia, is offering a Couple Prayer Series (www.coupleprayer.org) for married or engaged couple, began 7-9 p.m. Friday, Jan. 4, in the Activity Center Hall. For registration information, call Mary Ellen at (734) 464-4435.

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Virgil Humes, Pastor

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Clarenceville United Methodist
20200 Middlebelt Rd. • Livonia
734-474-3444

Worship Service 9:30 AM
Sunday School 11:00 AM
Nursery Provided

Redford Aldersgate
2 blocks South of Plymouth
10000 Beech Daily 9:30-11:00
9:30 - Trad. Worship & Sun. Sch.
11:00 - Contemp. Family Worship
www.redfordaldersgate.org

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church
10000 Beech Rd., Livonia Just north of I-96
734-522-6830

Sunday Worship 8:30 & 11:00 am - Traditional

Staffed Nursery Available

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Making disciples who share the love of Jesus Christ
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www.pfumc.org

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"Open Hearts, Minds & Doors"
36500 Ann Arbor Trail
between Wayne & Newburgh Rds.
734-422-0149

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For Church Directory changes and information regarding advertising in this directory, please call Donna Hart (734) 953-2153 the Friday before publication.
To mail copy: The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150 or Fax to (734) 953-2121

Airport plans three open houses on master plan

The Wayne County Airport Authority will host six additional public informational "Open Houses" to provide local community members with the opportunity to learn more about the details of the Authority's proposed Master Plan for Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport.

"The Airport Authority has been and remains committed to developing an Airport Master Plan for Detroit Metro that meets the needs of the entire region we serve," said Wayne County Airport Authority CEO Lester Robinson. "These additional sessions will help advance our effort to include as much public

input as possible in the planning process and to develop the Master Plan in the most transparent manner possible."

The plan includes building a new runway that would require the removal of housing in a Romulus neighborhood. Romulus officials and residents have objected to the proposal.

The Airport Master Plan Open House sessions will be held 1-4 p.m. and 6-9 p.m. Wednesday, April 23; 9 a.m. to noon and 6-9 p.m. Tuesday, April 29; and 9 a.m. to noon and 1-4 p.m. Thursday, May 1, at the Metropolitan Hotel, 31500 Wick Road, Romulus.

All six Open House sessions will provide the same resources but the schedule is staggered across three dates and time slots to maximize community participation.

Details about the Master Plan will be provided using informational displays (including large charts and maps) and representatives from the Airport Authority's planning team will be available throughout each session to personally address each participant's questions and concerns. Community members are encouraged to stop-by at any time during any of the Open Houses and to stay until all of their questions are answered.

"By providing 18 hours of availability across three different dates when airport stakeholders can drop in at their leisure, this 'Open House' format will provide community members with several chances to interact one-on-one directly with a member of the Authority's planning team," Robinson said.

At its meeting on March 20, the Airport Authority Board elected to defer action on the Airport's proposed Master Plan to its May 22 meeting to allow additional time for community concerns to be addressed.

The Federal Aviation Administration estimates that

passenger traffic at Detroit Metro Airport will increase an average of 2.3 percent annually. As a result, Detroit Metro expects to see nearly 60 million passengers and more than 800,000 take-offs and landings each year by 2025.

An airport "Master Plan" is required by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) from any airport that plans to seek federal funding for airport development projects. The purpose of Detroit Metropolitan Airport's proposed Master Plan is to develop a basic layout of physical improvements that will be needed if the demand and activity increase to the levels expected.

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WSU students offer PR services to nonprofit organizations

Wayne State University, celebrated for its applied curriculum, is taking another step in integrating its practical education to the community through its service learning initiative, CommunityEngagement@Wayne.

One of the latest projects in service learning at Wayne involves a Public Relations COM 7140 graduate course crafted to enrich 24 PR students' academic and practical skills.

The students are working to develop press kits, coordinate events and garner media attention for Detroit nonprofits, including Alternatives for Girls, Covenant House Michigan, Southwest Detroit Development Collaborative (SDDC), Southwest Detroit Environmental Vision, as well as a team helping to increase the visibility of the communication studies major at Wayne.

These organizations have found support through CommunityEngagement@Wayne, which is a service learning program dedicated

to advancing students' efforts in the causes of these organizations ranging from drug and sexual abuse prevention amongst young girls to nurturing Detroit's natural resources and environment. The initiative identifies courses that have a practical component and assist eager instructors in implementing real-life skill building experiences. For example, from the nearly \$650,000 WSU has raised toward this project the COM 7140 course was awarded a portion to support their efforts in establishing community partners as clients needing public relations consultation.

The COM 7140 students will continue to assist local area non-profits by supplying a variety of public relations services through the end of the semester. Students hope to equip the organizations with PR resources that will sustain their organizational needs for the future while contributing to their mission.

"I wanted to be a part of something from the beginning and was especially interested

in contributing a strategic plan that will be ongoing and adaptive as the organization grows and changes," said Anne Sesko, graduate student working with SDDC. "I knew that this kind of collaboration existed, but did not realize what an impact it could have."

In addition to students, many WSU instructors believe the service learning initiative enhances classroom learning through real-life skill building, which ultimately provides a competitive advantage for participants.

Since its inception in 2005, CommunityEngagement@Wayne has promoted the university's dedication to its local, urban environment. The initiative provides tangible benefits to communities and unique opportunities for students to apply newly learned skills in a real-world context. It supports the service learning endeavors of WSU instructors and students and welcomes innovative community partnering. For more information, visit www.communityengagement.wayne.edu.

LEKOTEK OPEN HOUSE

The Arc of Northwest Wayne County's Lekotek Program is holding an open house 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Saturday, April 26, at 26049 Five Mile Road, Redford.

Lekotek offers play sessions for developmentally disabled children ages birth to 12 years old.

If you would like to attend the Open House, please RSVP to Lana at (313) 532-8524 or e-mail: lanas6356@aol.com

You can also visit on the web www.thearcnw.org.

Service offers free ACT, SAT practice sessions

The Princeton Review of Ann Arbor is holding a National Free Test Day for high school students.

This event is open to the public and students may register simply by calling The Princeton Review office at 800-2Review or 734-663-2163. Students may also register by visiting www.PrincetonReview.com/Events.

These full-length practice ACT and SAT practice tests are given under simulated testing conditions. Students will receive personalized score reports detailing their strengths and weaknesses.

The ACT testing will take place 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on May 3. Locations are offered around the State: Ann Arbor, Bloomfield Hills, Birmingham, Grosse Pointe and Utica.

The SAT testing will take place 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on May 17. Locations are offered around the State: Ann Arbor, Bloomfield Hills, Birmingham, Grosse Pointe and Utica.

Students and parents are invited to attend the Scores Back and Strategy Session 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. on May 31 in Ann Arbor, Birmingham and Utica. Students will receive their scores, learn strategies for each test and how to gain admission in a top-notch school.

Learn to manage your money effectively

JVS, a Southfield-based nonprofit, and Detroit Commerce Bank will present Credit and Budgeting for Today, a seminar on personal finance and money management. The seminar will be held 5 p.m. Wednesday, April 23, at JVS, 29699 Southfield Road, Southfield.

Seminar participants will become "Money Smart" by learning how to properly manage their money. Individuals will learn the importance of financial goal setting, how to determine their income and expenses to create a budget, how credit scores are determined and the necessary steps to repair their credit. For more information, contact Clarissa McMillon of JVS at (248) 233-4482 or cmmillon@jvsdet.org.

The seminar is part of Money Smart Week, a Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago initiative, being held in Michigan April 20-26. During this time, more than 315 Money Smart education classes, seminars, and activities will be held to help people better manage their personal finances. For more information on Michigan's Money Smart activities visit www.moneysmartweek.org/michigan or call (877) MNY-SMRT.

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Children's book takes a shine to lighthouses

BY HUGH GALLAGHER
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Washington, D.C., has played host to many famous marches — by veterans, civil rights advocates, anti-nuclear demonstrators, fathers for responsibility and mothers against war.

But the capital hasn't seen anything like the vision John Foley conjures in his children's book *Shining on Lighthouses*. In his colorful tale the lighthouses march to demand better preservation.

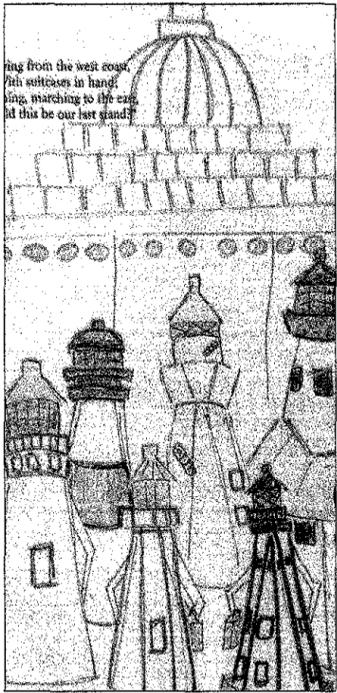
Eighteen years in the merchant marines gave Foley, 50, of Canton an appreciation for lighthouses. He started right after high school graduation with a job on a Great Lakes freighter in 1976.

"In the early '80s, I was on a ship that went from Holland to Spain to Greece, Egypt, Saudi Arabia," he said. "Then I went back to the Great Lakes. From there you get to see all the lighthouses from out in the lake and take points of navigation from them. I've always had a fancy for lighthouses."

Foley works as a security officer at the Center for Forensic Psychiatry in Pittsfield Township but has dreamed of being an author and lighthouses seemed like a good subject.

"For Christmas one year, I got a book, *Past Lighthouses*, and inside the book is a picture on a lighthouse with a crack at its base. Somebody snapped a picture of it as it was half fallen over and then in the water," Foley said. "Looking at that inspired the first two paragraphs and from there I'd write a little here and write a little there."

At first the idea was to have Michigan lighthouses march on Lansing, but soon Foley broadened his



Erin Dillenbeck of D&M Studios in Canton brings John Foley's lighthouse story to life with lively drawings.

vision and created a fable including lighthouses from both coasts and the Great Lakes in 48 four-line verses.

The book opens: On a cold November morning/My fate came to be;/To stumble toward the shore line,/And fall into the sea."

Writing the book was the easy part. It was getting published that proved dif-

ficult. He sent his creation to eight publishers. Three offered encouragement but all eight rejected his book. The editor of *Lighthouse Digest* suggested he find an illustrator.

Erin Dillenbeck of D&M Studios in Canton brings Foley's story to life with bright, whimsical illustrations that offer a childlike perspective with some sly winks to adults.

"She did a fine job," Foley said. "I had the basic idea formulated for each page and the words that were on each page. I wanted how I had seen it in that book, how the lighthouse falls, and as it travels on through, I wanted a history of lighthouses."

Foley said he wanted to show how lighthouses have been neglected as ships have moved to global navigation that makes lighthouses obsolete.

After his frustration with waiting and being rejected, Foley decided to self-publish. He created several copies of his book at Kinko's and distributed them to family and friends.

"I got nothing but positive results," he said.

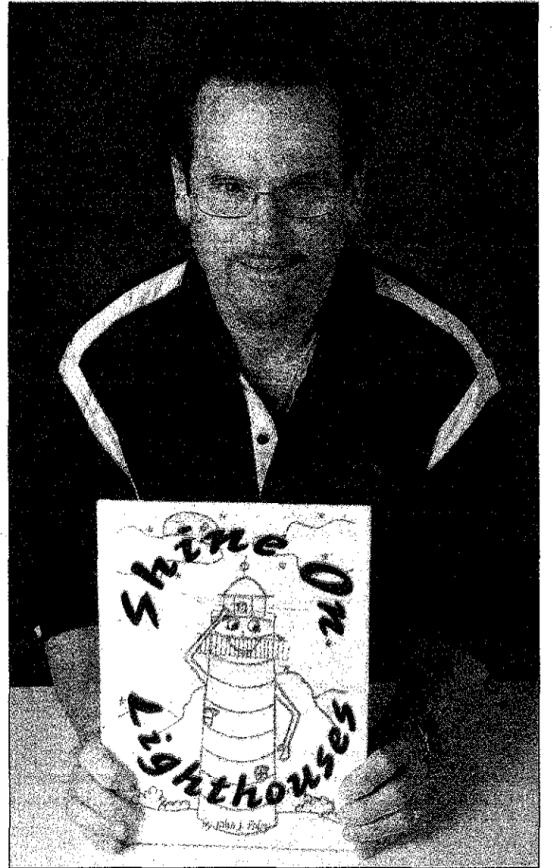
He arranged with Xlibris to print his book. The book is available at xlibris.com for \$21.99 hardcover but Foley is trying to find other ways to get his book and its message out.

"I would like to inspire a march on Washington once a year," he said. "August 7 is National Lighthouse Day and I'd like to see a National Lighthouse Festival in Washington."

This summer, he will attend the Great Lakes Lighthouse Festival to sell his books.

Foley is married with three adult children and several grandchildren.

hgallagher@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2149



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

John Foley's 'Shine on Lighthouses' is a children's book promoting lighthouse preservation.

This is the season of storms — and vultures

Vultures soar in majestic flight, riding rising thermals. Chorus frog songs of lust rise from misty marshes. Spring peepers peep under the crescent moon. Catkins glisten on foggy dawns. Whispers in woodland belong to spring breezes. Scavenging opossums shuffle along creeks. Red-winged blackbirds flash their epaulets from every cattail marsh. Sandhill cranes bugle to dawn shortly after owls fall silent. Steelhead run the Clinton.

So it is in the wilder parts of the metro and in protected pockets of parks and wildlands.

In the suburbs, crocus adds splashes of color. Groundhogs search in vain for your gardens. Coyotes hunt rabbits and the occasional carousing cat. Raccoons rustle under decks. And down at St. John Oakland Hospital in the southeastern corner of the county, killdeer strut the far corners of the parking lot, as house sparrows jostle for prime nesting "platforms" in the large "AMBULANCE" bay letters outside the emergency entrance. The A's, B and E are their favorites.

All these natural signs and so many more, are confirmations that spring has smothered winter — almost. A time of greening, a time of peace: not so fast.

Our atmosphere remains turbulent and this week has been designated as Severe Weather Awareness Week with good reason. Nature may whisper at times in her infinitesimal ways of subtle beauty and wondrous ways or she can explode with extreme weather beyond our comprehension. Sadly, we frequently ignore this potential until too late.

This is the season of the gray-green pea soup skies that seem to boil and churn. The season of tornado sirens. Rumbling thunder. Hail storms. Violent downburst of wind. Flash floods.

And many believe this season may be a rocky one of rapidly changing conditions as weather patterns and increased warmth fuels a new norm of increasingly severe storms with less warning. Awareness of Michigan's serve weather potential is your responsibility.

One of the most common and magnificent manifestations of Michigan severe weather are



Nature's Way

Jonathan Schechter

our thunderstorms with billowing cumulonimbus clouds, some reaching higher than the cruising altitude of jetliners. And these powerhouses of energy spawn lightning, killing humans and cows and wildlife, sparking house fires

and wildfires and myth: the preverbal "bolt out of the blue."

Never forget if you can hear thunder, lightning is a deadly threat even if the storm seems miles away and the sky is blue. Time to play ball? Think again.

Staying outside is foolish and being stranded outside can be harrowing. For outdoor safety tips for campers, hikers, boaters and climbers that lessen your chance of being hit if there is no safe retreat, explore the NOAA Web site www.lightningsafety.noaa.gov/outdoors.htm.

The sobering site is full of cautions and tips and advice that we need to know. Tidbit: There is a reason that if you are trapped outside during a severe storm your safest place of last resort may be under high-tension lines, away from the massive support poles. Last year Michigan had 22 tornadoes, including our first EF-3 in 10 years. Hail pounded nearby Durand for 30 minutes, damaging almost every building and flattening crops. On Aug. 24, six tornadoes struck Lower Michigan, including one that cut a 200-yard wide, six-mile long swath through three counties, severely damaging Fenton. Be safe. Purchase and know how to use a NOAA Weather Radio with battery backup. We are in the season of silent soaring vultures and supercell storm... nature's way is unpredictable.

Jonathan Schechter writes on nature's way. E-mail him at oaknature@aol.com.



A turkey vulture soars on a thermal cell.



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OUR VIEWS

Our board picks: Schofield, Finley

On Tuesday, May 6, voters in the Wayne-Westland Community Schools will go to the polls to elect two members to the Board of Education. If the election is like past years, a small percentage of people will decide who will help determine policies and set objectives for the school district.

But voters should take more of an interest in the election. Five residents of the district have expressed an interest to serve and each deserves fair consideration. Each candidate brings a different perspective of the district and the issues it faces, and each candidate offers different credentials. But they all have one thing in common — they care about the district and they care about its students.

Of the five candidates, only two will be elected. We believe they should be incumbent board member Cindy Schofield and newcomer Jennifer Finley.

Schofield has served on the board for eight years and has a firm grasp of the issues and problems facing the district. She is a proven leader and effective member of the board, which is apparent with her selection by her colleagues as the board vice president for six of her eight years. She also is willing to ask the tough questions and speak her mind.

