

Woman sheds pounds, gains self-confidence
Sports, B1

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Absentee ballots are still available

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Westland voters who can't make it to the polls for Tuesday's primary needn't worry.

City Clerk Eileen DeHart is reminding voters there's still time to cast absentee ballots. Put more bluntly, there's no excuse not to vote.

The clerk's office, on the first floor of City Hall on

Ford Road between Newburgh and Wayne, will be open 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. for special

Saturday hours to allow voters to pick up absentee ballots.

It's also the last day the clerk's office will mail out absentee ballots to voters' homes.

Voters who miss their opportunity on Saturday still needn't worry. They can go to the clerk's office until 4 p.m. Monday for an absentee ballot, but on that day they will have to vote on the premises, DeHart said.

Just this week, DeHart predicted that voter participation in Tuesday's partisan primary could reach 18 percent. In all, she said, the city has just over 60,000 registered voters.

Westland's turnout for a primary election is typically around 15 percent, DeHart said, but she said interest could be a little higher this year as voters cast ballots in the 12th District Wayne County Commission race.

With longtime Commissioner Kay Beard stepping down in March due to health reasons, voters will decide their party nominees from among eight Democrats and two Republicans.

As of Monday afternoon, DeHart's office had issued 4,300 absentee ballots and received back 2,700.

For more information about absentee ballots or Tuesday's primary, DeHart encouraged voters to call the clerk's office at (734) 467-3185.

Coming Sunday, the Observer will recap Tuesday's primary ballot.

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

In the swim



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Hot summer weather has youngsters like Tyler Riblett, 9 of Westland turning out at the Bailey Recreation Center's outdoor pool. Families also can enjoy a dip and also help celebrate National Clown Week at the annual "Magic Monday" Family Night 7-9 p.m. Monday, Aug. 4. Hosted by WMCC "Magic" radio and Clowns Around Redford, the event will include inflatables, games, swimming and use of the Bailey Center gymnasium and Tot Town in Tattan Park. Admission to the pool will be \$3 for adults and \$2 for children to swim, the other activities are free of charge. For more information, call the center at (734) 722-7620. The Bailey center and outdoor pool are located in the city's civic center complex at Ford and Carlson, west of Wayne Road.

Officials: Fires were caused by arsonists

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Arsonists struck twice in Westland within a 26-hour period that ended early Monday, leaving authorities to investigate two fires that apparently are unrelated.

The first incident happened around 11:30 p.m. Saturday when a fire was intentionally set while a family was away from home on Cashew, a street in the Westland Meadows mobile home park near Merriman and Van Born roads, Fire Chief Michael Reddy said.

"It was a total loss," he said. Fire investigators found accelerants at the scene, Reddy said. It wasn't known why anyone would burn the home, which was set ablaze while the parents and two children were away, he said.

The mobile home park is located on Westland's far southeast side. The family was apparently staying

with family or friends, Reddy said, and a local charitable organization, Westland Goodfellows, had provided a few hundred dollars to help the victims with immediate needs.

The second incident happened around 1:30 a.m. Monday when a Molotov cocktail was thrown through a front window of a house on Pattingill, near Newburgh and Cherry Hill on the city's west side, Reddy said.

Police Lt. Daniel Karrick said two or three people were inside the house, but no one was injured. Authorities reported some fire damage to the living room. The incident remained under investigation.

"We are working on it in conjunction with the fire department," Karrick said. Anyone who has information is urged to call the Westland Police Department at (734) 721-6311 or (734) 722-9600.

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

Group launches effort to recall 5 city officials

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A group calling itself Save Our Neighborhood filed proposed recall language Tuesday amid hopes of ousting Mayor William Wild and four Westland City Council members for supporting a \$35 million senior housing complex on the city's north side.

Recall supporters Donna DeWitt and Rosemarie Rembisz submitted the language to the Wayne County Elections Office, firing the first round in a recall campaign against Wild and council members James Godbout, Michael Kehrer, Bill Johnson and Dewey Reeves.

Recall organizers have accused the five elected officials of ignoring their concerns by supporting developer Glenn Shaw Jr.'s proposal to build a 147-unit, three-story apartment building, 20 duplex condominiums and 54 stand-alone homes on a 24-acre site near Joy and Newburgh roads, next to Sts. Helen & Constantine Church.

"What we're saying is, it's a wonderful project, it's just in the incorrect part of Westland," Rembisz said Wednesday. "This niche of Westland is paradise."

Wild defended the project, saying it will generate \$250,000 a year in city tax revenues and create jobs during an economic slump. He also said it will provide housing for longtime residents who are aging and want to stay in Westland.

"It's going to be a shot in the arm to the community," Wild said Wednesday.

The Wayne County Elections Commission, composed of Chief Probate Judge Milton Mack Jr., Clerk Cathy Garrett and Treasurer Raymond Wojtowicz, is expected to consider the proposed recall language during an Aug. 12 meeting at the Coleman A. Young Municipal Center.

If the panel approves it, recall supporters will have to collect 6,818 sig-

Please see **RECALL, A2**

Residents ready to go green

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Dozens of Westland residents already have embraced Mayor William Wild's new initiative to make this city of 86,000 people more environmentally friendly and cost-efficient by ramping up efforts to expand recycling, conserve energy, encourage "green" development and use fuel-efficient vehicles.

This is no Mission Impossible. It's Mission Green.

"We've got a lot of catching up to do, but it's the right thing to do," Wild said Tuesday evening, addressing a group of people who signed up for Team Green.

Nearly 40 people, including students, retirees, city officials, recycling enthusiasts and others, came to Westland City Hall for a start-up meeting aimed at making this city an area leader on the environmental front. Others who couldn't attend already have told Team Green leader Bruce Thompson, the city's planning director, that they want to become involved.

Thompson told volunteers to "be ready to roll up your sleeves" during a public goal-setting session scheduled for 6 p.m. Monday, Aug. 11, at City Hall. Thompson indicated that seemingly small measures, like shutting off computers, buying energy-saving light bulbs and recycling plastic water bottles, can save money and protect the environment.

Even though Westland isn't as big as cities like Miami, Chicago, Toronto

and Seattle, it can adopt many of the green initiatives started on larger scales, city officials said.

Wild indicated that a curbside recycling program will be recommended to the Westland City Council within 30-45 days. Moreover, he wants Team Green to explore other efforts, such as making government buildings more energy-efficient and vehicles more fuel-efficient.

City officials already have adopted some measures, such as expanding the recycling center on Marquette east of Newburgh and adopting a paper-recycling program in city buildings.

Volunteers indicated Monday that they're up to the challenge of helping Westland go green. Wild also wants to inspire residents to change their behavior at home.

"It's an exciting start to put into motion," said Nancy Foreich, a long-time city recycling committee member.

Judy Rubasky and Lee Duffey, two women from the Westland Homeowners Committee for Environmental Conservation & Smart Growth, appeared equally as eager to help with Mission Green.

"I think this is kind of a landmark thing for Westland," Duffey said, adding that the city has never before asked residents to get involved on this level.

Rubasky agreed. "It's a real turning point. We can see exciting things happening in Westland."

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Volume 44
Number 19



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USA WEEKEND

Coming Sunday:
Comedian Jack Black: "I want to make sure my kids can be proud of me!"

Judge orders trial for 3 men charged with 2 break-ins

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Three men have a date with Wayne County Circuit Court after being bound over on charges stemming from break-ins at a Garden City bar and the home of a bar employee.

Scott Anthony Coiner, 43, of Westland, Daniel Scott Megdall, 24, of Livonia, and Robert Lee Timbs, 39, of Redford were ordered to stand trial by 21st District Court Judge Richard Hammer Jr. after each of the three men waived their right to a prelimi-

nary hearing on the multiple felony charges.

Hammer also refused requests to reduce their bond, including one from an attorney representing Megdall who pointed out that his client was on the medical floor at the Wayne County Jail.

"He has a serious medical condition that could require surgery," Megdall's attorney said.