She also is a parent and volunteer and is actively involved in the schools, including serving on the Zebra Parent Advisory Committee at Wayne Memorial High School.

Like Schofield, Finley is a parent who has experience working with educators and administrators on behalf of children. She has a good understanding of the role of the school board in setting policy and running the district and the importance of education, demonstrated by her five-year stint on the policy committee at the Stottlemeyer Early Education Center.

As the mother of several special needs children, she is knowledgeable about the special education process and the importance of maintaining lines of communication between parents and teachers.

Both candidates have what is needed to keep the district moving forward in difficult times. That's why we urge residents to re-elect **Cindy Schofield** and elect **Jennifer Finley** to the school board.

No matter who you support, let the candidates know you care by taking the time to vote in the Tuesday, May 6, election.

It is time to slay the pop-up tax dragon

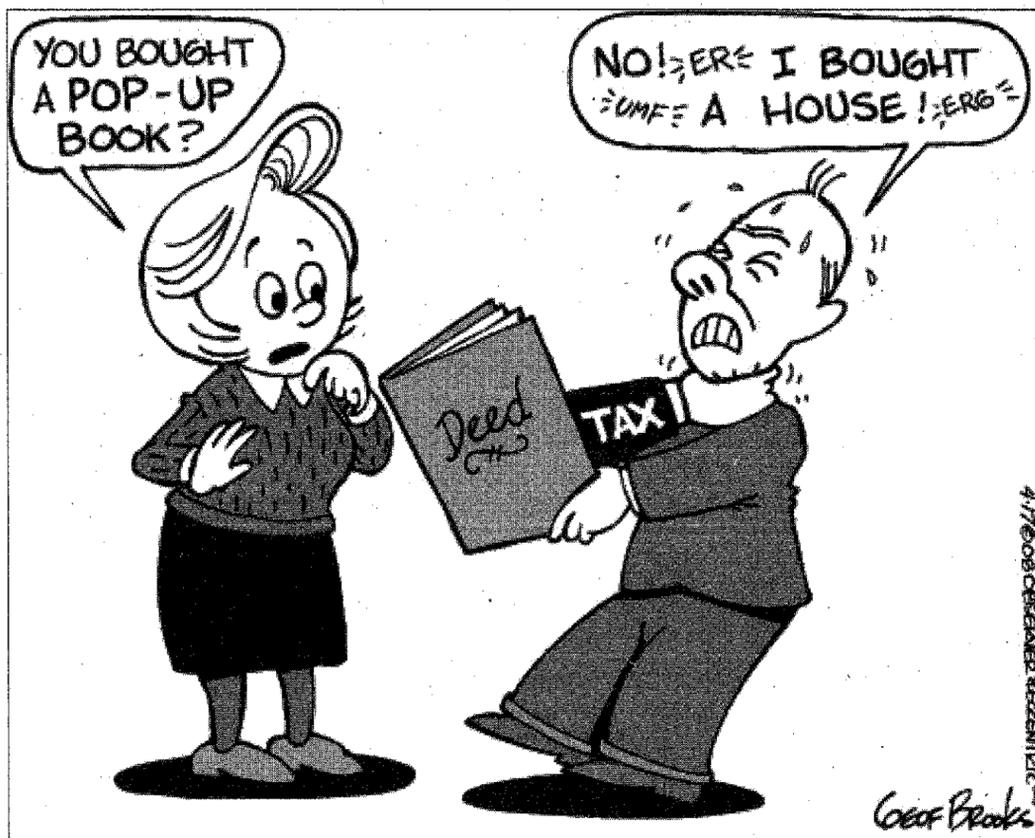
With the real estate market reeling and foreclosures piling up in neighborhoods all across the state, something must be done to stimulate home sales. State legislators took a crack at putting a moratorium on the so-called real estate pop-up tax last spring, but failed miserably. Given the dismal performance of state lawmakers, their failure to address the inequitable property tax situation in Michigan is sadly all too familiar.

Last year, the House and Senate couldn't agree on how best to attack the problem. The House pushed for an 18-month moratorium on the pop-up tax that would have allowed a home buyer to inherit the property tax bill of the previous owner rather than suffer the fate of uncapping and reassessment, which typically adds thousands of dollars to property taxes. At the time, the state was dealing with a massive budget deficit and many Republicans feared the plan would take too much revenue away from schools and local governments. A treasury official all but killed the plan by testifying that it would deplete state coffers by up to \$100 million over three years.

A tax hike temporarily cured the state budget deficit, but the Legislature didn't get around to addressing property taxes over the winter. That's too bad because the traditional spring house-buying season is upon us and the real estate market is worse than last year. A glimmer of hope recently appeared when the folks up in Lansing once again began talking about the pop-up tax.

This time the Senate took the lead by passing a host of bills designed to spur real estate sales and ease the pain for those who can't sell a house.

What the Senate plan would do is shift the burden from local governments to the state, likely precipitating yet another budget deficit. The House plan is a better approach due to its simplicity, but certainly there is room for compromise. Of course, neither the House nor Senate bills do anything to address the artificially high property taxes thrust upon anyone who buys a house in a new subdivision. Fixing that, however, would take a thoughtful and politically risky overhaul of Proposal A — something almost no one believes is within the grasp of our Legislature.



LETTERS

Help for 'clueless' child

Just a few thoughts about the "clueless" girl child:

Having been half of the couple who has "raised" three daughters who are all parents of two children each, just some thoughts.

Without going into any identifying particulars, I think the seminal experience for our offspring may have been the delayed gratification that we as parents stringently practiced out of necessity. I didn't return to full-time employment for which I have a college degree, until they were ages 10 through 15. All three were active in programs through the American Girl Scouts, Wayne County 4H and a Washtenaw County private stable that had one of the first handicapped riding programs.

I know this is a very narrow example and unique for most families. And the road to adulthood was not smooth. But working with those families and the impaired or financially deprived taught empathy and non-judgemental attitudes toward those less fortunate. Not to mention the selfless, not "me-first" attitude needed to work with equine animals.

There are a myriad of fun programs that could enlighten your daughter that material goods are not the essence of self-worth and life.

With 70 years of living behind me, parenting was and remains the hardest role one can engage in. Good luck. Persistence and patience.

Marti Boitos
Livonia

Confidence in Bowman

I am writing because I was glad to hear the recent news of Ronalee Bowman's appointment as Wayne County commissioner. I believe she will do a great job for our county because she has already served our community in various different capacities.

Ronalee has been involved with the Health and Welfare Advisory Board, the Red Wagon Project in Norwayne, the Detroit Wayne County Health Authority Board, and directed the Westland Youth Assistance Program for many years, just to name a few. Her dedication and service has earned her much recognition, such as the Westland Civitans "Citizen of the Year" Award in 2006, and two nominations for the ATHENA Award in 1996 and 1997.

I feel confident in her ability to do the job well because of her excellent work ethic, honor and caring demeanor, as well as her commitment to, and ongoing involvement in, the community.

Jennifer Bush
Westland

Not everyone can donate

About the article on blood donations: Not everyone can donate blood.

I have high blood pressure, they refused me out right! They said I have to

control my blood pressure better. So, it's nice to donate blood, but not everyone can do it!

So when people write in and make it simple-sounding, like the gentlemen in Westland, it's not that simple.

I thought I could do it as often as I could, but NO.

To think, they have said metro Detroit has a lot of people with high blood pressure. Does that mean we all can't do this?

I don't have that extreme blood pressure, but that is what I keep thinking — that no one can donate with high blood pressure.

Mari Squire
Westland

Right time for part-time

In a drive to pursue a more efficient and economical state Legislature, a bipartisan group, Turn Michigan Around (www.TurnMichiganAround.com), is circulating petitions to place a proposal for a "part-time" Michigan Legislature on the ballot.

At least 39 other states function adequately with part-time legislatures. In fact, the only two states in the past year that faced a government shutdown were Michigan and Pennsylvania, both with no restrictions on time in session. The current ballot proposal limits the number of days the Legislature can be in session to 100 per year and requires regular sessions to be concluded by May 31, providing stability for the 500-plus school districts that need to have budgets in place by June.

Setting limits on the number of days in session and establishing an end-of-session date can improve overall legislative performance in Michigan by requiring lawmakers to focus their efforts on important issues.

Michigan currently has the second highest paid legislators in the nation — \$79,500 plus \$12,000 in tax-free "expense reimbursement" — second only to California, which has 23 percent fewer representatives than Michigan who represent a population three times as large as Michigan. (California's full-time, generously compensated Legislature has missed its state budget deadline for 21 years in a row, proving that more is not always better.)

The proposal sets Michigan legislators' salary at 80 percent of the Michigan median household income plus \$12,000 for documented expenses. Currently, that computes to about \$40,000 per year plus benefits, which is approximately the average compensation paid to legislators in the 10 states closest to Michigan in population. The proposal also eliminates the guaranteed lifetime health benefits lawmakers now receive after only six years of service.

Finally, this proposal eliminates term limits for legislators, a flawed piece of legislation that has resulted in too many inexperienced legislators dealing with difficult and complex issues.

Even though some Michigan lawmakers have expressed an interest in a

part-time legislature, it's unlikely that such a proposal could be passed in the Legislature. However, Michigan citizens can give this proposal a fair consideration by signing the petition to place it on the ballot.

Linda Fields
Rochester Hills

Detroit's failure

Detroit Public Schools not only has the distinction of graduating the lowest number of students among our nation's 50 largest school districts — it has held this egregious distinction for the past three years. Supt. Connie Calloway's "Turn Around School" plan is simply and disingenuously more lip service and spin from a woman who has continued to make the district's chronic corruption and fraud, and not her students' achievement and literacy levels, the centerpiece of her five-year contract.

Connie Calloway's turnaround plan that currently includes the closing and reopening of only five schools is not even a drop in this leaking bucket that in less than 10 weeks will see fewer than 25 percent of Detroit's Class of 2008 graduate.

Equally important, but rarely the topic of polite conversation (especially in our suburbs and the Michigan Legislature), is the devastating reality that among the fewer than 25 percent that graduate, far too few are more than functionally literate and anything but prepared for post-secondary education or the work force.

Detroit Public Schools, its revolving door of leadership and ineffective school board, are gifted at turning out barely literate and unemployable perpetuations of poverty, literacy, homelessness, crime and worst of all, apathy and hopelessness for themselves and the next generation.

And even before Kwame Kilpatrick became permanently embroiled and disabled in what may ultimately be a mayor's crimes of the century — he has not concerned himself with or taken ownership of his greatest failure: his city's children and their schools.

Marcie Lipsitt
Franklin

SHARE YOUR OPINIONS

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

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36251 Schoolcraft
Livonia, MI 48150

Fax:
(734) 459-4224

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smason@hometownlife.com

QUOTABLE

"It'll make my heart happy, if I can help a couple of boys and girls, it'll all be worth it. I care about kids, that's my passion. I want them to have fun and not worry about bills."

- Tonia Szabo about the Prom Closet that's sponsored by the United Methodist Women at the First United Methodist Church in Wayne

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

Recall efforts equal nothing more than politics as usual

Think Michigan legislative politics are all sweetness and light these days, following last year's partisan bruising budget wars?

If so, you might want to take a look at what's going on in the 17th state House District. It consists of Redford Township, southeast Livonia and north Dearborn Heights. That's the turf that the current Speaker of the House, Andy Dillon, calls home. But it's also the site of an increasingly ugly campaign to recall the 46-year-old Democrat from his seat.



Phil Power

state's budget.

Initially, six representatives and four senators, including both Republicans and Democrats, were targeted for removal.

But it now looks as though Dillon is the main focus of the recall movement. That, in turn, raises the prospect that the right of recall is being manipulated for purely partisan purposes. The Michigan Constitution says that valid signatures of 25 percent of registered voters who voted in the last election for governor are enough to force recall of a sitting lawmaker.

In the case of the 17th district, that comes to around 8,720 signatures, due by May 1. Recall advocates are led by former state Rep. Leon Drolet, now a Macomb County commissioner, and Rose Bogaert, of Dearborn Heights. She is chairwoman of the Wayne County Taxpayers Association and Taxpayers to Recall Andy Dillon.

Bogaert says her group wants to collect at least 10,000 signatures, to make sure it has a cushion; some names are always certain to be invalid or duplicates. According to three sources (who asked for anonymity for fear of harassment), the pro-recall people started out paying \$2 for every signature. That went to \$4 each, then \$6. Now the going rate appears to be \$10 per name.

That's a lot of dough! If they're aiming for 10,000 signatures, that's going to cost a cool \$100,000, not counting other expenses like postage (fliers have been mailed to all houses in the district), newspaper ads, office and legal expenses.

That's big money. All things considered, I wouldn't be surprised if total campaign costs come to more than \$250,000.

So where's all this money coming from? Democrats and Dillon supporters talk darkly about far right-wing, out-of-state moneybags. Lending credence to this suspicion is the fact that the national anti-tax guru — Washington-based Grover Norquist, president of Americans for Tax Reform — is a member of Drolet's board.

Two long-term Lansing lobbyists, who wouldn't go on the record, told me big GOP money is behind the effort, "because it will be a big feather in their hat if they knock off the Democratic Speaker of the House." They also mention House Minority Leader, Rep. Craig DeRoche (R-Novi), although he denies being involved.

When I asked Bogaert directly about the money, she wouldn't tell me. "Companies, individuals," she said. "You can't increase business taxes by 22 percent and expect them to be happy about it."

But why won't she tell me who's paying? "It would give our opponents a leg up on us."

Drolet says his campaign has more than 300 donors, almost all of them from Michigan. With the fog machines turned on full blast, I expect we'll never know for sure where the real money is coming from.

I'm also told that petition circulators are being devious, asking voters if they "want to reduce their taxes" by signing, or even "cut gas prices." One source claimed circulators said the petitions supported stem cell research and universal health care. For the record, Michigan election law (168.957) requires signatures not be obtained "through fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation."

One man named Hugh H. Jordan III wrote a letter to the editor of the *Redford Observer* that said, "One of the petition signature collectors came to my door a few days ago and said to me, 'Sign this petition to lower your taxes.' Thankfully, I knew that the petition was actually intended to recall Speaker of the House Andy Dillon, and I declined to sign."

But even though there may be a bull's-eye pinned to his behind, Dillon is fighting back. He's dispatched people to shadow petition circulators and to urge people not to sign.

"I feel bad for the folks in my district," Dillon told me. "If petitions were being gathered based on what I truly did, that would be fine. But they're not."

"And there's an election this November; if people don't like what I've done in office, they can chuck me out then and there." Without spending a pile on special elections, either.

What he didn't add is that even if he wins, he'll be gone forever two years after that, thanks to the curse of term limits.

Term limits are bad enough, but I've always thought that threatening to recall elected lawmakers because they cast a certain vote is awfully close to blackmail. Recalls, if they succeed, solve nothing; special elections cost thousands of dollars and newly elected legislators who come in as part of a recall have no idea what they're up to before they face a regular election in November.

And it seems perverse that local voters, who made their preferences known last November, could be stampeded by a bunch of noisy activists into reversing course just 17 months later.

Recalls — perhaps especially the one now under way against Dillon — only fuel the kind of hyper-partisan warfare we all have come to hate. Elections fueled by shadowy, dogmatic interest groups with fat pocketbooks are hardly what Michigan needs.

Whether you agree with the way he votes or not, Dillon has been an able legislator. He fully deserves to remain in office at least until his term expires in January. And neither he, nor we, should have to put up with any of these silly and obvious recall games.

Phil Power is founder and president of The Center for Michigan, a centrist think tank based in Ann Arbor. The opinions expressed here are Power's and do not represent the official views of The Center. Power welcomes reader comment at ppower@thecenterformichigan.net.

Families connected by same pain as trial closes in beheading case

James and Kimberly Sorensen sat in the same spot every day, near the far end of the second bench in Courtroom 402 of the Frank Murphy Hall of Justice, surrounded by friends, buffered by love.

They sat up straight, except during the most graphic of the testimony, looking at what's coming straight on, not ducking it, not wanting — unable, really — to miss any of it.



Brad Kadrich

The trial of Jean Pierre Orlewicz, the 18-year-old Plymouth Township teenager accused of killing and mutilating their 26-year-old son, Daniel, has been a difficult one. It stretched for more than a week in the courtroom of Wayne County Circuit Judge Annette Berry, and the Sorensens didn't miss a minute.

They were there as the defense did what it had to do in order to put forth its defense, assailing the character of their son (who no one tried to paint as a choir boy). And they were there when Alexander Letkemann, the 18-year-old former Livonia Churchill student from Westland, who pleaded guilty to second-degree murder for his role in the killing, described the crime in chilling, graphic detail.

It was difficult to listen to for nearly everyone in the courtroom — those in the gallery and those in the jury — and the Sorensens and their friends wrapped themselves in each other, cloaked in shared loss and grief, and withstood it all.

At one point, Letkemann's story got so bone-chilling at least one juror teared up, and Berry wisely called for a recess.

Instead of using the time to get out of the room, to get away from it all, however briefly, Jim Sorensen did what he felt he had to do, what he felt needed to be done.

He sought out Letkemann's father, Pete, sitting in the far back corner of

the room, kneeled in front of him, and the two spoke.

In whispered tones, they spoke to each other's face; more importantly, they spoke to each other's hearts.

"I wanted him to know we don't hate them, don't hate Alex," Sorensen said. "We don't condone what Alex did, or even understand it, but we feel (Alex) feels real remorse."

Neither man wanted to reveal what was actually said, but the hugs they exchanged and the tears they shared spoke to the emotional nature of the conversation.

"What Mr. Sorensen said to me, and my reply, was parent to parent, father to father," Pete Letkemann said. "Mr. and Mrs. Sorensen have been very gracious and kind to our family. I wonder how many people out there, myself included, could do the same under similar circumstances."

Like the Sorensens, Orlewicz's parents, William and Charlotte, have endured every moment of this arduous trial, usually sitting quietly in the same row as the Sorensens. They've not been as accessible as the other principal families involved in this case, and that's to be expected.

But their grief and pain is no less palpable. Charlotte Orlewicz often drapes an arm almost protectively around her husband's shoulders; his reaction to particularly painful testimony is to remove his glasses and pinch the bridge of his nose, as if trying to chase away a headache.

One young man's life was extinguished, another's is altered forever, with the prospect of at least 20 years in prison, and a teenager's life hung in the balance for more than a week.

Orlewicz's actions put this tragedy in motion. The jury decided his fate.

Two rows behind him, the families sat, and waited, forever intertwined by opposite ends of the same grief, with no one to decide their fate but themselves.

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

Cheer for the hometeam, read today's **SPORTS** section

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SPORTS

B (LW)

Thursday, April 17, 2008

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

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

www.hometownlife.com

Zebras earn Klotz crown vs. RU, 7-5

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A four-run first inning by Wayne Memorial put Redford Union into a deep hole in Saturday's championship game of the second annual Hank Klotz Baseball Classic.

Although the tournament host Panthers tried to claw back the rest of the nonconference matchup, they ran themselves out of rallies and eventually lost 7-5 to the Zebras.

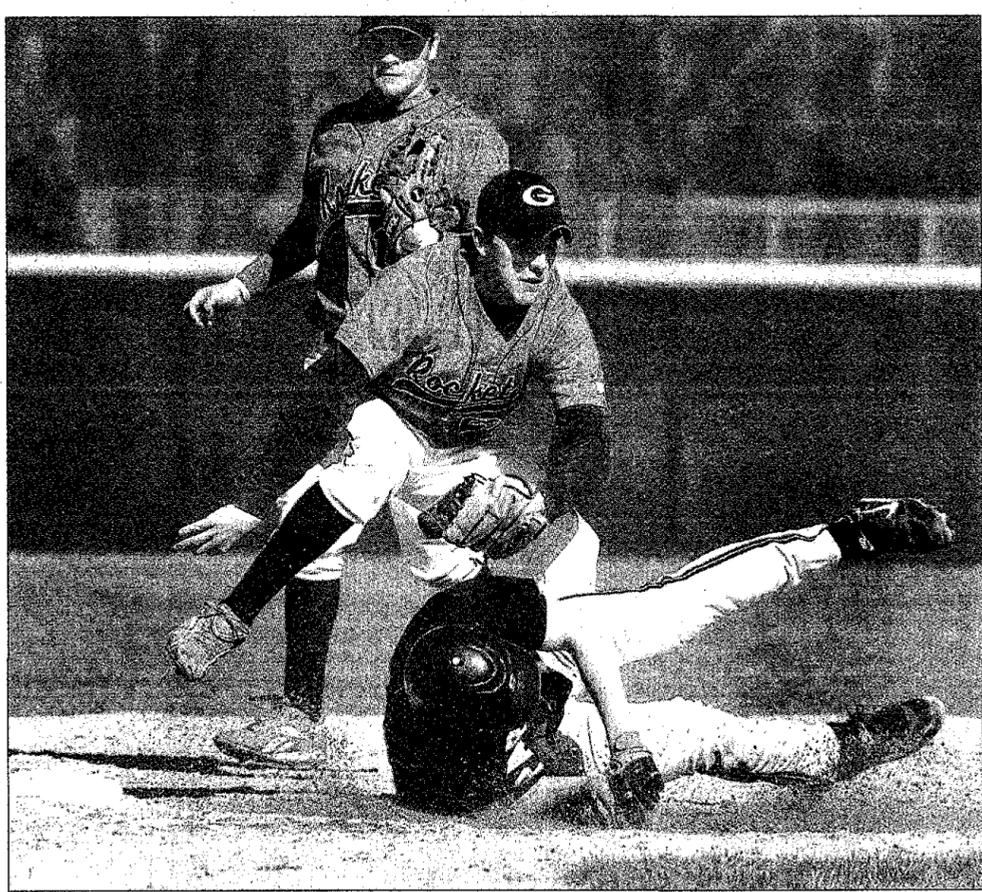
"We made a lot of base-running errors today," said RU head coach Mike Taylor, whose team dropped to 7-1 overall. "We always stress being aggressive, but I think today we were too aggressive in tight situations."

"... We battled back, but we spotted those guys four runs in the first inning. You can't do that against a good club."

The Zebras (4-3), who claimed the Klotz trophy for the second consecutive year, made some solid defensive plays to snuff out rallies and were sparked by the complete-game effort of junior pitcher Rodney Manning (three earned runs).

"That's something I told them at the beginning of the year," said Wayne head coach Paul Cavanaugh. "If we get pitching, throw strikes and play defense we'll win games. Except for one bad inning (the second against RU), they did it today."

Please see **KLOTZ, B2**



TOM HAWLEY/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Bang, bang play

Westland John Glenn shortstop Robert Fraser puts the tag on Livonia Stevenson's Jake Wilson, who was caught between first and second base on a pick-play during in the fourth inning of Monday's WLAALakes Division opener. Backing up the play is Glenn second baseman Kevin Lafave. Glenn earned a 5-4 victory over the Spartans. See a roundup of area baseball on page B2.

Sidelines

Westland golf day

Westland Golf Course, located at 500 S. Merriman (just south of Warren), will stage its opening day event to kick off the 2009 season on Friday, April 18 with a green fees special of \$6 and \$1 hot dogs.

Also included on opening day will be free short game clinics, door prizes and a closest-to-the-pin contest on the indoor golf simulator.

Call (734) 721-6600 for reservations.

Clement Karate Kid

Livonian Joey Clement II, 5, a student at Hayes Elementary School, took an age-group bronze medal at the Great Lakes Karate Invitational held April 5 at Riverview High School.

The yellow belt had only been training for 10 weeks.

Joseph judo champ

St. Genevieve Elementary School student Nicholas Joseph, 10, of Livonia, placed first in the lightweight division for ages 11-12 at the Michigan Open Judo Championships held last month at Michigan State University's Intramural West Building in East Lansing.

Joseph also placed runner-up in the 9-10 lightweight division in an event sanctioned by the U.S. Judo Federation.

Demolition rolls

Dawn Adams scored a pair of touchdowns Saturday as defending Independent Women's Football League champion Detroit Demolition downed the Columbus (Ohio) Phantoms, 34-0, in a game played in a downpour and stopped after three quarters at Livonia Franklin High School due to injuries by the Phantoms.

Adams, who gained 72 yards, caught a 32-yard touchdown pass from quarterback Bridget Porter and ran 18 yards for another TD. Other TDs came from Porter (1-yard sneak), Junita Payne (12-yard run) and defensive back Enika Davidson (47-yard fumble return).

Livonia sisters spring into action

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Trampoline made its debut as an Olympic sport at the 2000 Sydney Games and power tumbling will be a demonstration sport at the 2008 Beijing Olympics.

Perhaps by 2012 or more realistically 2016, don't be surprised if two sisters from Livonia — Cassandra and Natalia Skinner — make the quantum leap.

Following last weekend's showing at the USA Gymnastics TNT State Championships in Warren, the Skinner sisters will be two names to be reckoned with.

Cassandra, 13, placed first in Level 10 power tumbling which enabled her to qualify this weekend for the Elite Challenge Qualifier in Mobile, Ala., where a top-three finish would put her on the National Team and send her next February to St. Petersburg, Russia, for the World Cup.

Cassandra, who attends Holmes Middle School, also placed first in double-mini trampoline and second in trampoline for Level 8 competitors.

Sister Natalia, 11, who attends Riley Upper Elementary, also showed great promise by winning the Level 6 double-mini event, along with the Level 5 trampoline and power tumbling state titles.

Cassandra, meanwhile, got the ball rolling at age 6 when she started gymnastics at the Livonia Community Recreation Center.

"We had a trampoline at home and I used to practice outside," Cassandra said. "I always dreamed of being a gymnast. My mom was a gymnast in (Syracuse) New York, a Level 7. I kind of fell into it (trampoline) and I was looking for a gym to go to the next level."



Cassandra (left) and Natalia Skinner of Livonia combined for five first-place medals in last weekend's USA Gymnastics TNT State Championships held in Warren.

COACH KEY

The Skinner sisters ventured over the east side at All World Gymnastics in Warren, which has only been in existence for three years. The Skinners are coached by Peter Roberts, who currently has five of the 10 National team members, and Valter Meta, who competed in the 1976 Olympics as a gymnast for Albania.

"Cassie's gone from Level 6 to Level 10 in about a year and a half," Roberts said. "It's because of her hard work and dedication. She's always trying to do the extra things and she loves to compete."

"Her sister is up-and-coming, too. She's really coming up strong. They feed off each other."

Cassandra pushes Natalia and their mother works hard and is very dedicated. They're well-behaved kids. They respect their coaches and their peers. They're fun to coach and their mom has done a good job with the discipline."

Cassandra surprised herself last weekend with her performance. It went well beyond her expectations. "It was totally a breakthrough," she said. "My coach (Peter Roberts) said there was a place for me if I work for it. I'm there six days going on seven (days a week), four hours a day, all summer. It's fun training. It's like my second home."

"It's the crowd and being surround-

Please see **SISTERS, B4**

MU protects home field, alone in first

It was almost as if the Madonna University baseball team said "not in our yard."

The Crusaders spanked Indiana Tech twice on Tuesday in a pivotal Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference double-header at Ilitch Ballpark in Livonia.

Conference-leading MU earned wins of 6-4 and 10-3 over the second-place Warriors

COLLEGE BASEBALL

to open up a three-game lead. The Crusaders are 24-10 overall and 11-3 in the WHAC while Indiana Tech dropped to 20-13, 9-7.

MU broke a 4-4 tie in the bottom of the ninth in the opener, on a single by Mike Gansser followed by a home run to left by Matt Kondziolka for the victory.

John McCracken picked up the win after pitching three solid innings of relief, in which he allowed just one run and struck out seven.

Farmington Hills Harrison's Kevin Zerbo continued his torrid hitting, going 2-for-3 including a two-run homer to left in the third, at that point giving MU a 3-0 advantage.

The Warriors chipped away at a 4-0 deficit and eventually tied it in the top of the seventh, to force extra innings.

The nightcap featured a complete-game outing by Crusader pitcher Richard Lindquist. He gave up just two earned runs over seven innings, walking one and striking out three.

MU broke open a relatively close game with seven runs in the sixth. Although four walks and three errors helped fuel the surge, the Crusaders also received a clutch two-run single by Zerbo and a three-run triple to right-center by Scott Boyer (2-for-4, four RBI).

Canton's Shawn Little also had a big day for MU, going 3-for-3 and driving in a run.

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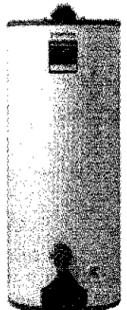
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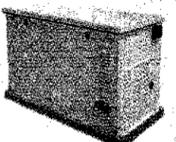
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Glenn shaves Spartans

Rockets launch Lakes Division with 5-4 triumph

Pitching took center stage Monday afternoon as Westland John Glenn opened Lakes Division play in the Western Lakes Activities Association with a 5-4 baseball triumph over visiting Livonia Stevenson.

The Rockets, now 6-1 overall, got a complete game from junior Jake Sperry, who allowed seven hits and four walks over seven innings to pick up the win.

Sperry struck out eight and also went 2-for-4 at the plate. Andrew DeLuca was Glenn's top hitter, going 3-for-4. Ryan Lopez also knocked in a pair of runs, while Kevin Lafave's two-out, two-strike single in the fifth inning brought home Jase Pacico with what proved to be the game-winning run.

Stevenson pitcher Mike Tuttle also went the distance, allowing six hits and two walks while striking out six.

Bob Smith went 2-for-4 and scored both runs for the Spartans, while Sam Vomastek, Jeff Sorenson and Nate Eroh each knocked in a run.

CHURCHILL 4, SALEM 1: Senior left-hander Shea Dwyer was sharp for all seven innings Monday, pitching Livonia Churchill (3-4, 1-1) to a WLLA-Lakes Division triumph over the host Rocks (2-2, 0-1).

Dwyer allowed just five hits, walked two and struck out nine, outdueling Salem's Dave Hales, who also went the distance, allowing just five hits and no walks while fanning four.

Brian Runge collected three of Churchill's five hits, including an RBI single in the sixth. Vinny Carozza's suicide squeeze bunt also pushed home a run in the fifth as the Chargers scored three times helped by a Salem infield throwing error bring two more home.

Dan Lorber's RBI groundout accounted for Salem's lone run in the second inning.

FRANKLIN 4, PLYMOUTH 1: Livonia Franklin (6-3, 1-0) scored four times in the top of the sixth inning Monday to beat the host Wildcats (3-2, 1-0).

Mike Basner's 2-run double keyed the surge. He later scored on a wild pitch. Jeff McCullough's RBI groundout made it 1-0.

Winning pitcher Jesse Carpenter went all seven innings, allowing just four hits and four walks. He fanned four.

Plymouth starter Garrett Rebin, who was lifted in the sixth inning with two outs for reliever Matt Skubik, allowed all four hits and walked six. Rebin fanned four.

Ronnie Goble tallied Plymouth's lone run on a double steal coupled with a Franklin throwing error.

W.L. WESTERN 9, WAYNE 3: In a WLLA-Lakes Division game played Monday, Randy Young went 2-for-3 with three RBI as host Walled Lake Western (2-1, 1-0) downed Wayne Memorial (4-4, 0-1).



John Glenn junior pitcher Jacob Sperry tossed a complete game to earn the 5-4 victory Monday against Livonia Stevenson.

TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

PREP BASEBALL

GLENN 6-12, GARDEN CITY 5-0: On Saturday, host Westland John Glenn (5-1) took both ends of a doubleheader from the Cougars (2-4).

In the opener, the Rockets rallied from a 4-0 deficit after one inning for a 6-5 win by scoring one in the third, three in the fourth and two in the fifth.

Steven Wakeford's two-run single followed by Andrew DeLuca's double keyed the three-run fourth.

John Gillis starter for the Rockets, going the first five innings for the win. He fanned four and walked nine. Mike Johnson came out of the bullpen to earn the save, pitching two innings of two-hit ball.

Mike Felice started for the Cougars and reliever Cody Short took the loss.

Glenn rolled in the nightcap, 12-0, as Johnson pitched a one-hitter and walked only one.

The Rockets scored six times in the first led by Anthony Vetraino's 2-run single and Kevin Lafave's RBI single. DeLuca followed with a triple in the third followed by an RBI groundout from Jake Sperry.

Glenn put it away with fourth on

an RBI sacrifice fly by Kyle Acuna, an RBI single by Nate Bovic and a two-run single by Jase Pacico.

MILFORD 10-7, FRANKLIN 6-2: On Saturday, the host Mavericks (2-6) earned their first to victories of the season at the expense of Livonia Franklin (5-3).

The Patriots led 6-4 until the bottom of the seventh when Nick Presutte came through with a clutch 3-run double for a 7-6 win in the opener.

Mark McRobb's solo homer had given the Patriots a 5-4 lead in the top of the seventh.

Anthony Andrus, in relief of starter Jeff McCullough, took the loss. Andrus allowed four earned runs on five hits over the final 3.2 innings.

Wayne Hawks went 2-for-4 with an RBI in the loss.

In the nightcap, Milford came away with a 10-2 win, breaking it open with five runs in the bottom of the sixth.

McCullough doubled twice and knocked in a run, while teammate David Muller also had an RBI double.

Starter Garrett Gum, who gave up five runs on six hits over 3.1 innings, took the loss. He struck out

seven before giving way to Michael Basner, who allowed five earned runs on six hits and three walks in 2.2 innings of work.

CHURCHILL GOES 2-1: Livonia Churchill (2-4) earned its first two victories of the season in Saturday's soggy Carleton-Airport Tournament.

Tyler Cotter doubled three times in three trips and Devin Moynihan added a 3-run homer as the Chargers opened Hudson in the tourney opener, 13-4.

Brian Runge, the winning pitcher, scattered eight hits and four walks over seven innings.

The host Jets then downed Churchill, 11-6, as Tyler Bledsoe went 3-for-4 with a double in the setback. Moynihan also went 2-for-3 with two runs scored.