The first defendant to appear before Hammer, Megdall came to court wearing county jail prisoner garb and using a walker. He and Coiner are

being held on \$500,000 cash bond while Timbs is being held in lieu of a \$250,000 cash bond.

While Hammer declined to lower their bonds, he did refer the matter to circuit court's pretrial services for review.

The three men are accused of a Dec. 19 break-in of Ramey's Bar at 6278 Middlebelt, Garden City, as well as an armed robbery at an employee's home in the 6500 block of Whitby on Feb. 9.

According to police, someone entered that bar through a weak spot in the upper area

of the building and stole three handguns, a large amount of cash, collectibles, some electronics equipment, a ring, watch and other items.

In the Feb. 9 incident, police said two suspects wearing stocking masks forced their way into the home after using a ruse of having items belonging to the bar owner. The suspects bound the 66-year-old woman who answered the door with duct tape and ransacked the home, taking a large quantity of cash, collectibles, jewelry and a handgun.

"This was a vicious assault,

she was terrified," Garden City Deputy Police Chief Robert Muery has said.

Coiner and Megdall, who has been identified as Coiner's son, face 15 charges related to the two incidents — armed robbery, home invasion, kidnapping, breaking and entering, four counts of larceny with a firearm, two counts of larceny over \$1,000 but less than \$20,000, two counts of larceny in a building, stealing or taking without permission a financial transaction device and felony firearm.

Coiner also has been charged

as a habitual offender.

Timbs is facing seven charges, including armed robbery and home invasion based on evidence that he was the driver and lookout for the Feb. 9 break-in. He also has been charged with kidnapping, larceny with a firearm, larceny over \$1,000 but less than \$20,000, larceny in a building and felony firearm.

The three men will be arraigned on the charges in Wayne County Circuit Court on Aug. 11.

AROUND WESTLAND

Flea market

Where can you find a area rugs, crafts and even flip flops, all in one spot? Try the outdoor flea market that will be set up 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 8-9, in the parking lot of Westland Bowl at 5940 N. Wayne Road. There will be an eclectic mix of wares at the market, sponsored by Snack Alley inside Westland Bowl. For more information, call Tara Scott at (734) 732-6895.

Car wash

Come out and show support for the John Glenn High School football teams at car washes at two Westland locations 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 2. Team members will be at Buffalo Wild Wings at 6677 N. Wayne Road and the Harris-Kehrer VFW Post 3323 at 1055 S. Wayne Road. A minimum \$5 donation is requested. For more information on John Glenn Football, please visit <http://glenn.wvcsd.net>

Writing class for kids

Kids can live up their story telling skills by writing with the help of a literary arts class being offered at the being offered at Tinkham Center in Westland noon-1 p.m. Monday through Thursday, Aug. 4-7. Learn new ways to describe things so that all of your stories and haiku will be cool to write

ON THE WEB

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

and fun to share with others. If you need some ideas, come to this class to brainstorm with other kids in a class taught by Cheryl Vatcher-Martin.

Register by calling (734) 419-2426 to register. For more information, call Martin at (734) 397-1626 or e-mail her at peroinc5@comcast.net.

Bowl-a-thon for youth

Mayor William R. Wild's First Annual Wild About Youth Bowl-a-thon to raise money to provide free programs and activities for Westland children will be 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 14, at Westland Bowl.

Participants can pre-register at the Mayor's Office and Westland Bowl through Thursday, Aug. 7, for a cost of \$15 which includes bowling, shoe rental, a T-shirt, and Paisano's pizza. Bowlers also will have a chance to win a flat screen television and participate in a 50/50 raffle as well. On-site registration will begin at 6:30 p.m. the day of the event and cost \$20.

Westland Bowl is at 5940 N.

Wayne Road north of Ford. For pre-registration information, call the Mayor's Office at (734) 467-3200.

Red Cross blood drive

St. Damian Parish will hold a Red Cross blood Drive 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 17. Call Gary at (734) 716-2057 for an appointment. Walk-ins are also welcome. The blood drive will be held in the Community Room of the church at 30055 Joy, Westland.

Craft show

The St. Theodore's CCW will hold its annual Fall Craft Show 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 11, in the parish social hall at 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland. Admission is free, and table rental is available for \$25. Call Mary at (734) 425-4421 (voice mail #10) for rental information.

Vacation Bible school

The First Congregational Church of Wayne and the Methodist Church of Wayne will host a joint Vacation Bible School Aug. 11-15 (from 8:45 a.m.-noon). The classes are free and open to the public for children from the age of 4 through 6th grade. Classes will be held at the First Congregational Church of Wayne, 2 Towne Square in downtown Wayne. For more information or to register, call (734) 729-7550.



Youngsters will have a chance to get their faces painted as part of the activities at Starfish Family Services third annual Family Fun Fair 2-6 p.m. Friday, Aug. 8.

Starfish holds Family Fun Fair

Parents and caregivers are invited to spend a fun-filled day with their children while learning about special services and programs to benefit their families at the Starfish Family Services third annual Family Fun Fair 2-6 p.m. Friday, Aug. 8.

There will be a variety of activities for children of all ages, including a caricature artist, face painting, inflatable bouncer, Mr. Smooth ballroom dancing, petting zoo, carnival games and activities, children's produce stand, free food and refreshments, health and safety activities and visits from local police and fire departments.

In addition, parents and caregivers will have an opportunity to explore Starfish Family Services programs and services, including its free preschool, literacy and after-school programs, After Baby Comes for first-time moms, counseling services, teen crisis hotline and shelter and parenting classes.

"Each year we look forward to providing the community with a fun day with their families while educating them on programs that can help them create a brighter future for their children," said Ann Kalass, Starfish Family Services CEO.

The Family Fun Fair will

take place at Starfish Family Services at 30000 Hively Road, south of Cherry Hill and west of Middlebelt in Inkster. For more information, call 734-728-3400.

Starfish Family Services, the largest private, non-profit human service agency in western Wayne County, offers 12 specialized programs at more than a dozen service sites to help educate and empower vulnerable families and children in southeastern Michigan.

The agency has served nearly 8,000 children and their families over the last year. More information can be found at www.starfishonline.org.

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The Westland Observer - Publication NO. USPS 663-530 Published every Thursday and Sunday. Periodical postage is paid at Livonia, Michigan 48150.

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without leaving home.

Godbout, a nearly eight-year council member now serving as president, said the project "makes good fiscal sense for the community," and he said Shaw already was planning to unveil some changes to his plans. Godbout called the recall effort "extremely premature and without basis."

Moreover, Godbout called the timing of the proposed recall language political, coming just one week before voters will decide among eight Democrats and two Republicans seeking their respective party nominations for the 12th District Wayne County Commission seat. Godbout is one of the Democrats in the primary.

"Why would they file (now) except to get headlines prior to the election?" Godbout asked.

Kehrer reserved any comment, and Johnson and Reeves couldn't be reached by early Wednesday afternoon.

Wild, in his second year as Westland's mayor, said he knew when he took the job that he would face difficult, controversial decisions. But he said he stood by his earlier statements that Nankin Mills Village deserved support.

"I still think it's a good project for our community," he said.

The latest recall effort comes eight years after voters ousted then-Councilmen David Cox and David James for their role in the firing of City Clerk Patricia Gibbons. Two other council members, Charles "Trav" Griffin and Sharon Scott, resigned their posts prior to the recall.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Campers enjoy a game of musical hot potato.

Salvation Army campers have fun, grow in faith

BY JULIE BROWN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

You just might see Savannah Smith, 11, as a counselor at the Wayne-Westland Salvation Army day camp in a few years.

That appeals to Savannah, an Adams Middle School seventh-grader, "especially because I like kids so much."

There are plenty of kids at the summer day camp at the corps center on Venoy in Westland.

"My mom goes to work every day," said Savannah, taking a break from camp fun. "She didn't want me to stay home. I like when we sing the songs before and after."

She likes when songs are put up before the group so they can sing, and enjoys the spiritual development.

"Field trips" top the list for Tyler Simmons, 10, a Jefferson-Barns Elementary School fifth-grader.

"Last year, I came at the end," Tyler said of camp. He'd play video games inside and then visit friends when not at camp.