Losing pitcher Josh Matigian went six innings, allowing 12 hits and three walks while fanning four.

Churchill closed out the day with a five-inning mercy-rule triumph over Essexville-Garber as Runge went 4-for-4 with five RBI. He had a 3-run double in the second inning.

Junior Mike Mato and Drew Servalish also chipped in with two hits apiece, while Josh Payzant no-hit the Dukes over five innings. He struck out 11 and walked four.

Taylor's three home runs can't save Pats

Brittany Taylor's three fence-clearing homers were not enough Monday as Livonia Franklin suffered its first girls softball loss of the season to visiting Plymouth, 9-5.

It was the Western Division opener for both teams in the Western Lakes Activities Association.

Taylor, a junior catcher, went 4-for-4 including a single and three RBI.

The Patriots (3-1), who stranded 13 base runners, got two hits apiece from Alecia and Ashley Geraghty, Brianna Taylor and Nicole Emery (including an RBI). Plymouth (2-0) scored seven times in the second inning to hand Franklin starter Natalie Sanborn (3-1) her first loss.

In three innings, Sanborn allowed eight earned runs on 11 hits and one walk.

Reliever Alecia Geraghty allowed one earned run on three hits and a walk over the final four innings.

Winning pitcher Megan Patterson allowed 15 hits, walked two and struck out four over seven innings.

Stacey Klonowski paced the Wildcats' offense with three hits, including a homer, and four RBI.

Each team committed two errors.

STEVENSON 11, JOHN GLENN 0: Jamie Johnson pitched a perfect game over five innings Monday as host Livonia Stevenson (2-1, 1-0) rolled to a WLLA-Lakes Division mercy-rule victory over Westland John Glenn (0-2, 0-1).

Johnson fanned 13 of the 15 Glenn batters she faced.

Shelby Wilson went 2-for-3 for the victorious Spartans, while

PREP SOFTBALL

Kristina Vaclavek added a 2-run double in the third inning. Amanda Paison went 1-for-2 with a walk in Stevenson's 12-hit attack.

Losing pitcher Brittany Holbrook gave up 11 earned runs on five hits in four innings. She struck out four.

SALEM 2, CHURCHILL 0: In a WLLA-Lakes Division opener, freshman Briana Lee tossed a three-hitter and struck out eight as the visiting Rocks (4-0, 1-0) downed Livonia Churchill (1-5, 0-1).

Lee allowed just one walk over seven innings, outdueling Churchill freshman Natalie Hiser, who allowed two unearned runs on just one hit. Hiser walked four.

Churchill committed three errors and had the winning run on base in the seventh, but two strikeouts by Lee ended the game.

Heidi Schmidt had Salem's lone hit, while Paula Guzik had two hits for the Chargers.

W.L. WESTERN 20, WAYNE 1: In a five-inning mercy Monday, visiting Walled Lake Western (2-1, 1-0) downed Wayne Memorial (2-4, 0-1) on pitcher Emily Carlson's two-hitter.

Carlson also went 4-for-5 with three runs scored, while Alyssa Marcucci went 4-for-5 with four runs.

Bianca Hayes went 1-for-2 with Wayne's only run scored.

Losing pitcher Taylor Krohn, the victim of eight Wayne errors, took the loss. She gave up 20 hits and fanned two.

On Saturday, the host Zebras were swept by visiting Redford Union, 14-13 and 9-6.

Wayne also lost Friday at home to Salem, 10-0, as freshman Briana Lee struck out 10 and did not allow a hit in four innings.

Mary Cox (3-for-3; run) and Heidi Schmidt (2-for-4, three runs) paced the Salem offense.

THE WEEK AHEAD

PREP BASEBALL
Thursday, April 17
Franklin Road at Luth. Westland, 4:30 p.m.

Friday, April 18
W.L. Northern at Churchill, 4 p.m.
W.L. Western at Franklin, 4 p.m.
Salem at Stevenson, 4 p.m.
John Glenn at W.L. Central, 4 p.m.
Northville at W.L. Central, 4 p.m.

Luth. Westland at Lutheran North, 4:30 p.m.
Saturday, April 19
(all double-headers unless noted)
Franklin at Clarkston Invitational, 10 a.m.
Stevenson at S. Lyon Invitational, 10 a.m.
Thurston at Churchill, 11 a.m.
Garden City at Wayne, 11 a.m.
Crestwood at Clarenceville, 11 a.m.
Agape at Huron Valley, 11 a.m.

GIRLS SOFTBALL
Thursday, April 17
W.L. Central at John Glenn, 4 p.m.
Franklin Road at Huron Valley, 4:30 p.m.
Friday, April 18
Churchill at W.L. Northern, 4 p.m.
Franklin at W.L. Western, 4 p.m.
Stevenson at Salem, 4 p.m.
Wayne at Northville, 4 p.m.
Luth. Westland at Lutheran North, 4:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 19
(all double-headers unless noted)
Agape at Huron Valley, 10 a.m.
Churchill at Birm. Groves, 11 a.m.
Romulus at Wayne, 11 a.m.
Crestwood at Clarenceville, 11 a.m.

GIRLS SOCCER
Thursday, April 17
Clawson at Clarenceville, 4:30 p.m.
Ladywood at E.H. Mercy, 5:30 p.m.
Friday, April 18
Garden City at John Glenn, 4 p.m.
Saturday, April 19
Churchill at Ladywood, 5 p.m.
BOYS & GIRLS TRACK FIELD
Thursday, April 17
Churchill at W.L. Central, 3:30 p.m.
W.L. Western at Franklin, 3:30 p.m.
Stevenson at Salem, 3:30 p.m.
W.L. Northern at John Glenn, 3:30 p.m.
Wayne at Plymouth, 3:30 p.m.

Clarenceville Quad Meet, 4 p.m.
Friday, April 18
Dearborn Fordson Invitational, 3:45 p.m.

Saturday, April 19
Berkley Invitational, 9 a.m.
Ypsilanti Relays, 10 a.m.
Elks Relays at Dearborn, 11 a.m.

BOYS GOLF
Thursday, April 17
Farmington Inv. at Farm. Hills G.C., 8:30 a.m.
John Glenn vs. Garden City at Westland Municipal G.C., 3 p.m.

Friday, April 18
Huron Valley vs. Plymouth Christian at Hawthorne Valley G.C., 2:30 p.m.

GIRLS TENNIS
Thursday, April 17
Wayne at South Lyon, 4 p.m.
Ladywood at Divine Child, 4 p.m.
W.B. Jewish Academy at John Glenn, 4 p.m.

Friday, April 18
Churchill at Plymouth, 4 p.m.
Stevenson at Franklin, 4 p.m.
John Glenn at Northville, 4 p.m.
W.L. Northern at Wayne, 4 p.m.
Saturday, April 19
Monroe Invitational, 9 a.m.
GIRLS LACROSSE
Friday, April 18
Birm. Marian at Ladywood, 6 p.m.
MEN'S COLLEGE BASEBALL
(all double-headers unless noted)
Saturday, April 19
Madonna at Aquinas College, 1 p.m.
Sunday, April 20
Aquinas College at Madonna, 1 p.m.
WOMEN'S COLLEGE SOFTBALL
(all double-headers unless noted)
Thursday, April 19
Madonna at Northwood Univ., 3 p.m.
Saturday, April 19
UM-Dearborn at Madonna, 1 p.m.
Sunday, April 20
Madonna at Aquinas College, 1 p.m.
INDEPENDENT WOMEN'S FOOTBALL LEAGUE
Saturday, April 19
Det. Demolition at Chicago Force, 3 p.m.

GIRLS TENNIS RESULTS

LIVONIA CHURCHILL 7 WAYNE MEMORIAL 1
April 14 at Wayne
No. 1 singles: Jessica Novack (WM) defeated Paige Fallu, 6-4, 6-2; No. 2: Katelyn Foster (LC) def. Morgan Greg, 6-1, 6-4; No. 3: Kelly Houghan (LC) def. Robbie Tomlin, 6-1, 6-3; No. 4: Jessica McClain (LC) def. Samantha Gaskill, 6-1, 6-2.
No. 1 doubles: Kelly Felner-Jenna Zurcarini (LC) def. Kara Windsor-Madelynne Bellivi, 6-0, 6-0; No. 2: Lauren Vella-Nikki Fata (LC) def. Jessica Gush-Kelsi Thomas, 6-1, 6-0; No. 3: Courtney Bennett-Danielle Vasko (LC) def. Victoria Baker-Samantha Walters, 6-2, 6-0; No. 4: Val Rose-Brianna Devlin (LC) def. Megan McGrekin-Brittney Malloy, 6-0, 6-0.
Dual match records: Churchill, 3-1 overall, 2-0 WLLA; Wayne, 0-4 overall, 0-2 WLLA.

LIVONIA STEVENSON 5 CANTON 3
April 14 at Plymouth H.S.
No. 1 singles: Lindsay Hostetter (LS) defeated Ashley Madau, 6-2, 6-2; No. 2: Laura Sims (LS) def. Janell Burdiss, 6-0, 6-2; No. 3: Paige McClamora (LS) def. Janelle Karinemi, 6-1, 6-3; No. 4: Carli Marschner (LS) def. Vicki Chen, 3-6, 6-0, 6-1.
No. 1 doubles: Katherine Morse-Katey Roberts (LS) def. Gunjan Malhotra, 7-5, 3-6, 6-4; No. 2: Amy Provost-Emily Misko (C) def. Gabrielle Sabatini-Laura Gumper, 6-4, 6-2; No. 3: Kathleen Marcinkowski-Jessica Reed (C) def. Ashley Benvenuti-Shannon Dwight, 6-0, 6-2; No. 4: Megan Leung-Jacklyn Hollingsworth (C) def. Simona Enea-Danielle Jagodzinski, 7-6 (9-7), 6-1.
Stevenson's dual match record: 3-0 overall, 2-0 WLLA.

LIVONIA FRANKLIN 8 WESTLAND JOHN GLENN 0
April 14 at Franklin
No. 1 singles: Angelica Woods (F) defeated Samantha Giles, 6-1, 6-0; No. 2: Emily Wisniewski (F) def. Sarah Pruett, 6-2, 6-4; No. 3: Emma Stack (F) def. Louisa Villoroman, 2-6, 6-2, 6-4; No. 4: Jessica Gajko (F) def. Latina Yacks, 7-5, 6-3.
No. 1 doubles: Michelle Thompson-Linda Comini

(LF) def. Jenny Bone-Kaylyn Bothell, 6-3, 6-1; No. 2: Lauren Osiwala-Jennifer Neamtu (LF) def. Halle Baker-Brooke Zywick, 6-5, 6-3; No. 3: Rebecca Fenner-Angela Tomassini (LF) def. Lauren Baker-Destree Clenney, 6-2, 8-6; No. 4: Crystal Henderson-Jennifer Rellingner (LF) def. Nicole Wiaters-Shannon McFadden, 3-6, 6-3, 6-3.
Dual match records: Franklin, 1-1 overall, 1-1 WLLA; John Glenn, 1-2 overall, 0-2 WLLA.

LIVONIA STEVENSON 5 WALLED LAKE NORTHERN 3
April 11 at W.L. Northern
No. 1 singles: Lindsay Hostetter (LS) defeated Karen Mulhanie, 6-0, 6-1; No. 2: Paige McClamora (LS) def. Shelby Miller, 4-6, 7-5, 6-2; No. 3: Carli Marschner (LS) def. Emily Call, 6-4, 6-3; No. 4: Audrey Topp (WLN) def. Christine Stermeyer, 6-0, 6-1.
No. 1 doubles: Katherine Morse-Katey Roberts (LS) def. Holly Hecker-Danielle Hicks, 7-5, 6-1; No. 2: Brigitte Bordeaux-Amy Hoy (WLN) def. Gabrielle Sabatini-Laura Gumper, 6-1, 6-3; No. 3: Ashley Benvenuti-Shannon Dwight (LS) def. Taylor Kobylas, 6-1, 2-6, 7-6 (7-4); No. 4: Paige Schmidt-Monica Pallo (WLN) def. Simona Enea-Danielle Jagodzinski, 4-6, 6-3, 7-6 (7-3).
Stevenson's dual match record: 2-0 overall, 1-0 WLLA.

WALLED LAKE WESTERN 8 WESTLAND JOHN GLENN 0
April 11 at John Glenn
No. 1 singles: Lauren Longyear (WLW) defeated Samantha Giles, 4-6, 6-1, 6-1; No. 2: Lilian Bean (WLW) def. Sara Pruett, 6-3, 6-3; No. 3: Kelly Doherty (WLW) def. Jenny Bone, 6-2, 6-1; No. 4: Sarah Keen (WLW) def. Louisa Villoroman, 6-0, 6-1.
No. 1 doubles: Nicole Jackson-Michelle Cho (WLW) def. Kashena Martin-Kayn Bothell, 0-6, 7-6 (10-8), 10-6 (tiebreaker-weather delay); No. 2: Vidya Sadasivan-Janani Sadasivan (WLW) def. Halle Baker-Brooke Zywick, 6-4, 6-3, 6-3; No. 3: Chetche Mahukucia-Lyuzula Kaminshe (WLW) def. Lauren Baker-Destree Clenney, 6-3, 7-5; No. 4: Saki Musuda-Melissa Witkowski (WLW) def. Samantha Richter-Nicole Wiaters, 7-5, 6-4.
Glenn's dual match record: 1-1 overall, 0-1 WLLA.

KLOTZ FROM PAGE B1

Wayne defeated Edsel Ford and Riverview in the first two games, by scores of 11-3 and 8-2 respectively, to reach the championship tilt at Founders Sports Park in Farmington Hills.

Sophomore Zack Lloyd pitched the Zebras to the opening-game win while senior Eric Robertson was on the mound against Riverview.

"We had three great pitching performances today," Cavanaugh said.

Another big part of Wayne's collective makeup this season is being aggressive on offense, and that also played a role in the tourney win.

"On a cold day, you make them make some plays," Cavanaugh said. "We've been playing aggressive."

In the top of the first, sophomore right-fielder Dominik Corredino beat out an infield roller to knock in junior Zeb Hancock, who doubled to start the game.

Three more runs crossed the plate in the frame; the Zebras were helped by three walks issued by Panthers junior pitcher Dan Misevich and a two-out error.

RU did come back, scoring twice in the second thanks to four Wayne errors and then tying the contest in the third with two more.

But RU could have taken the lead if not for Misevich (1-for-3) trying to score from third on a wild pitch. The ball caromed back to Wayne catcher Tim Siegfried and he tagged Misevich for the first out of the inning.

Then, with runners on second and third and one out, Donovan Hines ripped a sharp single to center — scoring

Dylan Bross and Bobby Ray. The Zebras didn't waste any time regaining the advantage.

In the fourth, senior Eric Schmitt walked and trotted home on a towering home run to left by junior shortstop Jon Bryant (1-for-2, two runs, two RBI) to make it a 6-4 game. His second round-tripper of the tournament easily cleared the fence behind RU's Keith Landon. (Bryant went 8-for-9, including five doubles, for the tournament.)

The Panthers scored in the bottom half to slice the lead to 6-5, but another base-running mistake cost them more.

Leadoff hitter Steve Greenawalt (3-for-4) singled down the right-field line, and tried to stretch it into a double. But Wayne's Corredino fired a strike to second base to cut down Greenawalt.

Despite that, RU did score

in the stanza. Senior third baseman Chris Gazley singled, stole second and went to third on an error. He scored on a pop-fly single to center by Bross.

In the bottom of the fifth, a leadoff walk to Hines failed to kick-start a rally because Manning subsequently picked off a pinch runner at first.

Wayne tacked on an insurance run in the seventh, on a sacrifice fly by freshman Shane Kommer (scoring senior third sacker Brent Patterson, who singled).

Redford Union advanced to the title game thanks to a 6-1 victory over rival Redford Thurston. The Panthers were awarded a first-round victory because their opponent, Melvindale Academy, did not show up for the tournament, Taylor said.

tsmith@hometownlife.com

Clarenceville still searching for first win

Livonia Clarenceville is still in search of its first baseball win.

On Tuesday, the Trojans traveled to Harper Woods, losing 16-6 in a mercy-rule shortened game to fall to 0-5 overall on the season and 0-2 in the Metro Conference.

Harper Woods out-hit the Trojans, 14-5.

Clarenceville also committed five errors.

Ben Schram was the winning pitcher, while

PREP BASEBALL

Clarenceville starter Mike Schiffman suffered the loss.

Jimmy Moody had a 2-run double and Tyler Hendrickson added an RBI double in a losing cause. Jacob Bibik also doubled.

The Trojans were coming off an 11-0 Metro Conference setback Friday against Lutheran

High Westland as John James collected the lone Clarenceville hit.

LUTHERAN WESTLAND 16, SUMMIT 6: Sam Ahlersmeyer went 3-for-3 with a 2-run double in the fourth inning Monday to propel host Lutheran High Westland (4-0) to a six-inning non-league mercy-rule triumph over Romulus Summit Academy North.

Other hitting stars for the Warriors included

winning pitcher Ryan Rakovalis, 2-for-3 with a double and two RBI; Dan Abbott 2-for-4 with two RBI; Adam Zehel, 2-for-4 with an RBI; Micah Hausch and Ryan Baglow, 1-for-3 each with two RBI apiece.

Baglow pitched the first four innings, allowing no earned runs on one hit and two walks. Rakovalis gave up one hit and two walks over the final two innings.



MU SPORTS INFORMATION

Madonna University's David Herrick makes the successful slide into third base. The Crusaders swept all four games Monday and Tuesday against Indiana Tech.

Madonna pitching, bats silence Indiana Tech in Monday sweep

In a series that was delayed two days by poor weather in Livonia, the Madonna University baseball team took both sides of a doubleheader from visiting Indiana Tech on Monday at Ilitch Ballpark, winning 2-0 and 9-6.

With the wins, MU improved to 22-10 overall and took over first place in the WHAC at 9-3. Tech fell to 21-17, 9-5 in WHAC action.

In the first game, MU batters gave Westland John Glenn alum Will Kennedy didn't need much run support. But he received it anyway, in the bottom of the first. Zach McMillin singled, stole second and scored on a single by Farmington's Kevin Zerbo.

The Crusaders added an insurance run in the fourth. Ryan Morrow's sacrifice fly scored Pat Kenny, who reached on an error and moved to third on a single by John McCracken.

The top of the sixth was anything but easy for MU as a two-base fielding error and a hits-batter put runners at first and second with none out. Kennedy fielded a sacri-

COLLEGE BASEBALL

fice bunt off the bat of Steve Dowding and cut lead runner Will Richards down at third for the first out of the inning. The senior righty then induced an inning-ending double play.

Kennedy's four-hit, six strikeout performance earned him his fifth win of the season against just one defeat. Dan Collar took the loss for Tech.

Five different Crusaders recorded hits in the opener (including Canton's Shawn Little) with Zerbo and Morrow driving in the MU runs.

Early thunder

The nightcap was decidedly different.

Indiana Tech hung three runs on the board in the top of the first off of Crusaders' starter Sean Maher, but the Madonna bats responded with five runs of their own in the bottom half of the inning to take the lead.

Key hits in the bottom half included an RBI singles by Zerbo (3-for-3, one run, four RBI), Kenny (2-for-3,

one run, two RBI) and Tarik Khasawneh (Canton).

Tech responded with three more runs in the second to take the lead back at 6-5.

After the Warriors made it 6-4, MU coach Greg Haeger went to his bullpen and brought in Jeff Sonnenberg for Maher. Sonnenberg struck out Dan Cody but allowed a two-run single to Dowding to make it 6-5 before getting Chee to pop out to end the inning.

MU evened things in the second, with Cheshire racing around to score on a double by Zerbo.

The Crusaders took the lead back for good in the fourth as Cheshire drew a two-out walk and Little reached on a double to right. Zerbo cleared the bases with a double to left-center to make it 8-6. Kenny then doubled to score Dave Cardenas (Salem) who was running for Zerbo for the final MU run and a 9-6 lead.

Sonnenberg then put it on cruise control, surrendering only two more hits and getting a double play to end the game and pick up his second win of the season.

Equestrian ride stalls Livonia pentathlete hopeful in Madrid

Sheila Taormina experienced a rough ride last weekend in Madrid, Spain in her ongoing quest to become the first athlete to compete at the Olympic Games in three different sports with a 34th-place showing in the World Cup 4 of the International Union of Modern Pentathlon series.

The 39-year-old Livonia native and Stevenson High grad was shut out in the equestrian show-jump portion of the event on a randomly-selected horse after scoring a perfect 1,200 points in the World Cup 3 event held March 27 in Millfield, England.

During the 2008 season, the former University of Georgia swim All-America has posted top 10 World Cup finishes in Cairo, Egypt (eighth); Mexico City, Mexico (seventh); and Millfield (ninth).

Taormina captured a gold

medal in swimming at the 1996 Atlanta Summer Games in the women's 4 x 800-meter freestyle relay. She also competed in the triathlon at 2000 Sydney Olympics (placing sixth) and the 2004 Athens Games (placing 23rd).

Taormina is in a three-way battle for one of the two U.S. team spots with 16-year-old Margaux Isaksen (Fayetteville, Ark.) and 30-year-old Mickey Kelly (Chatham, N.Y.).

Taormina currently ranks fourth in the World Cup standings with 121 points followed by Isaksen in ninth with 109, and Kelly in 25th with 80.

Kelly has already qualified for a spot in the 2008 Beijing Games by virtue of her performance at the 2007 Pan American Games in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, but must remain one of the top two ranked U.S. women in the World Cup series

of the Olympic qualifying season in order to secure her Olympic slot.

World Cup 4 will be May 8-11 in Klado, Czech Republic followed by the International Ranking event, May 16-18, in Spiez, Switzerland. The Olympic qualifying season ends May 27-June 3 at the Senior World Championships in Budapest, Hungary.

In Madrid, Taormina scored 3,712 total points with her best finish coming in swimming where she took first overall among the 36 competitors in the 200-meter freestyle with a clocking of 2:09.9.

She added an 8th in epee fencing in round-robin duel tournament format, along with a 14th in air pistol shooting, which features 20 targets from 10 meters. Taormina ran the 3,000-meter cross country run in 12:51.42 (34th overall).

PREP TRACK & FIELD RESULTS

BOYS TRI-MEET RESULTS

April 15 at Livonia Clarenceville
TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Livonia Clarenceville, 84 points; 2. Madison Heights Lamphere, 57; 3. Clawson, 25.

Shot put: 1. Shyb (MHL), 40 feet, 1.5 inches; 3. Andrew Jasmer (C'ville), 38-7.
Discus: 1. Yang (MHL), 132-7.3; 3. Jasmer (C'ville), 120-7.

High jump: 1. Joey King (C'ville), 5-6; 2. Joey Nelson (C'ville), 5-4; 3. Darryl Whitaker (C'ville), 5-2.

Long jump: 1. Clawson, 18-2; 2. Whitaker (C'ville), 17-8.

110-meter hurdles: 1. Czajkowski (MHL), 16-7; 2. Nelson (C'ville), 19; 3. Daniel Pepaj (C'ville), 19-2.

300 Hurdles: 1. Czajkowski (MHL), 48-3; 2. Ben Watts (C'ville), 48-5; 3. Pepaj (C'ville), 50-3.

100 dash: 1. Clawson, 11-2; 2. Jeremy Gainer (C'ville), 11-3; 3. Lenny Smith (C'ville), 12-1.

200: 1. Gainer (C'ville), 23.5.
400: 1. Gainer (C'ville), 56.6; 3. Smith (C'ville), 58.1.

800: 1. Cole (MHL), 2:27.2; 3. Nelson (C'ville), 2:30.9.

1,600: 1. Matt Parent (C'ville), 5:07.0.
3,200: 1. Parent (C'ville), 12:01.0; 3. Gavin King (C'ville), 12:22.0.

400 relay: 1. Clarenceville (Moses Hobson, Levonte Brooks, Aaron McCullar, Gainer), 47.3; 800 relay: 1. Clarenceville (A. McCullar, Hobson, Brooks, Smith), 1:40.7; 1,600 relay:

1. Clarenceville (Hobson, Brooks, Smith, Ryan Glass), 3:50.3; 3,200 relay: 1. Clarenceville (Watts, Leonard Hogan, Whitaker, Glass), 9:51.4.
Clarenceville's dual meet record: 4-1 overall.

BOYS TRI-MEET RESULTS

April 15 at Lutheran High Westland
TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Lutheran Westland, 115 points; 2. Southfield Christian, 53; 3. Newport Lutheran South, 6.

Shot put: 1. Frankie Cain (LW), 44 feet, 6 inches; 2. Troy Golze (LW), 35-3; 3. Kevin Moody (LW), 34-4.

Discus: 1. Joe Krueger (LW), 96-7; 2. Cain (LW), 96-5; 3. Ryan Richter (LW), 93-0.

High jump: 1. Kyle Kempf (LW), 6-0; 3. Zach Robinson (LW), 5-8.

Long jump: 1. Ethan Heller (LW), 18-0.5.
Pole vault: 1. Paul Rilett (LW), 9-6; 2. Brad LaRose (LW), 9-0; 3. Justin Paika (LW), 8-6.

110-meter hurdles: 1. Rilett (LW), 18-1; 2. Bob Schwartz (LW), 19-2; 3. Zach Musial (LW), 21-3.

300 hurdles: 1. Rilett (LW), 47-28; 2. Schwartz (LW), 48-31.

100 dash: 1. Kempf (LW), 11.21.
200: 1. Kempf (LW), 23.4; 2. Theodis Washington (LW), 24.69.

400: 1. Mike Greening (LW), 56.2.
800: 1. Jim Rockrohr (LW), 2:09.7; 2. David Moldenhauer (LW), 2:23.7.

1,600: 1. Allan (SC), 4:45.3; 2. Spencer Lyle (LW), 4:51.31.
3,200: 1. Allan (SC), 10:34.29; 2. Josh Rice (LW), 11:29.1.

400 relay: 1. Southfield Christian, 47.4; 2. Lutheran Westland, 48.73; 800 relay: 1. Southfield Christian, 1:40.7; 2. Lutheran Westland, 1:41.4; 1,600 relay: 1. Lutheran Westland (Greening, Lyle, Moldenhauer, Rockrohr), 3:49.8; 2. Southfield Christian, 4:01.03; 3,200 relay: 1. Lutheran Westland (Rockrohr, Rice Moldenhauer, Lyle), 9:42.28; 2. Southfield Christian, (54.6).

Lutheran Westland's meet record: 2-0 overall.

GIRLS TRI-MEET RESULTS
April 15 at Lutheran High Westland
TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Lutheran Westland, 79 points; 2. Southfield Christian, 69; Newport Lutheran South, 23.

Shot put: 1. Olivia Rork (LW), 33 feet, 10 inches; discus: 1. Katie Krueger (LW), 78-10; high jump: 1. Emille Freeman (LW), 4-10.

long jump: 1. Krug (LS), 13-5.5; pole vault: 1. Rachel Storck (LW), 7-6; 100-meter hurdles: 1. R. Storck (LW), 18-7; 300 hurdles: 1. R. Storck (LW), 55.8; 100 dash: 1. Bussey (SC), 13-2; 200: 1. Riddick (SC), 28-2; 400: 1. L. Allen (SC), 1:05.2; 800: 1. Krug (LS), 2:34.0; 1,600: 1. R. Carter (SC), 5:38.8; 3,200: 1. C. Allen (SC), 13:10.0; 400 relay: 1. Southfield Christian, 56.1; 800 relay: 1. Southfield Christian, 4:47.7; 3,200 relay: 1. Southfield Christian, 4:47.7.

Lutheran Westland's meet record: 2-0 overall.

Cruaders broom hapless Cards

The Madonna University women's softball team swept its Saturday twinbill from visiting Concordia by finals of 6-0 and 7-0.

The Cardinals forfeited game two due to lack of healthy players and by rule, the Crusaders were awarded a 7-0 win.

The victories improve MU's record to 20-10-1 and 8-2 in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference, while the Cardinals dropped to 0-16 overall and 0-12 in the WHAC.

The Crusaders struck early and often in game one of the day, tallying two runs in the first inning before adding single runs in the second, third, fifth and sixth.

Canton's Brittney Scero got things rolling when she reached first on a dropped third strike by the CU catcher.

Cat Sidor (Livonia Churchill) was then hit by a pitch and,

COLLEGE SOFTBALL

with one out, WHAC Player of the Week Christina Finch roped an RBI single to right. Sidor came home on Danielle Richardson's safety.

In the second, the Crusaders added another run as Sidor, Tedi Johnston and Tara LaMilza hit consecutive singles.

MU pushed the lead to 4-0 in the third as Kathleen Smiley (Walled Lake Western) laid down a one-out bunt single. Kelly Lesko then singled to right field to put runners at the corners.

MU coach Al White then pulled off the double steal, allowing Smiley to come home while Lesko got a run-down started to allow Smiley to score and in the end, Lesko to be safe at second.

It became 5-0 in the fifth

as Smiley led off with a single and Lesko tripled her home. MU plated its sixth run in the sixth as LaMilza was hit by a pitch to open the inning and then came around to score on an Ashley Shay (Garden City) double to center.

MU pitcher Jess Irwin, named WHAC Pitcher of the Week, had to work out of a couple of jams during her complete game effort, but the Cards could only get one runner past second base all day as Irwin scattered six hits and did not issue a walk while striking out eight for her 10th win of the season against just four losses.

The Cardinals could not field enough healthy bodies to play the back end of the double-header and were forced to forfeit.

MU's scheduled game Sunday at Indiana Tech was postponed.

Larnelle Harris



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Ocelots coach Henry gets Rockets' Marken

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Schoolcraft College second-year men's basketball coach Randy Henry took his first step in bringing the Ocelots' program back to respectability when he announced the signing this week of Westland John Glenn shooting guard Stefan Marken.

The Ocelots, coming off a 3-24 season, finished the 2008-09 campaign with only six eligible players.

The 6-foot-4 Marken, who possesses three-point shooting range, was a second-team All-Observer pick and All-Lakes Division selection in the Western Lakes Activities Association.

He helped the Rockets to a Lakes Division crown and a 19-3 overall record while averaging 14 points and eight rebounds per game. He also shot 40 percent from three-point range.

"Stefan's not only a good shooter, he's a sound all-around basketball player," Henry said. "He blocks out, gets in a good defensive stance, and from the workouts I found out, he's very competitive, too. He's a gym rat and is always trying to get better."

Marken considered Henry Ford CC, Madonna University, Siena Heights and Saginaw Valley State before settling on the Ocelots.

"I wasn't sure, but I want

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

to go to a four-year university and it's close to home," Marken said of Schoolcraft. "I want to try and see that if I do well, I can go on and play at a four-year school. I'm going to start taking classes right away in the summer and there's an opportunity to play and hopefully bring Schoolcraft back to what it was before."

Lafata lands 1st recruit

It isn't taking Schoolcraft College women's basketball coach Karen Lafata long to start re-tooling for the 2008-09 season as she announced that Southfield-Lathrup senior forward-guard Amber Avery officially committed to playing for the Lady Ocelots.

"We are ecstatic about it," said Lafata last week. "We lost nine talented sophomores and we need to reload. Signing Amber is a great start. We plan on building our freshman class around her."

Lafata said Avery's playing style reminds her of Charlese Green, an NJCAA Division II All-America two years ago for Schoolcraft.

Avery carried the Chargers "all the way to the Class A state quarterfinal," Lafata said. "We love her competitive toughness, her ability to rebound and finish, her athleticism and work ethic."

Warriors blank Hamtramck; Brandon's two goals lifts Churchill

Lutheran High Westland opened Metro Conference play Tuesday with a 3-0 girls soccer win at Hamtramck.

All three goals came in the second half as the Warriors improved to 3-1 overall.

Lutheran Westland outshot the Cosmos, 21-1, as Miranda Kasprovic scored a pair of goals and Hannah Mielke contributed a goal and assist. Freshman Sarah Frusti also added an assist.

Chelsea Kyle's goal, the shutout in goal for the Warriors.

LADYWOOD 2, REGINA 2: Amanda Field's goal in the 78th minute off an assist from Alessia Vagnini Tuesday enabled visiting Livonia Ladywood (2-1-2, 2-1-1) to earn a Catholic League Central Division tie against Harper Woods Regina.

Regina led 1-0 at halftime on Erin Dudash's goal and went up 2-0 in the 41st minute when Maria Butler scored on a rebound off a floater that hit the crossbar.

Ladywood mounted a comeback on Kaitlyn Vitale's goal from Caitlin

GIRLS SOCCER

Szczypka in the 44th minute. Field's game-tying goal came off a scramble following a corner kick. Ladywood goalkeeper Michelle Ring made four saves.

CHURCHILL 2, SALEM 0: Goals by Bailey Brandon in the third and 30th minute carried Livonia Churchill (4-0-1, 1-0) to a WAAA-Lakes Division triumph Monday night at Centennial Educational Park over the host Rocks (1-2-2, 0-1).

Kayla Johnston assisted on both first-half goals for the Chargers, while goalkeeper Stefanie Turner made seven saves for the shutout. "We did well enough to win the game and I'm happy with the result," Churchill coach Dave Hebestreit said. "Salem played a 4-5-1 (formation) and had eight or nine behind the ball. They did a good job of counter-attacking and they had three good chances."

"One of our defenders Tessa Allen went home sick just during school and we were kind of out of sync with our usual three and four back there."

STEVENSON 0, JOHN GLENN 0: Forward Julia Schroeder had two goals and

three assists Monday afternoon as Livonia Stevenson (4-2, 1-0) merced host Westland John Glenn (1-4, 0-1) with 16 minutes remaining in a WAAA-Lakes Division encounter.

Molly McConnell added two goals and two assists for the victorious Spartans, who led 4-0 at halftime.

Other Stevenson goal scorers included Stephanie and Samantha Gutowski, Joelle Williams and Renee Boudreau.