The June 30 to Aug. 8 camp is for ages 6-12 and has about 50 kids, mostly from the neighborhood.

"The thinking behind it is to have a safe, healthy environment for the kids," said Greg Barta of Garden City. "We just got back from Greenfield Village."

The director of youth and community ministries for the Wayne-Westland Salvation Army, Barta said the youngsters enjoy physical and spiritual activities. They've visited Kensington Metropark, the Detroit Science Museum and saw the Detroit Shock women's basketball team at the Palace of Auburn Hills. The home team won that game.

Day camp cost is based on income and starts at \$40 per week, Barta said.



Seven-year-old Adam Hainley paints a cross-shaped coin bank during arts and crafts at the Wayne-Westland Salvation Army summer camp.

"We also offer some scholarships, full scholarships," he added.

He's pleased with "great response" to the camp, with 45 campers coming on a regular basis. The campers love their counselors, who are local high school and college students.

Barta's looking forward to after-school tutoring which will be starting soon at the Salvation Army and is encouraging retired teachers to consider volunteering a few hours a week. People inter-

ested in tutoring can reach Barta at (734) 722-3660.

Summer's not over yet, though, as he reminded campers at the Monday, July 28, session where they moved from the gym to other rooms in the building for arts and crafts, music, spiritual development, games and more. Barta offered a short scripture lesson in the sanctuary on the importance of humility.

"The kids have just been having a great time," he added.

3 W-W staffers take on new assignments

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

There will be new faces in the top spots at Wayne-Westland's two high schools this fall.

The school board earlier this month has approved the appointment of Valerie Orr as principal at Wayne Memorial High School and David Ingham as principal of John Glenn High School. They replace John Albrecht, who has joined the district's administrative staff as the executive director of student and legal services, and Joan Sedik, who has been named the executive director of human services.

Orr told the board she was "very excited, overwhelmed and humbled" by the appointment.

"There's not many people in the world who can say they got the job they always dreamed of," she said. "My roots grow very long in this community. I love Wayne-Westland, I love the kids, and I am very proud to be here. There's no better place than Wayne Memorial High School."

Orr, a Wayne resident, has been with the district since 2001. She was a mathematics teacher at Franklin Middle School for six years before being named an assistant principal at Wayne Memorial. She has a bachelor of science degree in mathematics and sociology from Eastern Michigan University and a master of arts degree in curriculum and instruction from the University of Phoenix.

She has participated in the Wayne County RESA Aspiring Principals Program, trained as a district staff development leader and

developed and presented staff in-services on student-led conferences. She also has served on the district's middle school scheduling committee. Orr also thanked her husband, Brent, telling the board that he "has been very supportive and understanding of my love of education."

Ingham is a familiar with John Glenn High School, having served as an assistant principal there during the 2003-04 school year. He moves from Adams Middle School where he had been the principal since 2003.

"This almost seems like an awards acceptance speech because I'm thanking everyone," the Howell resident said. "But it's appropriate because we need support of everyone here."

Ingham has a bachelor of science degree in natural resources management from the University of Connecticut, a master of arts degree in management and supervision from Central Michigan University and a master of arts degree in secondary education from Marymount University. He was as a teacher, department head and interim assistant principal at Taylor Truman High School before joining the Wayne-Westland district in 2002.

Ingham also had a special thank you for Superintendent Greg Baracy for hiring him from Taylor schools.

"You gave me the opportunity to be in excellent district where focus is always on students and matches up to our focus," he said. "I appreciate that and accept the opportunity to serve."

Sedik also was thankful for being tapped for the human resources position.

"This was not some I had imagined as my plan for the future," she said. "I'm excited about the new challenge and the new position, and I look forward working with human resources, Dr. (Greg) Baracy and the board."

Sedik will move a few hundred yards down Marquette from the school she's been at since joining the district in 1970. She worked as a teacher at John Glenn High School for 25 years before being named an assistant principal in 1995. She was named principal in 2000.

A Westland resident, Sedik has a bachelor of science degree in business education, social science and English from Wayne State University, a master of arts degree in reading from Eastern Michigan University and an education specialist degree from WSU in general administration.

The appointments drew praise from board Secretary Cindy Schofield, who was excited to see the three administrators "step forward to new positions."

"I know the three of you will do a wonderful job, you will be a real asset to Wayne-Westland," she said. "Thank you for stepping up and taking on new responsibilities."

"It's always been our objective, and my objective, to hire from within and this shows we have many talented people in school district that can move into these positions," added Trustee Skip Monit.

Board President Martha Pitsenbarger also added her congratulations, saying that "I think it's great and our schools will benefit from it."

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LeBlanc: Property tax relief, economy issues in 2nd term

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

State Rep. Richard LeBlanc, D-Westland, has cited jobs, the economy and property tax relief as top issues he hopes to address as he seeks a second two-year term.

His chances of winning appear overwhelming good, considering he has no Democratic opponent and no Republican challenger this election season.

LeBlanc had nearly forgotten that his name would even be on the ballot until a longtime supporter told him that she had voted for him on her absentee ballot. As a lone candidate for the 18th District state House seat, which represents only Westland, LeBlanc hasn't had



to actively campaign by knocking on doors and mailing literature.

Still, he said he has continued to respond to constituent concerns, attend 18th District events, work in Lansing even when legislators aren't in session, and drive home to Westland every day.

"My responsiveness has not changed," LeBlanc said.

He cited jobs and the economy as the top issues facing Michigan and his district.

"I am beating my head against the wall to see if there's a magic bullet or panacea out there," he said.

For now, he hopes that a plan he introduced with state Rep. Richard Hammel, D-Mount Morris Township, will at least help ease the property tax

burden on homeowners. The proposal would guarantee that when a home's value decreases, the taxable value couldn't increase — as it currently can.

"Enacting this property tax reform will make our system fairer and help thousands of working families who are at risk of foreclosure," LeBlanc said. "We have to do everything we can to support Michigan's hard-working residents during these tough economic times."

He conceded that the plan could encounter some opposition from some local governments and school districts that could stand to lose some tax revenues. However, he said he believes the proposal is the right thing to do for residents.

LeBlanc was first elected to the state House in 2006. Prior to that, he served on the Westland City Council and the Wayne-Westland school board.

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| 001 99 0007 000 | 021 99 0001 711 | 042 02 0447 360 | 057 03 0273 004 |
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| 001 99 0012 704 | 025 99 0039 704 | 042 99 0005 000 | 060 05 0158 000 |
| 001 99 0020 000 | 025 99 0039 705 | 043 01 0083 360 | 061 01 0116 303 |
| 001 99 0021 000 | 026 99 0029 002 | 043 01 0116 000 | 061 01 0119 303 |
| 001 99 0022 000 | 026 99 0030 700 | 043 02 0277 000 | 061 01 0123 303 |
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2008 PRIVATE WEEDS PAR. NUM.	2008 PRIVATE WEEDS PAR. NUM.	2008 PRIVATE WEEDS PAR. NUM.
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Notice is hereby given that all noxious weeds growing on any land in the City of Westland, Wayne County, Michigan, must be destroyed on or before the 15th and 30th days throughout the months of May, June, July, August, September and October of 2008. Any person failing to comply with this notice on or before the dates mentioned shall be liable to the imposition of penalties set forth in Section 106-97 of the Westland Code of Ordinance and shall be liable for all expenses incurred by the City in destroying said noxious weeds, which expenses, if unpaid by the owner, occupant, or agent, shall be spread against the property on the next County and School tax roll or the next general City tax roll.

Kevin L. Buford
City of Westland
Commissioner of Noxious Weeds

Listings for the Community Calendar can be submitted by e-mail at smanon@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

Peace Camp for Kids
Kirk of Our Savior Peace Camp takes place 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 24 (lunch will be served). The camp is open to children of all ages and religious backgrounds. Spend a few hours learning to work together in order to achieve success. Kirk of Our Savior Presbyterian Church is located at 36660 Cherry Hill in Westland. For more information or to sign up, please contact Jenny at 313-532-4310.

Fall enrollment
Registration is now being accepted for the fall for preschool 3-year-olds and kindergarten through eighth-grade at St. Damian School, 29891 Joy, Westland. Call parish office at (734) 421-6130 for more information.

Remote-controlled race day
Kirk of Our Savior Presbyterian Church hosts "Remote-Controlled Race Day," 2-5 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 6. Racers can bring their R.C. vehicle and race it on the church's large oval track, complete with hill and jump ramp. Ribbons will be awarded to winners. No sign-up necessary. Kirk of Our Savior Presbyterian Church is located at 36660 Cherry Hill in Westland. If you need more information, contact Jenny at (313) 532-4310.

John Glenn reunion
John Glenn High School Class of 1988 will hold its 20 year reunion on Saturday, Aug. 23, at Roma's of Garden City on Cherry Hill east of Venoy. Tickets are \$30 per person. For tickets and more information, visit the reunion Web site at jghs88reunion.com.

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.

Higher Rock Cafe
The Wayne-Westland Salvation Army presents the Higher Rock Cafe the second and fourth Fridays of the month at its facility at 2300 Venoy, south of Palmer, Westland. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. Live bands perform beginning at 8 p.m. Admission is free, however, a free will offering will be taken to support the bands. Check out

Higher Rock on the Web at www.tsa.higherrockcafe.4t.com or call (734) 722-3660.

VOLUNTEERS

Karmanos Institute
The Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute needs volunteers to transport cancer patients to mammogram and doctor appointments in metropolitan Detroit. Drivers are needed for Macomb and Oakland counties, Dearborn and Detroit. Volunteers must be at least 18. Mileage reimbursement is provided. Call (800) KARMANOS to volunteer.

First Step
First Step, which has been active in the effort to end domestic violence and sexual assault in western Wayne County and Downriver communities for more than 20 years, is looking for volunteers. Interested people must be at least 18, willing and able to travel to the Downriver area and complete a 55-hour training program. Call (734) 416-1111, Ext. 223.

Drivers
Volunteer drivers are needed to transport area residents to meetings of the Western Wayne Parkinson's Disease Support Group. The meetings take place 7-9 p.m. on the second Thursday of the month in the Livonia Senior Center, Farmington Road south of Five Mile. Drivers may be offered a stipend. Parkinson's patients, caregivers and others may attend the meetings. Call (734) 459-0216 or (734) 421-4208.

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

Seasons Hospice
Seasons Hospice and Palliative Care is looking for volunteers to provide companionship to patients dealing with life limiting illness. No special skills, other than objectivity and compassion, are needed. Training provided. Volunteers are matched with patients in their own community. For more information please call Ruth at (800) 370-8592.

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

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

416-4906 for more information.

Heartland Hospice

Heartland Hospice is looking for caring and dedicated people with an interest in serving terminally ill patients and their families in Washtenaw, western Wayne, Monroe and Livingston counties. Volunteers provide a variety of services including companionship, light housekeeping, errand running, grief support and clerical services. For more information, contact volunteer coordinator Candice Jones, (888) 973-1145.

ORGANIZATIONS

Friends of Eloise

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

Writing Group

Story Circle Women's Life Writing Group meets at 7 p.m. the second Wednesday of every month at the Wayne Public Library, 3737 S. Wayne Road, Wayne. The Story Circle Network is made up of women who want to explore their lives and souls through life-writing, writing that focuses on personal experience through memoirs and autobiographies, in diaries, journals and personal essays. Participants should bring a notebook or laptop computer to each meeting to spend some time writing, and for those who are comfortable doing so, sharing their writing. Membership in Story Circle' National Network is optional. Participation in the group is free. For more information about storycircle, go online to www.storycircle.org or send an e-mail to sheprey@yahoo.com.

Toastmasters

The Wayne-Westland Easy Talkers Toastmasters Club can help people overcome their fear of speaking in front of people by teaching public speaking in a friendly and supportive atmosphere. The club meets at 6:30 p.m. Thursday at Rana' Restaurant, 35111 W. Michigan Ave. at Wayne Road, Wayne. For more information, Curt Gottlieb at (734) 525-8445.

TOPS

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) M28 of Westland meets at 7 p.m. Mondays at Good Shepherd Reformed Church, 6500 N. Wayne Road, at Hunter, Westland. For more information, call Pat Strong at (734) 326-3539 or Mary Lowe at (734) 729-6879.

Democratic Club

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

Citizens for Peace

Citizens for Peace meets at 7 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month at Unity of Livonia Church on Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster. The group is dedicated to working for creation of a U.S. Department of Peace.

All are welcome. Colleen Mills, (734) 425-0079.

MOMS club

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

Vietnam Vets

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

In Harmony

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

Veteran's Haven

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

Silver Strings Dulcimer

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

13 candidates vie for county treasurer

Nine candidates have filed to run against incumbent Wayne County Treasurer Raymond Wojtowicz in the Aug. 5 Democratic primary. Two Republicans are seeking the GOP nomination. The county treasurer serves a four-year term. The position pays \$128,768 a year.

All candidates were asked to respond to an online questionnaire by Gannett Newspapers in Michigan for our online

voter guide. Three Democrats, Wojtowicz, County Commissioner Philip Cavanagh and Beverly Kindle-Walker and two Republicans, former county auditor Brenden Dunleavy and Timberly Robinson responded.

Kevin Kelly of Grosse Ile, Thomas Marciniak of Plymouth, Robert John Nozicka of Dearborn, Brian O'Donnell of Dearborn, Catherine O'Meara of Grosse Pointe Farms, Sigmunt John

Szczepkowski of Riverview, Keith Windham of Detroit, and Linda Kay Zebrowsk of Garden City did not respond to the questionnaire.

These are the responses of the Democratic candidates to the questionnaire. The responses of the Republican candidates will run on Sunday.

For responses in this and other contests, go to the Voter Guide at www.hometownlife.com.

WOJTOWICZ CITES LONG SERVICE

What makes you the most qualified to hold this position?

My experience. Navigating in these unprecedented economic times requires knowledge and experience to collect delinquent taxes but also the sensitivity to respond to the needs of the many families just trying to survive each day. This year, my office has completed a record borrowing for delinquent taxes, nearly \$300 million at below market rates, savings



Wojtowicz

millions for the County. I have guided the County's investment activities, never losing a dime nor missing a payment. We have the most extensive and most effective Community Outreach Program in the State, with demonstrated results. More than 3000 people have been helped by our Taxpayer Assistance Department this year. We do not auction occupied properties. Hardship applications have more than doubled versus last year to over 1300. More than 2700 properties have been saved by accepting payments after the March 31 statutory deadline. I have faced change and challenges with honesty, integrity and genuine concern for my constituents. I will continue to use my experience to deliver for Wayne County taxpayers.

What are the two most important issues facing the treasurer's office, and how would you address them?

1. Keeping families in their homes. It is a multi-faceted and complex issue. The extended adverse economic climate has had a severe impact on a family's ability to pay taxes. For this reason, Phase I of

RAYMOND WOJTOWICZ

Party: Democrat
Age: 79
Marital Status: Married
Family: 5 children, 9 grandchildren
City/Town: Lifelong resident of the City of Hamtramck
Education/Degrees: Graduate of St. Ladislaus High School, Great Lakes College, Diplomate Medical Radiographer
Occupation: Wayne County Treasurer
Experience: I have had the honor of serving as the Wayne County Treasurer since August 1976.

"Operation Normandy" was launched in February 2008 to enlist the support of more than 20 community organizations to provide a wide range of services to help the citizens of Wayne County. As a result of the innovative and creative approaches taken by my office, we are recognized as setting the standard in educating and helping families stay in their homes. 2. Safeguarding County funds in the current challenging market. My office invests all County funds in such a way as to judiciously protect the safety and security of those funds, while meeting liquidity requirements and maximizing yield. We constantly monitor key financial data, using only those institutions with acceptable levels of estimated risk.

Just a few, quick, personal trivia questions: What was the last book you read?