Goalkeeper Michelle Krawczyk posted the shutout.

"Injuries and illnesses are plaguing our team this year," Glenn first-year coach Marty Sylvester said. "We just can't seem to get a break."

PLYMOUTH 6, FRANKLIN 0: The Wildcats (1-2-2, 1-0) cruised to a 3-0 halftime lead and never looked back on the way to WAAA-Western Division triumph Monday over visiting Livonia Franklin (0-5, 0-1).

Junior Liz Koet had a career-best night as she registered a hat-trick. Kelly Dobbs, Julie Forster and Katie Moss also found the back of the net for the winners.

Marissa Williams (first half) and Tara Jasewicz combined for the shutout in net for the Wildcats.

W.L. WESTERN 7, WAYNE 1: Jenny Shaba

tallied four goals Monday as host Walled Lake Western (3-2-1, 1-0) downed Wayne Memorial (0-6, 0-1) in a WAAA-Western Division encounter.

Whitney Jacobs scored the lone goal for the Zebras.

KINGSWOOD 1, CLARENCEVILLE 0: Casey Miller's goal with only nine minutes remaining gave Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook-Kingswood (1-1-1, 1-0) the Metro Conference triumph over host Livonia Clarenceville (2-2, 0-1).

Abby Cohen was the winning goaltender, while Clarenceville's Kristen Jolly made eight saves in the setback.

The Trojans' defense was led by sophomore Morgan Tressler.

"We played so well for the whole game," Clarenceville coach Trevor Johnson said. "We're looking better, but we're not quite there yet."

LADYWOOD 0, SALEM 0: In an evenly played match Saturday, both goalkeepers stood out as Livonia Ladywood (2-1-1) deadlocked the Rocks (1-1-2).

Ladywood's Michele Ring made six saves to post her second shutout of the season.

Kristen Dondzilla had three saves in goal for the Rocks.

SISTERS

FROM PAGE B1

ed by my teammates. It's the pleasures and the joys. It's the happiest moment when your competing. It's what makes me happy.

"I going to see what I need to be up there to be on the National team. I'll just try and get some experience."

Natalia, meanwhile, also was stunned by her showing.

'UNBELIEVABLE'

"It feels really good to get first place," she said. "But I

was shocked I got all three. It was unbelievable.

"I like the trampoline. I'm not afraid of learning new tricks to get up to new level. It's fun meeting new people. You're not competing against them. You compete against yourself. It does not matter the place as much as what you get as a personal score."

Cassandra's best event is power tumbling. Unlike her younger sister, she eschews the trampoline, which features simple jumps in the pike, tuck or straddle position to more complex combinations of backward somersaults and twists. "It can be dangerous," she

said. "As long as you stay in your head the whole time you'll be fine. You are going anywhere from seven to 20 feet off the ground. I'm afraid of heights and the trampoline is my least favorite."

Cassandra broke her ankle on the double-mini trampoline, which is smaller than a regulation competition trampoline. It has a sloped end and a flat bed. The gymnasts run up and jump onto the sloped end and then jump onto the flat part before dismounting onto a mat. Skills are performed during the jumps or as they dismount.

"I was just warming up," Cassandra recalled. "It's the

little things you have to watch out for."

Both sisters are trained and teach in the martial arts where their mother serves as a roving instructor for United Tae Kwon Do schools.

Their younger sister Ashlenn, 6, hasn't entered the fray yet, but may not be far behind.

Then there's father Ronald, who works by day at Detroit Diesel. And where would they be today or in the future without him?

"My dad, he's the money, he's the chauffeur," Natalia said.

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GC wins Fellows Creek Cup

Garden City's varsity boys golf team didn't let last Thursday's cold temperatures and wind take them away from the goal of repeating as champions of the annual Fellows Creek Cup Tournament in Canton.

The Cougars finished the job with a total of 40 points, followed by Westland John Glenn and Wayne Memorial, tallying 37 and 17.5 points, respectively. Livonia Franklin missed the tourney for the first time, but are expected to return for the 2009 event, said Garden City head coach Ron Pummill.

"I was really pleased with the way my kids competed today," Pummill said. "The start was held up by frost this morning, so those were real tough conditions. It was breezy and cold all day."

"So I was real happy with the way all the kids played, they played hard."

The tournament medalist was Garden City senior Hagan Risner, who tallied 76 over 18 holes at Fellows Creek Golf Course. Also earning medals were the next three top finishers: John Glenn juniors Andy Myers (79) and Dan Tamaroglio (83) and Garden City junior Ron Pummill (83).

Four threesomes -- one golfer from each team -- went out for 18 holes, with all three squads also being represented by two scrambles teams.

Pummill said the tourney is a good early season test for his team against Western Lakes Activities Association opponents.

"I think it's a great way, and

BOYS GOLF

it has been for the five years we've done, to get kids an 18-hole round against the competition," Pummill said. "Glenn and Wayne are not in our league, so we don't get to see them much. It just gives you a read of what you have, where (golfers) are at and what they can be."

In singles play, Risner was followed by Garden City teammates Pummill, junior Nick Walker (89) and senior Chris Cisko (99).

John Glenn's singles players were Myers, Tamaroglio, senior D. J. Loney (91) and freshman Josh Duprie (98). Wayne's Jacob Smith cracked the 100-mark with a round of 87. The other Zebras in singles play were Kevin Erdmann (108), Gary McNeill and Andrew Morton (both 111).

The Cougars also topped the field in the scrambles competition. Finishing with a total of 83 were junior Mike Downey and sophomore Mike Bone while the tandem of senior R. J. Wright and sophomore John Selinski tallied 84.

The third- and fourth-place scrambles units were by the Rockets: Kyle Hamlin and Jim Dutchak finished with a score of 85; registering 89 were Travis Jozefczak and Alex Rochette.

For Wayne, Ryan Raymor and Joshua Higgs shot a combined 99 while William Luke and Kanav Mahotra checked in with a score of 119.

BOYS GOLF RESULTS

DUAL MATCH RESULTS
LIVONIA CHURCHILL 157
WALLED LAKE CENTRAL 170
April 14 at Edgewood Country Club
Churchill scorers: Josh Proben, 38 (medalist); Brian Blint, 39; Kevin Robinson and Matt Charnley, 40 each; Adam Yerber, 41; Dan Bostick, 44.
Central scorers: S. Cato, 40; C. Dodge, 42; E. Katz, 43; E. Simon, 45; J. Starrs, 48; I. Sherman, 49.
Dual match records: Churchill, 1-0 overall, 1-0 WAAA; Central, 0-1 overall, 0-1 WAAA.
PINCKNEY INVITATIONAL
BOYS GOLF RESULTS
April 11 at Rush Lake C.C.
TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Novi-Detroit Catholic Central, 301; 2. Bay City Western, 319; 3. Dexter, 319; 4. Grosse Pointe South, 325; 5. Livonia

Stevenson, 326; 6. University of Detroit-Jesuit, 327; 7. Macomb Lutheran North, 331; 8. Livonia Churchill, 334; 9. Hartland, 335; 10. Livonia Franklin, 338; 11. Birmingham Groves, 339; 12. South Lyon, 340; 13. Lapeer West, 345; 14. Pinckney (Black), 14; 15. Howell, 355; 16. Ann Arbor Huron, 356; 17. Dearborn, 357; 18. Pinckney (Red), 360; 19. Ann Arbor Greenhills, 362; 21. Berkley, 363; 22. Lapeer East, 363.
Individual medalist: Ramiererz (Dearborn), 73.
Stevenson scorers: 3. Drew Mossolan, 1-over 74; 14. Christian DeBay, 19; 48. Dan Dufour, 86; 75. Tom Cullum, 87; 69. Adam Giordano, 90.
Churchill scorers: 21. Josh Proben, 81; 36. Kevin Robinson, 83; 44. (tie) Dan Bostick and Matt Charnley, 44 each; 53. Erik Newman, 87.
Franklin scorers: 21. (tie) Justin Adams and Jordan Chisholm, 81 each; 36. Tony Semonick, 83; 81. Jimmy Johnson, 93; 89. Tyler Miller, 95.

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Let's be Earth-friendly

This week's activities aim at conservation, education

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
STAFF WRITER

Earth Day is officially celebrated on April 22. While the environment may not be in the forefront these days, taking a back seat to the 2008 presidential election, the war in Iraq and the economy, it still remains a critical issue for many.

Many events are scheduled this weekend through April 22 to promote sustainability, the environment and wildlife habitats. From the Detroit Zoo in Royal Oak to Oakland University in Rochester and local businesses in Oakland and Wayne counties, the warming of the spring weather presents an opportune time to remind ourselves about the importance of maintaining the planet's health.

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY

The third annual Earth Day Expo will be held at Oakland University Saturday, April 19 with information about healthy, local, organic, fair-trade and sustainably-produced food, including presentations from Paul Krause of VegMichigan; Julie LaPorte, owner of LaVida Local, a business engaged in building communities by connecting local farmers to consumers; Heather Carmona, an organic wellness consultant with Natural Health & Healing; Dr. Fay Hansen, a biologist at OU currently on sabbatical at Michigan State University learning about organic farming; and Dr. Kerrie Saunders, a nationally known speaker and best-selling author.



Rebecca Kolls

LOCAL BUSINESSES

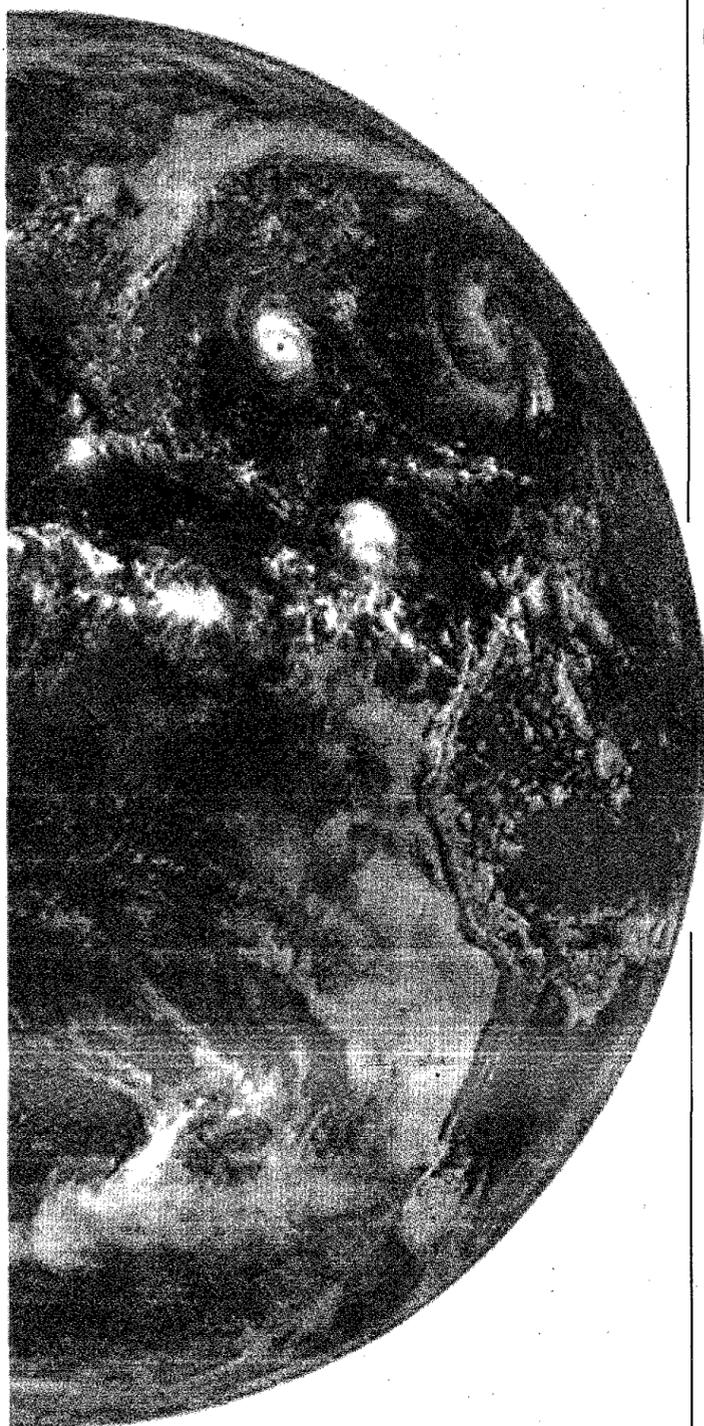
Rebecca Kolls, lifestyle and gardening contributor for ABC's *Good Morning America*, and Roger Swain, former host of PBS' *The Victory Garden*, will be appearing at English Gardens stores Saturday, April 19 and Sunday, April 20.

English Gardens will also give away tree seedlings to the first 100 children in each store.

Kolls will present "Growing Green" with tips on how gardeners can incorporate earth-friendly tips at 10 a.m. Saturday, April 19 in West Bloomfield; 1 p.m. in Dearborn Heights; 4 p.m. in Brighton; and 3 p.m. Sunday, April 20 in Royal Oak.

Swain will present "The Thrills & Spills of Container Gardening," and demonstrate tips for successful planting in containers. His schedule is 10 a.m.

Please see
EARTH, D2



ACCENTS

Mom's the best

We remember mom's great recipes. Just don't try and get that information from her. Sure, she may have guarded the exclusivity of the dish with generalizations and phrases like "oh, it's a little of this and a little of that" when she was asked about the ingredients of that delicious dish. Sooner or later, though, she relented and you got the keys to the kingdom. Do you have a favorite dish of hers that she prepared in the spring or summer? Or do you have a favorite dish that you prepare for her and she enjoys it? If you'd like to share her recipe or yours with us and we publish it, we'll send you a free cookbook. Please send a short note about your mother, the recipe, a photo of the two of you (if it is available) and a daytime phone number where you can be reached. Send it to kabramcz@hometownlife.com or mail it to Ken Abramczyk, food editor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham 48009. Recipes should be sent by Wednesday, April 23.

New showroom open

Find out how to re-face, not replace, to upgrade your home at the grand opening of the Granite Transformations showroom at 31205 Grand River at Orchard Lake Road in Farmington Hills 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, April 19.

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For information call (248) 427-0200 or visit www.granitetransformations.com.

Professionals honored

Coffee Beanery joins companies and organizations to recognize the work that administrative professionals do on a daily basis. Administrative Professionals Day is celebrated on Wednesday, April 23, and Coffee Beanery is looking for the Administrative Professional of the Year.

Participating local Coffee Beanery stores will be taking nominations at local stores and will be awarding coffee gift baskets to the most deserving nominee.

In addition, an on-line contest will be held at coffeebeanery.com where nominations can be submitted and the winning on-line nominee will receive a pound of specialty coffee every month for a year.

The deadline for in-store and on-line nominations is midnight Monday, April 21.

The winner will be chosen at noon on that same day.

Make online backups part of your backup strategy

Last week I wrote about diversified backups: using multiple methods to safeguard your data.

Today I'm going to focus on the online aspect of that idea, as it's not always obvious what kind of service you should use or how to use it.

Remember that there are two basic kinds of backups: those that duplicate your entire hard drive, and those that duplicate just your important data.

Online backups, which copy your data to remote servers, definitely fall into the latter category.

Theoretically, you could upload the complete contents of your hard drive to a backup service, especially if you're paying for an "unlimited storage" plan.

Please see TECH, D3

Puck stops here

Wolfgang Puck will be signing copies of his new cookbook at the restaurant that bears his name at the MGM Grand Detroit 2-4 p.m. April 22.

Wolfgang Puck Makes It Easy will be available for purchase at Wolfgang Puck Grille at a cost of \$35.

Conveniently located by the hotel's entrance and main casino floor, the restaurant features casual as well as sophisticated fine dining that can be enjoyed either as a relaxed, leisurely dining experience or as a comfortable, quick-bite in a setting created by designer Tony Chi.

Additional features are a stunning hand-carved desk from South Korean artist Lee Jae-Hyo at the restaurant's entry and "Wolfgang's Kitchen Table," a private space for up

BOOK SIGNING

What: Wolfgang Puck signs copies of his new book, "Wolfgang Puck Makes It Easy"

When: 2-4 p.m. April 22

Where: Wolfgang Puck Grille, MGM Grand Casino, 1777 Third (north of Michigan Avenue), Detroit
Book available for \$35.

to 14 guests that provides an up close and personal experience of the celebrity chef's kitchen.

The restaurant's hours are 7 a.m.-9 p.m. daily and 7 p.m.-midnight Friday and Saturday. For reservations, call (313) 465-1648.



Wolfgang Puck

'The Splendid Table' host visits Schoolcraft

Lynne Rossetto Kasper, host of *The Splendid Table*, a food program on Michigan Radio, will be conducting a cooking demonstration at Schoolcraft College in Livonia 1-3 p.m. May 10. Her demonstration will feature recipes from her new book *The Splendid Table's How to Eat Supper*.

The culinary arts students at Schoolcraft College will

help prepare the meal Kasper demonstrates, which attendees will be able to sample. They will also be able to ask Kasper questions.

Kasper, named "One of the 12 best cooking teachers in America" by the James Beard Foundation, is a chef and cultural historian. Her first cookbook, *The Splendid Table*, is the only book to

achieve the food world's twin crown, The Cookbook of the Year Award, from both the Julia Child/IACP and James Beard Awards. She has been featured in numerous publications including *The New York Times*, *People*, *Gourmet*, and *Newsweek* among others. Tickets are \$45, and are

Please see COOKING, D3



Lynne Rossetto Kasper

EARTH

FROM PAGE D1

Saturday, April 19 in Dearborn Heights, and 1 p.m. in Royal Oak; and noon Sunday, April 20 in Brighton and 3 p.m. in West Bloomfield.

In Canton, IKEA will give away 1,500 ready-to-plant blue spruce seedlings on April 22, one per family, while supplies last. For every three incandescent bulbs customers bring in for recycling they will receive a free three-pack of 11w "SPARSAM" Energy Bulbs (equal to a 50 watt non-energy saver bulb), also while supplies last. IKEA also has a recycling center inside the exit doors.

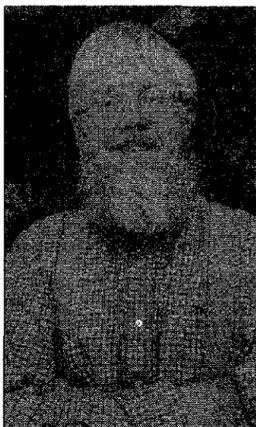
Art Van donated 3,000 spruce trees this week to area schools and organizations for planting, as part of regional beautification projects and educational programs. Stop by any Art Van store to receive a free packet of flower seeds, while supplies last, through April 23.

DETROIT ZOO

The Detroit Zoo hosts its annual Earth Day celebration 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, April 19. The celebration will include earth-friendly crafts, an endangered species scavenger hunt, a rock climbing wall, animal enrichment activities, zookeeper talks, exhibits by local conservation groups and visits by Smokey Bear and the Rainforest Café tree frog mascot Cha!Cha! Presentations of "Getting Excited About Earth Day" with Steve Belliveau will be held at the Ford Education Center Theater at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

The Southeastern Oakland County Water Authority (SOCWA) will give composting demonstrations at the Backyards for Wildlife area of the Zoo, developed to demonstrate to visitors how to make their urban, suburban and rural backyards more conducive habitats for wildlife.

A Green Games Gallery will be hosted by the Detroit Zoo's own conservation group, the Green Team, including games using recycled materials, storytelling and educational displays. All Earth Day activities are free with regular Zoo



Roger Swain

admission.

On a related note, the Southeastern Oakland County Recycling Recovery Authority offers 30-minute tours of the Materials Recovery Facility, 995 Coolidge in Troy, at 4 and 5 p.m. April 21-24, and again at 10 and 11 a.m. May 3. (Residents interested in seeing the facility should call (248) 288-5150 in advance so SOCCRA can have enough tour guides available.)

WHOLE FOODS

The Village of Rochester Hills teams up with Whole Foods Market noon to 4 p.m. Saturday April 26. Families are invited to the Village to stroll from table to table to collect new eco-friendly tips, sample recipes from an organic chef, and more.

Guests are encouraged to bring at least 10 plastic bags to be recycled in exchange for a free reusable Village of Rochester tote. (Limit of one per person, while supplies last). In addition, the first 200 guests will receive a free seedling to take home.

Help reduce waste, and bring your recyclables (paper, plastic, glass and cardboard) to the Waste Management recycling truck. Kids can bring an empty egg carton and plastic bottles to turn "trash into treasures" by creating art from recyclables.

The Village of Rochester Hills is located at the northwest corner of Walton and Adams Roads in Rochester Hills.

Tips from the painters in my life

I'm a lucky gal in that two of the men in my life are professional painters.

My husband, Jeff, is a skilled mural artist, while my father-in-law, Bob Von Buskirk, is a professional home and



Wensdy Von Buskirk

commercial painter based in Plymouth. The great thing about having the Von Buskirks around is they don't think of painting as a big ordeal. My husband has been known to

start painting a room at 5 p.m., and be finished by prime time. His father, on the other hand, would never do anything that fast. He's big on perfect priming and meticulous work. Painting is an inexpensive way to make a huge difference in your home.

With spring in the air, it's time to tackle that painting project you've had on your to-do list for a while. With these tips from Bob, you should be all set to start — and finish — the job.

GET PREPPED
Prep work is 90 percent of the job, according to Bob, yet many amateurs, as well as professionals' out to make a quick buck, ignore the important — and time-consuming — work it takes to get walls, ceilings, mouldings and trim ready for the finish coat.

All surfaces need to be free of oily spots, dust and cobwebs, as well as loose and chipping paint. To prep surfaces, start by chipping away at loose paint until the chipping stops. Then, fight mold — the biggest enemy of a lasting paint job — using straight bleach in a bottle. Simply spray it on and wait for

TOOL TIME

According to professional painter Bob Von Buskirk, of Plymouth, it's worth investing in quality paint supplies. If you keep them clean they'll last and last. Here's a shopping list to get you the perfect paint job every time:

- A good brush (don't skimp here or it will show)
- Aluminum paint pan (wash after every use)
- Spackling (Bob recommends Red Devils Onetime)
- Flexible putty knife
- Aluminum step ladder
- Drop cloths (disposable plastic or paper is one option; canvas or butyl can be reused)
- Caulking gun and caulk
- Blue tape (stay away from masking tape as it leaves residue)
- Roller handle and covers
- Mini rollers (for narrow areas, such as between window frames and corners)
- Idiot stick (for extending the roller handle)
- Paint (Benjamin Moore or Graham recommended)

it to dry.

Now, sand all surfaces to remove dust — even the ceiling — or you'll be left with what Bob calls "paint boogers," unsightly bumps that prevent a smooth finish.

Finally, cover everything with an oil-based primer.

CHOOSE YOUR PAINT

Bob has tried many brands, and has settled on Benjamin Moore and Graham paints. They're slightly more expensive, but worth every penny, he says. Today's best paints are 100 percent acrylic, not latex. Acrylic paints provide a harder finished surface, and are more durable and easier to clean. Plus, they have better color retention.

Graham's ceramic paint has ceramic atmospheres added, which gives it the most durable and washable surface of all.

When it comes to paint sheens, general rules of thumb are to use flat finish paint on ceilings and walls; eggshell in hallways, bathrooms, children's bedrooms and other high traf-

fic areas; and satin on mouldings.

CONSIDER COLOR

When choosing color, remember there's a difference between 'me' color and resale color. If you're planning to move, stick to neutrals and use furniture and accessories to add color to your home.

If you're going to stay put, then you can have some fun choosing hues that suit you. Today, anything goes when it comes to color. Pick out a shade from your sofa or a favorite blanket and put it on an accent wall — or all the walls. While dark colors can make average size rooms look smaller, they have the opposite effect in small rooms. A rich plum, for example, can make a powder room appear larger. Remember that darker colors scratch more easily, and generally require more coats, although a tinted primer can help.

No matter what you do with the walls, it's always good practice to keep the ceiling white and mouldings and trim a con-

sistent neutral throughout the entire home.

GET CREATIVE

There are many fun ways to spice up a room with paint. For example, you can create simple wainscoting using chair rail halfway up the wall, but remember to use your darker color on the bottom. A dark color on top has the psychological effect of making people feel trapped.

Faux finishes are waning in popularity, but using murals to 'theme' rooms is an option. My husband has done everything from jungle scenes to mountain landscapes in children's bedrooms. He's painted palm fronds on a recessed master bedroom ceiling to create a spa effect, and tromp l'oeil to make kitchens 'open' into Tuscan scenes.

New chalkboard and whiteboard paints allow people to write on the walls and wipe them clean — perfect for children's rooms or offices in moderation.

Whatever you choose, don't feel like you have to match separate rooms, unless you've got an open floor plan. Otherwise, when you enter a room, the rest of the house remains unseen behind you.

If all this sounds like too much work, you can always hire a professional. Get a couple quotes and compare estimates. Ask the painter if he will pay attention to details, such as changing out plugs, sockets, light switches and covers. Don't always settle on the lowest estimate — you usually get what you pay for.

Wensdy Von Buskirk is a staff writer for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. Reach her at wvond@hometownlife.com. For more painting advice — always free — call Bob at Von Buskirk's Interiors and Exteriors, (248) 210-5024.

FOOD CALENDAR

If you have an item for the food calendar, please submit it at least two weeks prior to the event to Ken Abramczyk, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham 48009. e-mail kabramcz@hometownlife.com, or fax (248) 644-1314.

Healthy Eating Made Easy

Learn how to cook gourmet yet healthy meals with Michigan Health coach Cheryl Heppard and chef Matt Schellig, the first and third Thursdays of every

month. Learn about Greek foods May 1 and May 15 is vegan, located at Aunt Olives, 525 N. Old Woodward in Birmingham, classes are 6:30-8:30 p.m., \$50 per person, for more info and to pre-register call (248) 592-0869 or visit www.MichiganHealthCoach.com

The Community House

Several classes offered during the months of April and May, including Hands-on Knife Skills, 6:30-9 p.m. April 22; Healthy but Yummy (learn about whole grains), 11 a.m.-1 p.m. April 28; Authentic

New Orleans, 7-9 p.m. April 30; Learn to Prepare a Mother's Day Brunch, 7-9 p.m. May 5; 380 South Bates Street, Birmingham, (248) 644-5832, or online at www.communityhouse.com.

Green Street Fair

Inaugural fair to promote benefits of green, organic and eco-friendly products and services of companies, artisans, entertainers and speakers, May 3-4, downtown Plymouth, visit www.greenstreetfair.com for information.

GARDEN CALENDAR

If you have an item for the garden calendar, please submit it at least two weeks prior to the event to Ken Abramczyk at kabramcz@hometownlife.com.

Vendors Sought

Vendors who sell fruits, vegetables, flowers, plants, herbs, organic produce, honey, maple syrup, candies, soaps and other natural products are being sought for this year's Southfield Farmers' Market, open 7 a.m.-4 p.m. Thursdays June 5-late October outside the Millennium Centre, 15600 J.L. Hudson Drive. Call (248) 796-5196 to apply.

The Community House

A series of classes dedicated to the greening of America, issues and solutions for improving the environment; Landscaping for a Healthy River, 7-8 p.m. April 17; Nature Near You, 1-2:30 p.m. April 21; Spending Lean on Building Green, 7-9 p.m. April 23; Residential Rain Gardens, 7-8:30 p.m. May 1; 380 S. Bates, Birmingham call (248) 644-5832 to register, or visit online at www.communityhouse.com.

Michigan Orchid Society

Roger Zielinski of Raising Rarities, has grown terrestrial orchids for 10 years and his program will be "Cypripedium culture in pots" April 20, with a potting demonstration at 1:40 p.m. so bring an orchid that needs re-potting

to the meeting along with potting mix and a clean pot, Carolyn Butcher will help show the correct way to pot. The meeting starts at 2:30 p.m. at the First Baptist Church of Birmingham, 300 Willits Street, free of charge. For more information call (586) 416-1496.

The Community House Garden Club

"New Plants That Thrive in Our Climate" with George Papadellis, owner of Telly's Greenhouse, who will conduct a presentation that will help you prepare your spring and summer gardens by using new plants that thrive in our climate, 7 p.m. April 21, The Community House, 380 South Bates Street, Birmingham. The public is invited. Reservations are not necessary. A \$5 donation is requested at the door or \$20 for garden club membership. Call (248) 594-6410.

More Garden, Less Lawn

David Michener, associate curator, University of Michigan Botanical Gardens and Nichols Arboretum, on redoing the garden, presented by The Village Gardeners of Lathrup Village, 6:30-8:30 p.m. April 21, Community Room of the Lathrup Village Municipal Building, 27400 Southfield Road, 3 blocks north of I-696, visit http://lvgardeneers.home.comcast.net or call Susan Arneson (248-443-1703) or Nancy Bacinski (248-569-6548).

Pruning Roses

Pruning and Fertilizing Roses, 1 p.m. April 21; 11 a.m. April 21; 1 p.m. April 27; 11 a.m. April 28; (late April/early May is the correct time to prune roses, not earlier.) How to Plant Roses, slide lecture and hands-on garden demonstration, 1 p.m. May 4, 11 a.m. May 5, Great Lakes Roses, 49875 Willow Rd., Belleville, (734) 461-1230, www.GreatLakesRoses.com.

Hardy Hydrangeas

Sue Grubba, master gardener and instructor from Practical Gardening Institute will discuss how to add these gorgeous plants to home gardens at 10 a.m. April 25, with Oakland University's Meadow Brook Hall Garden Club in the Coach House adjacent to Meadow Brook Hall on the campus of Oakland University in Rochester. Guests are welcome. Coffee and refreshments served at 9:30 a.m., \$5 non-member donation. Reservations are not required. Call (248) 608-0485 or (248) 310-8793, or visit www.meadowbrookhall.org.

Home Composting Workshop

"Secrets of the Soil...with a Sense of Humus", a home composting workshop, 10 a.m. Saturday, April 26, at Telly's Greenhouse, 3301 John'R, Troy. Topics will include: soil fertility; benefits of compost for lakes and the Rouge River; building the compost pile; materials for composting; compost bin options; avoiding

nuisances; compost bin maintenance, sustainable landscapes, and more. To register for this free workshop, call the Southeastern Oakland County Water Authority at (248) 288-5150 or at Telly's (248) 689-8735.

Southern Michigan Daylily Society

Hybridizing Spiders and Unusual Forms Daylily Flowers with Dan Bachman from Valley of the Daylilies in Lebanon, Ohio, 7 p.m. May 2, Congregational Church of Birmingham, 1000 Cranbrook Rd., Bloomfield Hills.

Swap Meet

9 a.m.-5 p.m., May 3, Western Wayne County Conservation Association, 6700 Napier Rd., Plymouth, if interested in renting a table, contact Anita Laich at (734) 425-1685 for more information.

British Floral Artist

Friends of Art & Flowers at the Detroit Institute of Arts present Jane Packer: Colour lecture and demonstration 10:30 a.m. May 7, DIA Lecture Hall, lecture and luncheon \$50, lecture only \$25, book signing to follow, for reservations, call (313) 833-4005, www.dia.org, for information, call (313) 833-1717.

Country Garden Club of Northville

Six gardens on 15th Annual Garden Walk, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. July 9, \$10 tickets, www.cgcncv.org, (248) 348-3263.

HOME CALENDAR

Lalique Architectural Event

Saks Fifth Avenue will host a Lalique Architectural Event with one-of-a-kind crystal pieces, limited edition furnishings and unique interior design elements 10 a.m.-6 p.m. daily through May 3 at The Fifth Avenue Club on Two, Somerset Collection, Troy. RSVP at (248) 643-9025 or visit www.lalique.com to browse products.

Cranbrook Seeks Docents

Historic Cranbrook House seeks docents to conduct tours of the 1908 home. Choose eight-week training sessions Tuesday evenings or

Wednesday mornings. Separate sessions will be held for Garden docents only.

The tour season runs from May through October. Cranbrook House and Gardens Auxiliary also welcomes volunteers for estate gardening, greenhouse management, the Wildflower Rescue Program and Gatehouse admissions center. Call (248) 645-3149.

The Birmingham Showhouse

"An ideal home created from a woman's perspective," Sept. 18-21, benefits Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer

Institute, sponsored by Wellington Chase Homes and Michigan Design Center, also open Sept. 25-28, 4,580-square-foot English Arts and Crafts style, developed by women with products exclusively from MDC, visit michigan-design.com or Showhouse Web site at birminghamshowhouse.com.

Designer's Show House

The Junior League of Detroit will open its 17th biennial Designers' Show House, 15637 Windmill Pointe Drive, Grosse Pointe Park, May 3-18. The grand colonial home measures 6,300 square feet, and features a sweep-

ing staircase, gourmet kitchen and wonderful architectural details from the 1940's.

During the event, a Show House Boutique will offer art for the home, kitchen, family and holidays; a Greenery will sell garden art and plant materials; and a tent outside will feature a garden-infused Cafe. Hours are 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Sundays through Fridays; 6:30-8:30 p.m. Thursdays and Fridays; 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturdays.

Tickets, \$15 in advance; \$20 at the door, benefit JLD. Visit www.jldetroit.org to find a list of tickets sellers.

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Serve this chicken for Passover

Passover begins at sundown on April 19. Since holiday meals can sometimes fill us up with unwanted calories, chef Phil Andriano, author of *I Can Cook, You Can Cook: the Self-Help Guide to Seafood Cookery*, has created a healthy Passover dish.

HONEY SABRA CHICKEN WITH CHAROSET STUFFED BUTTERNUT SQUASH

1 pound chicken thighs, divided into 4 ounce portions, boneless/skinless
1 butternut squash, cut, seeded and quartered
4 ounces Sabra (chocolate-orange) Liquor
4 tablespoons honey
4 tablespoons golden raisins
4 Granny Smith apples, diced
1 teaspoon cinnamon powder
1 teaspoon ginger powder
4 tablespoons potato starch

4 tablespoons red wine
4 teaspoons olive oil
4 teaspoons chopped walnuts

Marinate the chicken overnight in the Sabra liquor and 4 teaspoons oil. Pre-bake the butternut squash in a roasting pan slightly filled with water, at 350 degrees until fork tender.