The Century by Peter Jennings and Todd Brewster.
 What is the best movie you've seen in the last 12 months?
The Sound of Music.

CAVANAGH SAYS FORECLOSURES TOP ISSUE

What makes you the most qualified to hold this position?

I have served as a Wayne County Commissioner for the last eight years, overseeing the budget and trying to get a handle on how many properties have gone through



Cavanagh

the annual proceeds or the accumulative total from auctioning off our county's assets. I am not sure they know how much money they are holding. I have an MBA and a law degree, both would prove invaluable with the continuous avalanche of litigation plaguing the treasurer's office from improper procedures. I have also studied at Harvard University and learned nationally acclaimed programs to fight foreclosure and blight from other county treasurers. I have the energy and ambition to bring proven best practices from around our state and

country to turn the tide on the escalating problems facing our neighborhoods.

What are the two most important issues facing the treasurer's office and how would you address them?

1. Foreclosures, home and business - most counties in our state have NEVER taken an occupied home or business. The treasurer does so as a matter of procedure. It takes hard work and compassion to put the effort into helping someone stay in their home not just referring them to a non-profit that does the heavy lifting. We need people to stay in their homes to stabilize our communities.

2. Stabilizing property values and reducing blight by maintaining or rehabbing the 9000 County Treasurer owned properties. This will create JOBS! The treasurer's office has reserved all the auction proceeds for pending litigation. We need procedures in place so we are not wrongfully taking someone's property and being sued. Therefore the proceeds can be used to develop and reconstruct our neighborhoods.

Tax Delinquencies! 201,000 of 857,000 residential taxpayers are currently

PHILIP CAVANAGH

Party: Democrat
Age: 46
Marital Status: Married to Lily Cavanagh
Family: Three daughters. Veronica and Erin (17), twins, just graduated from Thurston High School, attending U of M in the fall and Mary (16), senior at Thurston High School and three stepchildren: Alex, 28; Stacey, 26; and Raymond, 21
City/Town: Redford Township
Education/Degrees: Milford High School, class of 1979 BS and BA from Aquinas College (1983) in Accounting and Business Administration; Juris Doctorate and MBA (1998) from the University of Detroit Mercy; Harvard JFK School of Government: Senior Executive in State and Local Government Program (2005). Michigan Political Leadership Program Fellow at MSU (1998)
Occupation: Wayne County Commissioner, 9th District Attorney and Counselor at Law (part time) Business Consultant (part time)
Experience: County Commission - Vice chair of Ways and Means Committee, also served or am serving on Economic Development, Public Safety Judiciary and Homeland Security, Health and Human Services, Government Operations and Mental Health Taskforce Committee. Attended Harvard JFK School with Dan Kildee, Genesee County Treasurer, and learned best practices for national model of land banks. Balanced budgets and eliminated deficits as treasurer of the Detroit-Wayne County Mental Health Board and Health Choice.

delinquent on their taxes. The County government cannot own a quarter of the County. Residents are fleeing Wayne County. We have to stop this trend before the 2010 federal census.

Just a few, quick, personal trivia questions: What was the last book you read?

The Secret by Rhonda Burne
 What is the best movie you've seen in the last 12 months?
No Country for Old Men by the Cohen Brothers (2007).

KINDLE-WALKER WANTS TO PROTECT VULNERABLE

What makes you the most qualified to hold this position?

The qualifications for the office of Wayne County Treasurer is to be at least 18 years old, a registered voter in Wayne County and receive the most votes. I have a record of service which is unmatched by any other in this race. I believe that I am the best candidate because I have made it my chief concern, since 1996, to determine how the Wayne County Treasurer could better serve its citizens. I have consistently challenged the status quo. When Public Act 123 (which accelerated to tax reversion process) went



Kindle-Walker

into effect in 2000 I began to alert people to the potential problem. The Treasurer was too slow in responding. Thus we experienced this crisis which started to escalate in 2004. We need a visionary with compassion in this office. Over 71,000 people have voted Beverly Kindle-Walker for Wayne County Treasurer in the last three elections. What are the two most important issues facing the office you are

running for, and how would you address them?

A: Responding to the crisis of tax-reverted foreclosed homes is a great concern. The Treasurer has the discretion to withhold any property from foreclosure. I would enter into special payment arrangements with those most vulnerable citizens. As the keeper of all County funds I would make certain that millages are used as the voters intended. I would protect retiree pensions from the likes of Bear Stearns investments and MCA/RIMCO type investors and speculators.

Just a few, quick, personal trivia questions: What was the last book you read?

Currently reading *Raised from the Dead* by former TV anchor Frank Turner (sharing the book with my husband). The last book that I read is *Bishop C. H. Mason and the Roots of the Church of God in Christ* by Bishop Ithiel Clemmons.
 What is the best movie you've seen in the last 12 months?
The Great Debaters with Denzel Washington. My all-time favorites are *Beaches* with Bette Midler and *Eddie* with Whoopi Goldberg.

BEVERLY KINDLE-WALKER

Party: Democrat
Age: 54
Marital Status: married
Family: one adult son
City/Town: Detroit
Education/Degrees: Associate's degree, General Studies, Wayne County Community College District Transfer Student, B.A. Community Development-Public Administration, Central Michigan
Occupation: Legislative assistant to Wayne County Commissioner Tim Killeen, 1st District (currently on unpaid leave)
Experience: I have over 20 years of administrative and managerial experience in public and private sector employment.

Hospital seeking volunteers

The volunteer services department of the new Providence Park Hospital in Novi is beginning its first volunteer recruitment campaign. The hospital is scheduled to open Sept. 5 and expects to recruit some 400 new volunteers within the first year.

Kathy Zaguroli, manager of volunteer services, said, "Hospital volunteers not only make a difference in people's lives, but at the same time they experience a sense camaraderie amongst their peers, and a sense of fulfillment in giving back to the community."

Volunteers are needed for responsibilities in the Emergency Center, surgical lounge, pediatric department, gift shop, and visitor services, as well as duties in the areas of spiritual care, transporter, clerical, patient greeter.

The hospital is looking for adults 18 and older to work a minimum of one, four-hour shift per week.

Interested persons may request a volunteer application packet by calling (248) 465-4096 or e-mailing volunteerservice@stjohn.org.



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Call 734.451.1155 TODAY and arrange for a visit

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OUR VIEWS

Fast action is best response to mold

Westland officials must be wondering when enough is enough.

First it was the contamination of Central City Park that had residents in a dither. Then it was the discovery of methane gas and a concern that it might leak into city buildings that had employees on edge. Now it's mold in the basement of city hall.

When is it going to end?

The past two years have been a roller coaster ride for the city with the park and now, when it looks like something may actually be done to clean up a portion of it, the city has a new hot potato to handle.

The mold problem was uncovered when repairs were made after the city hall basement was flooded. We guess we could thank the vandals who cut the water line, since it was their mess that was being cleaned up when the discovery was made.

An investigation has found some common mold, but also traces of the more scary black mold. A report city officials received last week says it doesn't pose a health hazard nor does it require a mass evacuation of city hall. That should be reassuring to city employees who work in the building, especially since their break rooms and the mail room have now been moved to the upper floors. But there are those who probably have an I-told-you-so attitude. They've been complaining for years that the building was making them sick.

We like that city officials are responding quickly to the problem. The fact that they are wasting no time in removing the mold and improving air quality sends a clear message that the health and safety of employees is first and foremost.

The city hall basement has been a problem for years. It comes from being built in an area with a high water table. A lot has been done to dry it up and a lot will need to be done in the future to keep it dry once the mold has been removed. The city will have to remain vigilant.

We are glad that this is one problem that can be taken care of quickly. And we hope that a plan will be put in place to address employees' concerns like those raised about the environmental quality of city hall. We've probably all complained at one time or another that our job made us sick, but with the potential for mold in the basement, city officials will have to listen a little more closely.

We support no-reason absentee voting

Every Election Day, there are countless people who plan to vote, but don't make it to the polls for one reason or another.

These well-intentioned citizens want to participate in our democratic system, but the logistics of life prevent them from doing so.

Perhaps they have to work a long shift or stay late at the office to finish up a project. Maybe they commute a long distance to work and have to leave before 7 a.m. and don't get home until 8 p.m.

Maybe they have young children or an elderly family member to care for at home and can't get anyone to relieve them. Or perhaps they have to rush home after work to fix dinner for the family and then rush out the door again to drive a child to soccer practice or attend a child's recital.

Whatever the reason, it's no reason not to vote.

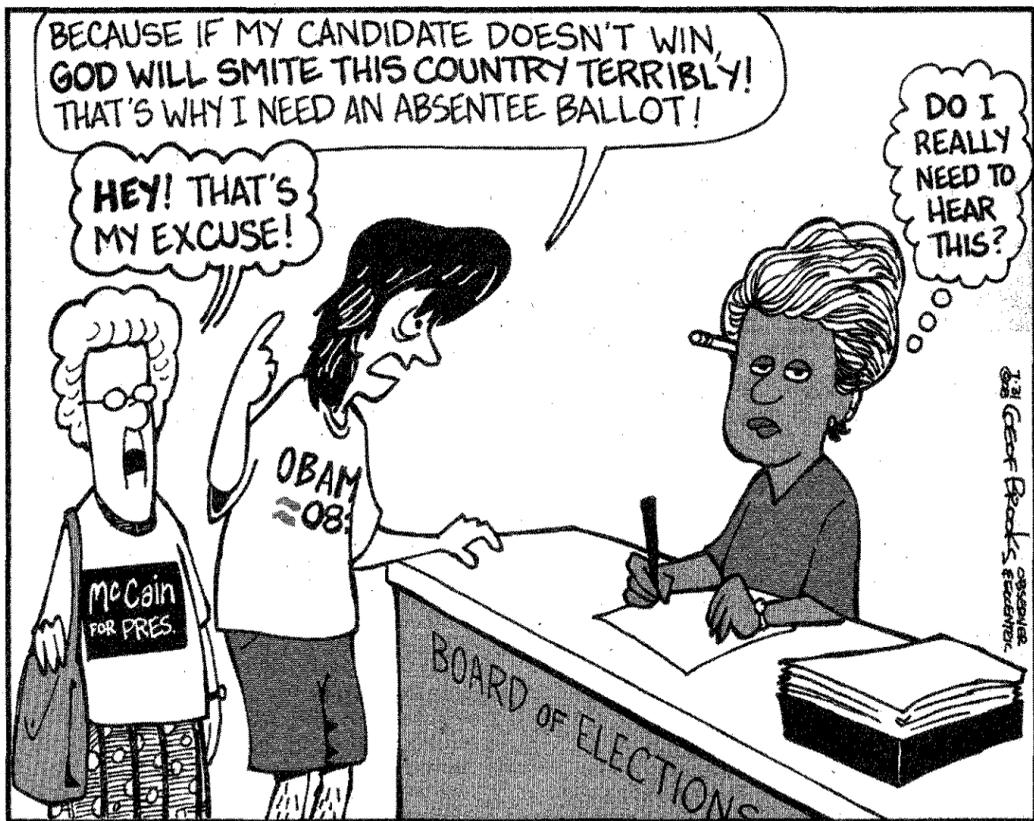
That's why we support no-reason absentee voting in Michigan.

Currently, the only people in Michigan eligible to vote by absentee ballot are those who are 60 years old and older, incarcerated, have religious reasons for not voting on election day, plan to be out of town, or need assistance voting.

Earlier this month, state Sens. Liz Brater, D-Ann Arbor, and Gilda Z. Jacobs, D-Huntington Woods, announced a "No Excuses Voting Initiative" that supports the passage of Senate Bill 12, which would allow voters to vote by absentee ballot for any reason.

We support the passage of S.B. 12 as well. Any change in law that would give more people the chance to participate in democracy gets a yes vote from us.

These well-intentioned citizens want to participate in our democratic system, but the logistics of life prevent them from doing so. Perhaps they have to work a long shift or stay late at the office to finish up a project. Maybe they commute a long distance to work and have to leave before 7 a.m. and don't get home until 8 p.m.



LETTERS

Consider Bowman's service

I am writing in response to some concerns about Commissioner Bowman's candidacy for Wayne County commissioner, District 12. One of the writers expressed concern about the cleanup of Central City Park, and that has been one of her priorities since becoming a commissioner. She has been working closely with county officials involved in the cleanup and they are moving quickly to a resolution. In addition, she has requested funds for additional park projects in Westland to provide updated services to the residents, a task that would not be possible without the support of the other commissioners.

As Commissioner Beard's assistant for more than two years, she also attended many events and meetings for her in all three communities in the district, enriching her knowledge of the district's needs.

As for the concern about her move to Westland in March, which has been previously reported and discussed in the newspaper, what is not being discussed is her commitment and dedication to the district for the past 20 years. Although she physically resided 1 1/2 miles out of the district, she was employed in the district and involved in more grassroots organizations, activities and committees in the district than any of the other candidates. The majority of her commitment of time and energy has been in the district.

Commissioner Bowman missed voting in the last school board election because she was in New York for her mother-in-law's 95th birthday that weekend and her return was delayed. Her voting record is stellar and she takes voting in every election very seriously. She has also served many years as a precinct delegate and has worked on many political campaigns.

It bothers me that some will overlook her lifetime of public service, the thousands of lives she assisted as a social worker and as a missionary in Haiti and St. Vincent, the thousands of hours she committed to community and civic projects, i.e. recycling in Livonia, task forces for both the Livonia and Wayne-Westland Public Schools, social justice causes, diversity issues, planning MLK programs for both Livonia and Westland, political campaigns, and local civic involvement, and they will instead form an opinion of her based on 1 1/2 miles and one missed vote.

Deborah Mecks
Westland

Vote for Godbout

Cast your important vote on Aug. 5 for James Godbout for Wayne County commissioner, 12th District. He is a lifelong resident of Wayne County and has resided in Westland for 29 years. Westland Council President Godbout has a bachelor of science degree in business administration.

He serves on two committees for the Michigan Municipal League, namely the Legislative Governance Committee and

the Energy and Technology Committee. Jim Godbout implemented the Technology Committee which has meant better services for our city.

He has strong qualities in financial knowledge and leadership ability, both of which are important factors in serving as a county commissioner. Because of Jim's interest in the environment he has promoted a citywide recycling program since 1999. In 2001, he reformed the Recycling Committee and served as chairman for several years. He is a member of the Holliday Nature Preserve and participates in the annual Rouge River Cleanup.

Jim has been involved in many, many community activities, such as Summer Festival Committee, Nankin Transit Committee, Westland Lions Club and Goodfellows.

James Godbout is the current president of the Westland City Council and has nine years experience on this governing body which would give him a distinct advantage as a Wayne County commissioner. Be sure to vote for James Godbout for county commissioner on Aug. 5.

Ruth Dale
Connie Hierta
Westland

Voting for Gebhardt

On Aug. 5, I will be voting for Joan Gebhardt for Wayne County commissioner in District 12.

Joan has been my friend since we met in junior high school, and I have had the opportunity to see her in many different situations, facing all kinds of challenges. She is exactly the kind of person I want representing me for the County Commission.

Joan Gebhardt is a problem solver. She is smart, creative and compassionate. She never forgets that her decisions have an impact on real people. She is not afraid to stand alone for what is right and fair — a kind of courage we rarely see in government officials. She has the ability to look at a problem from many different angles, and she listens to other points of view with a willingness to consider other possible solutions.

The challenges we face as a county — from foreclosures to declining revenues to the need to improve our infrastructure — demand that we elect a candidate ready to embrace new solutions. That candidate is my friend, Joan Gebhardt.

Many candidates identify foreclosures as a crisis for Wayne County. Joan Gebhardt is the only one suggesting ways in which we can address the problem — one-stop shops for advice and resources to avoid foreclosure and a neighborhood-watch style program to address the impact of vacant homes on our neighborhoods and our home values.

Joan Gebhardt has the right blend of dedication, skill, creativity, energy and caring. Elect her and we get a county commissioner who really listens to us and is ready to take on all the challenges we face as a county.