In a sauce pot combine the potato starch, raisins and honey in 2 cups water, cook until thick and clear, allow to cool.

Mix the apples, nuts and spices with the honey-raisin mixture, then stir in the wine.

Stuff the portions of squash with the Charoset and bake at 350 degrees for 20 minutes longer.

Remove the chicken from the marinade and roast in the same oven for the same amount of time or until done.

Help an artist and help stimulate Michigan's economy

A few blocks from your home, an artist is planning to move to Sedona or Austin if he or she doesn't sell a painting, sculpture, or photograph soon.



One world

Lana Mini

Also near you, there's a musician making a list of the pros and cons of Michigan life, comparing it to life in New York, Los Angeles and Portland.

It's true. I know dozens of artists, probably now more than 100, from every metro Detroit city, preparing to flee for survival.

So, the question for you and I is:

What are we going to do with our "economic stimulus" checks?

Many of us have little choice but to use it toward our mortgage, car or credit card pay-

ment. But let's say some will put it back into the economy.

If so: *Support Michigan.*

Whatever you buy, get it from locally-owned business and that includes local art studios, galleries and concert venues.

I constantly hear local artists say they're proud to be from Detroit - and then they move to New York; the reason is because Michiganders as individuals don't support talent here as much as we could.

For example, how many of us saw The White Stripes before they were famous?

How many of us go to Movement - the Detroit Electronic Music Festival at Hart Plaza - to see the local musicians who invented the sound?

How many of us go out on a Saturday night just to check out an unknown local band that you read about in the newspaper?

How many of us own a piece of art created by a Michigan

artist?

How many of us have local music in our iPods that isn't by one of our friends or relatives who are in the band?

I've heard many art gallery owners admit that we romanticize faraway lands. It seems sexier to tell a neighbor that you're newly purchased painting is by a trendy artist from Manhattan or tiny city in Thailand whom you just happened to discover during an exploration.

I'm guilty of it.

I have just two pieces of art in my home from Detroit artists; the others are from places like the island of Hispaniola, Italy, Iran, France, Greece and even Los Angeles. And because the economy is so tough, I'm feeling some guilt. We have prestigious art schools like Cranbrook and Center for Creative Studies, so it's not that our quality is lacking.

Recently, I saw a great local band spill their energy onto the stage at bar barely filled to 25

percent capacity; I won't mention the group's name because it's not their fault tickets didn't sell. It's not necessarily the economy either, because national acts sell pretty well - like Hannah Montana at The Palace and Gogol Bordello at the Royal Oak Music Theatre.

If Michigan's creative people can't succeed here they're going to leave and metro-Detroit will be as bland as Silicon Valley, minus the jobs.

So if you can spend your stimulus check on a material item, consider a locally-produced piece of jewelry, furniture, painting, CD or concert.

Michigan corporations keep the economy going, the independent boutiques keep our downtowns unique. The artists help feed the souls of the cities and ourselves.

Next time: Set aside \$10 for homeless animals, put it in a jar, we'll discuss that soon.

Lana Mini can be reached at lmini@hometownlife.com or (248) 901-2572.

TECH

FROM PAGE D1

But the reality of Internet bandwidth makes that impossible, at least for now. Upload speeds, even with broadband service, tend to be extremely slow, so sending your whole hard drive would take forever.

In fact, that's the major hamstringing with online backup services in general. It can take an entire day, sometimes even longer, to upload just a few gigabytes' worth of data.

That's why I've been more than satisfied with MozyHome Free (mozy.com/home), which offers 2GB of online backup free of charge.

I use it to archive my e-mail, Word documents, Quicken data, contacts, calendar, Web favorites, and other critical items. I've got years' worth of that stuff, yet I've consumed only about two-thirds of my allotted free storage.

Of course, that leaves behind all my photos, videos, and music. That data's just as important to me, but it adds up to around 50GB.

Even if I signed up for unlimited storage from Mozy, Carbonite, HP's new Upline (upline.com), or another online backup service, it would literally take weeks of 24/7 uploading to move that much information to their servers. Not practical.

Granted, you could schedule backups to occur only at night, when your computer's not doing anything else. Eventually the job would get done, and subsequent backups would finish much faster because the software adds only new files and those that have changed. (That's called an incremental backup, in case you're wondering.)

If you do decide to go this route, I recommend any of the three aforementioned services. They all cost about the

same (\$5-6 per month), and they're all quite easy to use.

One thing I like about Upline over the other two is that it lets you access your data from anywhere, not just the PC that has the Upline software installed. Plus, you can easily share files with others.

Carbonite's better when it comes to scheduling backups, but it's not as helpful as Mozy when it comes to identifying important data, like Outlook records and Quicken files.

Fortunately, you can try them all before signing up. And I definitely recommend doing so, as online backups are a crucial part of any good backup plan.

Rick Broida writes about computers and technology for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. Broida, of Commerce Township, also writes the Cheapskate blog for CNET (blogs.cnet.com/cheapskate). He welcomes questions sent to rick.broida@gmail.com.

COOKING

FROM PAGE D1

available at the Michigan Union ticket office and all Ticketmaster outlets, at ticketmaster.com, or by calling 734-763-TKTS (734-763-8587). Proceeds from the event will benefit Michigan Radio, the public radio service from the University of Michigan.

The Splendid Table's How to Eat Supper, by Lynne Rossetto Kasper and Sally Swift, pro-

ducer of *The Splendid Table* program, is Kasper's third book and embodies her unique approach to food as culture. The book is as visually delightful and entertaining as it is useful. *How to Eat Supper* is full of recipes, everyday kitchen advice and tips.

The Splendid Table is broadcast Sundays, noon - 1 p.m. on Michigan Radio. Kasper gives cooking tips, recipes and advice to her audience while discussing her passion for food with guest experts, authors and chefs who share her enthu-

COOKING DEMO

What: Lynne Rossetto Kasper, host of *The Splendid Table* radio program, conducts cooking demonstration
When: 1-3 p.m. May 10
Where: Schoolcraft College
Tickets: \$45
Call: (734) 763-TKTS, www.ticketmaster.com.

siasm for the culinary arts. Michigan Radio broadcasts at 91.7 FM in southeastern Michigan and 91.1 FM in Flint.

SPORTS

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Saturday, April 26, 2008 • 9:30am-1pm

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Monday, April 28, 2008 • 5:30pm-9pm

Summit on the Park
46000 Summit Pkwy, Canton 48188

Saturday, May 3, 2008 • 9:30am-1pm

Wayne County Community College District
21000 Northline Road, Taylor, MI 48180

Presented by: Adult Well-Being Services, Caregiver Ministry Network, CSSWC/Retired & Senior Volunteer Program, Neighborhood Legal Services-Elder Law & Advocacy Center, Redford Township, The Information Center, The Senior Alliance, Wayne-Metropolitan Community Action Agency, & Detroit Wayne County Long-Term Care Connection
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- Learn how to recognize and cope with depression.

Yay! Now it's time to put away the snowthrower

Now is the time to put that snowthrower away and get ready for those spring chores you've been dreaming about these past cold months.

"Periodic maintenance is the key to keeping your snowthrower ready for the next snowfall," said Clark Oltman, of Toro. "While they are durable machines, a few simple steps can prevent major breakdowns at the worst possible time and extend the life of your investment."

Before you get the lawn tools out of the garage, make sure you properly prepare your snowthrower for a well-deserved rest. The experts at Toro, the manufacturer of the first patented consumer snowthrower, provides these helpful tips:

Start with the engine and drive system. Drain any remaining fuel from the system. Store or dispose of the fuel properly. If you are going to store the fuel for an extended period of time, add a fuel stabilizer to the fuel container to ensure that it will be useable in

the future. Start the engine and let it run until the engine stops - removing all fuel from the system. Repeat until needed until it will not start.

Remove the plug wire from the spark plug so that it doesn't accidentally start while conducting maintenance.

Remove spark plug and insert one teaspoon of oil to lubricate the cylinder so that it doesn't rust. Turn the engine slowly with the starting rope to coat the cylinder. Apply a copper anti-seize lubricant to the sparkplug threads to make future removal easy. Replace the sparkplug and wait until next season to replace the old one as a new sparkplug will be fouled by the oil in the cylinder by next season.

Now is a good time to purchase a spare sparkplug if you don't have one, they are inexpensive and it's a good idea to have a spare on hand. When choosing a replacement, purchase one that is pre-gapped for the engine (the owners manual should indicate the correct gap).

Change the oil. Drain the old oil and discard appropriately. Generally, a 10W-30 or 5W-30 regular motor oil or a 10W-30 synthetic oil can also be used to ensure easy starting in cold weather. Check the manual for what weight the manufacturer recommends.

If you have a two-stage snowthrower, top off the auger gearbox according to the manufacturer's recommendations. Check belts for proper tightness.

Finish with the auger and controls.

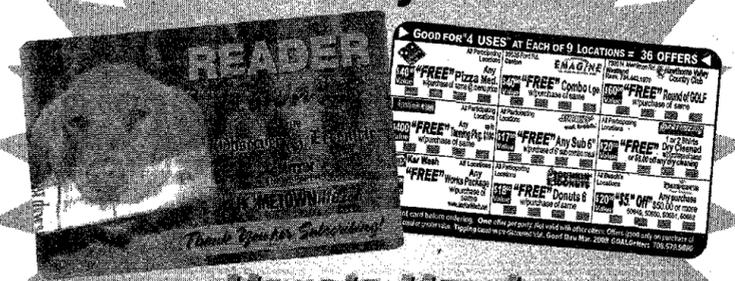
Inspect for any loose or damaged bolts or parts. Repair or replace as needed. Apply silicone grease on all exposed, bare metal parts and nuts and bolts to prevent rusting.

Consult the owner's manual to determine other routine maintenance that should be performed.

Never store the snowthrower in the house or basement. Choose a dry area such as the garage or a covered area outside.

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pink

Wensdy Von Buskirk, Features Editor | (734) 953-2019 | wvonb@hometownlife.com

pink picks

By Wensdy

Wear It!

Clothing made in America — if you can find it! 96 percent is imported

DON'T Wear It!

All black — add a splash of color with accessories

Kick It!

Simple Stop Global Warming flip

Tote It!

Bazura Bags — made from recycled materials

Jewel It!

Blown glass bead jewelry by Jay Bridgland at Ariana Gallery, Royal Oak

Use It!

Rodan + Fields Salicylic Acid Exfoliating Body Wash and Spray

Eat It!

Breakfast at Rosco's Deli Coney Island in Livonia

Drink It!

Bubble tea at Little Bubbles Tea Shop in Farmington Hills

Hear It!

Wildcatting

See It!

Smart People

Tivo It!

Autism: The Musical

DVD It!

There Will Be Blood

Read It!

A Page Out of Life: A Scrapbooking Novel by Kathleen Reid

Do It!

Be a courteous driver

Bridesmaids look best in shades of gray

Some modern brides are allowing their ladies in waiting to wear any little black dress of their choice. This option lets each bridesmaid choose a gown that best flatters her figure — one she will certainly wear again. In fact, an LBD that already hangs in her closet may work just fine. Still, many traditional brides-to-be

don't see things so black and white. For them, the season's most fashionable frocks are in pretty shades of gray. From smoky to silvery, here's a look at a few takes on gray from gown lines available at Miss Kate's Maids, 2121 Cole St., in Birmingham.

Compiled by Wensdy Von Buskirk



Priscilla of Boston Dahlia Vintage dress, \$350.



Priscilla of Boston Smoke satin tank gown, \$300.



Calling all male "maids" of honor

Listen up blushing brides-to-be and happily-weds, Pink is looking for your best guy pals — the sort you chose to stand in place of a maid of honor. We'd like to speak to you, or the best friend in question, for an upcoming story. If you'd like to tell us what it was like to have a best man for a maid of honor — or you

know of a guy in just this honorary role who might want to share his sentiments, please call Stephanie A. Casola at (248) 901-2567 or send an e-mail to scasola@hometownlife.com before April 25.

We're curious to hear how this new wedding trend translates on the big day.

Malls & Mainstreets

If you have an item for the Malls & Main Streets calendar, please submit it at least two weeks prior to the event to Wensdy Von Buskirk at wvonb@hometownlife.com.

Nordstrom Grand Opening CLINTON TWP — Nordstrom will kick off its store opening at The Mall at Partridge Creek with a Beauty Bash 8:30 a.m. April 18. Before the store opens at 10 a.m., Nordstrom beauty advisers will share products and trends, and provide complimentary consultations and demonstrations outside the store, 17310 Hall Road. Call 1 (800) 916-6110.

Try It On for the Cure LIVONIA — Coldwater Creek at Laurel Park Place will host Try It On for the Cure to benefit the Komen Detroit, April 20. The store will donate \$1 for every shopper who tries on clothes in the dressing room, no purchase necessary, plus 10 percent of sales that day. Call (734) 464-1340 or visit www.coldwatercreek.com.

Share the Vision BIRMINGHAM — The Pink Fund will host Share the Vision April 24-26 to raise funds for breast cancer survivors while showcasing the latest "shades". Some participating stores include Au Courant Optical Fashions, Birmingham Vision Care, Clavenna Vision Institute and Optik (all in Birmingham); Direct Optical, Farmington Hills, and Orion Troy Ophthalmology, Rochester Hills. Visit www.thepinkfund.org.

Rummage Sale FARMINGTON HILLS — Antioch Lutheran Church, 33360 W. 13 Mile Road, will host a rummage sale 9 a.m.-2 p.m. April 18 followed by a Bag Sale, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. April 19, with clothing priced at \$1 each item. (248) 626-7906.

Vintage Fashion Show Tea WATERFORD — What was high style in the 1920s? What did housewives wear in the '50s? Find out as Tuesday Musicale of Greater Pontiac presents a Vintage Fashion Show and Tea 1 p.m. April 22 at Central United Methodist Church, 3882 Highland Road. Attendees may wear hat, gloves and vintage outfits. \$15. Call (248) 620-0116.

ReFusing Fashion Closes DETROIT — This weekend marks your last chance to see ReFusing Fashion: Rei Kawakubo at the Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit, 4454 Woodward Ave. The exhibit closes April 20. Call (313) 832-6622 or visit www.mocadetroit.org.

Macy's Earth Day — Macy's Turn Over A New Leaf campaign April 20-27 will include promotions, merchandise and in-store events benefiting the National Park Foundation. The first 150 customers in stores April 20 will get a free tote. Customers who donate \$5 at Macy's stores or www.nationalparks.org will get a two-day shopping pass for 20 percent off select merchandise April 26-27. On April 22, the first 100 customers in each store will get a free sapling, and the first 100 children will receive an eco-friendly coloring book. For more information and to enter sweepstakes, visit www.macys.com.

BRIDAL CALENDAR

Bridal Sample Sale TROY — The Bridal Salon at Macy's Somerset will host its Annual Bridal Sample Sale April 25-27. Macy's will discount sample designer bridal gowns and accessories at 50 to 90 percent off regular prices. Select couture bridal gowns will start at \$199, while sample bridesmaid dresses start at \$49.97. Designers include Vera Wang, Reem Acra, Romona Keveza, Justina McCaffrey, Watters and Watters, and more. Shoppers who purchase a bridal gown at the sale will receive 10 percent off accessory and bridesmaid purchases. Bridal Gown prices before clearance range from \$500-\$15,000. Hours of the sale are 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Friday; 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday; and 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday.

Downtown Bridal Stroll PLYMOUTH — Downtown Plymouth will host its first annual Plymouth Bridal Stroll on Saturday, April 26. The event will start at noon in Kellogg Park with a mock wedding party, head table and live music from members of the Plymouth Symphony Orchestra. From there, brides will follow their Bridal Stroll program to visit more than 25 businesses offering refreshments, discounts, drawings for gift certificates, and more. From gowns and invitations, to food and favors, the free event will showcase opportunities to plan your whole wedding with local merchants. Call (734) 455-1453 or visit www.downtownplymouth.org.

Bridal Bliss ROYAL OAK — Brides-to-be will find everything they



Kim Chmiel of Shapes Boutique, Royal Oak, fits Trudy Chase of Birmingham in a custom wedding gown.

need to plan a stylish shower, bachelorette party, wedding and reception during Royal Oak's Bridal Bliss 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday, April 26. During the day-long event, more than 25 local businesses will offer discounts, packages, consultations and more for the bride and her entourage.

Guests can also enter to win one of three Downtown Royal Oak Shopping Sprees worth \$200-\$500. For more information and a complete list of activities and participating businesses, call (248) 246-3065 or visit www.downtownroyalok.org.

CORRECTION

In our recent Observer & Eccentric *Wedding Guide*, incorrect information was given for Meadow Brook Hall & Gardens.

If you are interested in hosting a wedding and/or reception at the historic site, call (248) 364-6220 or visit www.meadowbrookhall.org.

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