On Aug. 5, I'm voting for Joan

Gebhardt for Wayne County commissioner.

Gerry Wiatr
Westland

Bowman is honest, concerned

I am writing in support of Ronalee Bowman for Wayne County commissioner. I have known Ronalee for 15 years, and I know her to be an honest, concerned, hard-working, dedicated person who will represent all of the residents of the district.

I am concerned about the tactics of one of her opponents, who has been going to my friends and relatives who have Bowman lawn signs on their property with lies and innuendos in the hope of garnishing votes. I know for a fact that Ronalee does reside in Westland and that she moved before she was appointed to the position of commissioner. I will continue to encourage my friends to support Ronalee Bowman because I think she is the best person for the job.

Carol Sparks
Westland

Supports Larkin

To the voters in the 11th District with Thaddeus McCotter, I urge your vote for Joseph Larkin.

If you oppose the Iraq war, its loss of life on both sides and the billions needed at home instead, are angry about the cost of gas, the expected foreclosures of 10,000 homes just in Oakland County in 2008, the many with no health insurance, then change in is order if you think like I do. I also live and vote in the 11th District.

Your *Observer* made an informed and wise endorsement of Mr. Larkin. Joe will work hard for you as your representative in the next Congress. We have seen and been through enough this past eight years under McCotter.

Florence Anderson
Waterford

SHARE YOUR OPINIONS

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

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QUOTABLE

"It's very viable. It's going to create jobs, and as we all know soccer is a growing recreation sport for kids. We definitely have a need for soccer fields."

— Westland Economic Development Director Lori Fodale about a new development for the former Cooper School site

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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.

State constitution needs revisiting, but not through wacky proposal

It's hard to remember a ballot proposal in recent years that has had our entire political class hyperventilating the way the proposed Reform Michigan Government Now amendment has.

The proposal (RMGN for short) was initially billed as a neutral, "good government" attempt to amend the current state constitution. And, indeed, it has some attractive features, such as making redistricting a truly non-partisan activity.

But the veils fell quickly after a PowerPoint presentation — supposedly prepared by RMGN advocates — was discovered on a United Auto Workers union Web site last week.

The slide show indicated that the proposal's real objective is "changing the structural obstacles to Democratic control of state government in 2012-2020."

That sent critics immediately jumping all over the proposal, labeling it "cynical," "deceptive" and "disgusting." The state Chamber of Commerce promptly said it will sue, alleging violations of the Campaign Finance Act. (Though supporters filed far more signatures than officially needed, it has yet to be certified for the November ballot, and all sorts of court challenges are likely.)

Supporters of the amendment promptly fired back at critics, rolling out a poll showing 70 percent support statewide, with even more Republicans endorsing the proposal than Democrats.

Opponents quickly labeled the poll a "bogus mountain of garbage" and so on and so forth. Not your average reaction to a supposedly neutral bipartisan proposal, is it?

Yet beyond the sound and fury, and regardless of the merits of this particular proposal or the motives behind it, some things are becoming clear. For example, there are problems embedded in Michigan's too-frequently amended constitution, problems that have contributed to an atmosphere of toxic hyper-partisanship in Lansing.

To mention just two of the most obvious: term limits and the way legislative districts are drawn. Voters added term limits to the constitution in 1992, limiting state representatives to three terms of two years each and senators to two four-year terms.

After that, they can never serve again as long as they live. Although term limits remain popular with the public, anybody who has had anything to do with the way Michigan government works knows they have had a terrible effect.

Inexperienced lawmakers often have little idea what they're talking about and lack the time to master the subtleties of crafting legislation. And they can't possibly achieve the time-consuming process of building relationships across the aisle that are essential to crafting compromise agreements. Facing a necessarily short tenure, newly elected legislators quickly start raising money to run for the next office rather than doing their jobs.

Worst of all, term-limited lawmakers often adopt a short-term mindset, preferring to duck the tough votes and instead kicking the can down the road to the next occupant in office. That was a large part of

the reason for last year's budget disaster.

Drawing new district boundaries is equally political. Officially, Michigan's constitution calls for a legislative apportionment commission of eight members, split evenly between the two parties. If the commission cannot agree on a redistricting plan (almost always the case), the issue goes to the state Supreme Court. Currently, Republicans hold a big 5-2 majority, meaning the present system is tilted toward the GOP.

That gave us a system overwhelmingly gerrymandered to help Republicans — and it gets worse. Operating according to the principle of "you scratch my back, I'll scratch yours," the vast majority of legislative districts today are also gerrymandered to favor either one party or the other. So in both Democratic- and Republican-leaning districts, the real election takes place in the August primary.

Given the fact that voter turnout in Democratic primaries is skewed toward the left, the candidates that usually win are liberals. Republican primary voters tend to be equally right of center. What all this does is almost guarantee that the most liberal Democrats will face off against the most conservative Republicans when they get to Lansing.

No wonder they have trouble getting along.

RMGN proposes to amend this system through an independent nine-member reapportionment commission. That's fine. But at the same time, it requires nearly three-quarters of each new district be drawn to be safe for either Republicans or Democrats. That's no help at all, as the net effect would be to legally disenfranchise millions of Michigan voters.

There's lots more wrong with the proposal. But it may just be that the biggest effect of this whole brouhaha will be to focus attention on whether to call a constitutional convention.

Two years from now, we will face a statewide vote on that, as our current constitution requires.

Until now, I've been firmly ambivalent.

Argument in favor: There are sizable problems with the present constitution that require thoughtful consideration at a convention rather than a piecemeal and expensive amendment through the ballot initiative process.

Argument against: There are a lot of crazy people out there who would dearly love to control a constitutional convention and produce a version that would make the present document, even with all its flaws, look wonderful.

Moreover, there are far fewer sensible political godfathers around today — who can keep the crazies under control — than there were back in 1961-62, when we last went through this process.

Until now, I've been highly reluctant to support calling a convention. But everything now says to me that we'd better give the idea of a convention a much more favorable look.

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

You don't have to be rich to benefit from a living trust

I had a meeting with a client regarding estate planning. During the course of the meeting, the client was surprised because I recommended a living trust. He said his estate wasn't large enough to pay estate taxes, so why would he need a living trust.

There is a misconception about living trusts because many people believe the only advantage they offer is to avoid estate taxes. For people with large estates (over \$2 million), a living trust can be an effective vehicle to avoid or reduce estate taxes but it isn't the only reason to establish one.

First, it is important to know that a living trust is nothing more than a mechanism to hold property during your lifetime. For example, as opposed to me owning my mutual funds in my name individually, they are owned in the name of my trust. Since I am the trustee of my trust, I have complete control of my investments as if they were in my own name individually. The major difference is if I am incapable of handling my financial affairs, or upon my death, the mechanism is in place so a new trustee will take over and manage my trust without outside interference.

There are three advantages to using a living trust. One is it helps to reduce or eliminate estate taxes, the main reason people with high net worth do living trusts.

There are a couple other advantages to a living trust that sometimes get forgotten but are just as important as saving on taxes. The first is whatever assets are in the trust upon death avoids the probate process. Although there are now many ways to avoid probate, the living trust is the most effective. Probate is the process that upon death the deceased assets go through a legal process so they can be distributed to the appropriate individual(s). My problem with probate is

in many cases it becomes very time-consuming, contentious and expensive.

In most situations, probate is unnecessary and one that people should seek to avoid. I generally believe the more you keep judges, court and lawyers out of family affairs the easier life is.

The other benefit of a living trust (and the one that I mentioned to my client) is you can control your money past your death. This idea is appealing. Whether the beneficiary is a minor or someone who cannot handle an inheritance no matter what the size of your estate, a living trust is a viable alternative.

In my client's situation, his beneficiary would be unable to handle any inheritance. By using a living trust he can protect the beneficiary by having someone else manage the money.

This is a huge advantage of living trusts that people tend to forget. A living trust can be used to spread a beneficiary's money over a period of time. In addition, you don't need to have court supervision or get outsiders involved.

Many people are under the misconception they must use banks or lawyers to act as trustees. Not true. In the majority of situations, I recommend using other family members. After all, if the trustees need professional assistance, they can always hire someone and they can fire that person if they are not satisfied with the services.

Of course, there are situations where a professional trustee such as a bank or a lawyer is appropriate.

Since a living trust can exist many years after your death and because of the complexities, I recommend hiring an estate planning attorney. Understand what the fees will be and don't be afraid or intimidated to talk cost with the attorney. After all, the attorney works for you.

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



Phil Power



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

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Sarah Gilbert spars with her trainer, Greg Wright.

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Amazing tale of tape

Woman, 53, steps into ring 200 pounds lighter

BY ED WRIGHT
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

How in the world did a Redford Township woman lose over 200 pounds, shed the need for high blood pressure medications, free herself of a "borderline diabetic" label and become a highly respected boxer — all after she turned 50?

Simply by changing her life's motto from "No Sweat" to "Know Sweat" — and by falling in love with the sport old-time sports writers referred to as the "Sweet Science."

Roughly five years ago, Sarah Gilbert, now 53, weighed more than most household scales can register. Her excess poundage not only made her feel miserable and listless — it made living dangerous, considering heart disease sprouted up all too frequently in her family tree.

"I finally said enough is enough, started working out and watching what I ate and my weight went from 312 pounds to around 165," recalled Gilbert. "I wanted to lose another 30, but everything I tried failed."

That's when, approximately three years ago, she crossed paths with Greg Wright, a former world champion boxer who taught a boxing class at Lifetime Fitness in Canton.

"I was working out regularly at Lifetime, I'd walk by Greg's class and thought it would be fun, but I was afraid I'd make a complete idiot of myself if I tried it," Gilbert said. "Finally, I got the nerve to give it a shot and I totally fell in love with boxing. It was very rigorous and demanding, but it helped me lose the extra 30 pounds I wanted to lose."

Along with losing the pounds, she acquired enough ring skills to regis-



Sarah Gilbert trains for the second fight of her career.

ter for last year's Women's Masters competition at the Ringside World Championships in Kansas City.

Gilbert's amazing improvement in the ring floored Wright, who chuckled the first time he saw her footwork.

"Honestly, after the first time I saw Sarah box, I didn't think she'd last very long," said Wright, the owner of Canton-based Wright Cardio Fitness, where Gilbert and several other local athletes train. "She had two left feet. But she kept going, and going and going and now she's a whirlwind in the ring."

"I've worked out in gyms alongside some great boxers — Tommy Hearn, Lenox Lewis, Oscar De La Hoya — but I tell everybody, Sarah is the best athlete I know. To see someone her age who came from where she

came from to do what she's doing now, it's truly inspirational. If I would have worked out in my prime like she works out now, I would have been a champion a lot longer than I was."

Gilbert has the undivided support of her biggest fan — her husband, Dallas, even though he's never seen her in action.

"He won't watch my fights," Gilbert said, smiling. "He's afraid that if he saw somebody hit me in the face during a fight, he'd jump in the ring and go after them."

Gilbert's visit to the Ringside Championships in 2007 ended in disappointment.

"The only other lady in my age division backed out at the last minute," she said.

When the 2008 event kicks off next Tuesday in at the KCI Arena in Kansas City, she's guaranteed to square off against one opponent in the 35-and-over women's division.

"I talked to a lady from New York who's entered and she said she'll be there for sure," said Gilbert.

The bouts for the first three rounds of the tournament consist of three one-minute rounds. The championship match will include five 90-second rounds.

Win or lose, the admiration for Gilbert at Wright's training facility won't be diminished.

"She is an unbelievable inspiration to all of us," said Shannon Vanderen, a workout colleague.

Gilbert's advice to middle-aged, overweight women who may want to follow in her footsteps is as direct as one of her punishing jabs. "If I can do it," she said, "you can do it."

ewright@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2108

Hornets eye Puerto Rico, Reese crown

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

An all-expense paid trip to Puerto Rico is the next destination as the 12-and-under Michigan Concealed Security Hornets have advanced to the American Amateur Baseball Congress Pee Wee Reese Division World Series.

The Hornets, managed by Livonia's Lou Pirronello, are among eight teams that will compete Aug. 6-10 in Toa Baja, P.R. for the coveted AABA title. They will take on defending champion and host Levitton, Puerto Rico.

A total of 1,200 AABC 12-and-under teams were registered this season with the Hornets, 64-15 overall, qualifying last weekend by winning the AABC North Central Regional in Rockford, Ill.

Concealed posted a 5-0 record including a 17-3 victory over the Adrian Lookouts in the championship final as

YOUTH BASEBALL

Livonia's Mike Vomastek went 3-for-4 with two RBI and two runs scored, while Drew Horde of Oak Park went 2-for-4 with a homer and six RBI.

Also collecting two hits apiece were John Slater (Southfield), Jake Ginster (Commerce Township) and Zack Tallman (West Bloomfield). Alex Roed (West Bloomfield) also scored three runs and walked three times. Jake Semak (Livonia) also scored twice.

Vomastek, rested for the final, was the winning pitcher, going the first four innings to improve his season record to 11-4. He allowed three runs on two hits and one walk before giving way to Trenton's J.T. Conti, who pitched a scoreless fifth in the five-inning mercy win.

"This team hits well, we have a team batting average of .389," Pirronello said. "We score a ton of runs, but we have good pitching, too. I think we have a chance (at the World Series)."

In the regional opener, Semak tossed a one-hitter, allowed just two base runners and struck out seven as Concealed belted four homers in a 19-0 win over Maple Lake, Minn.

Vomastek paced the offense going 4-for-5 with an RBI, while Badih Jawad (Dearborn Heights) went 3-for-4 with a homer and four RBI. Roed, Ginster and Slater also homered in the victory.

In the second round, Concealed routed the Lookouts in an eight-run, five-inning mercy, 11-2, as Jawad went all five innings to pick up the victory. He allowed two runs on five hits and a walk while fanning three.

The Hornets clubbed four homers led by Horde, who went 2-for-3 with a pair of round trippers and three RBI. Ginster also went 2-for-3 with a homer and three RBI, while Slater and Roed each added two hits. Slater collected the other homer.

In the third round, Concealed got past the host Rockford Longhorns, 7-4, with Slater, Conti and Vomastek dividing the mound duties, each going 2.1 innings apiece.

Vomastek paced the offense going 3-for-4 with an RBI and three stolen bases.

Please see **HORNETS, B4**

Sidelines

'Sheed' to appear

Detroit Piston power forward Rasheed Wallace is scheduled to make an appearance Saturday, Aug. 9, when the Livonia-based Detroit Seminoles take on the Detroit Ravens in a Mid-Continental Football League game beginning at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 9 at Stevenson High School.

The Seminoles, who will donate half of their proceeds to the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Michigan, currently sport 4-0-1 record heading into a 7:30 p.m. clash Saturday, Aug. 2 at Stevenson with the Flint Fury.

Tickets are \$7 for ages 13-and-up; \$5 for age 6-12. Children 5-and-under are free.

For more information, visit www.detroitseminoles.org.

UDM signs Youssef

Former Plymouth High forward-midfielder Ali Youssef (Canton) is one of seven student-athletes who have committed to play for the University of Detroit men's soccer program beginning with the 2008 season.

The 5-foot-10, 160-pound Youssef is a transfer from Schoolcraft College and has played seven years with his club team (Canton Celtic).

The 2006 Plymouth grad scored 17 goals his senior year and earned MVP honors twice in wrestling for the Wildcats (where he ranks first in career wins with 115).

GC needs coaches

Garden City High School is seeking two assistant football coaches for the upcoming season.

Those interested should contact GC head coach Mike Salter at salterm@gcity12.mi.us; or call (734) 891-0220.

WDFN's MEATA

Join sports radio talk show host Sean Baligian an your closest meat-eating friends for the sixth annual MEATA from 1-6 p.m. Friday, Aug. 1 at the Compuware Arena parking lot, located off M-14 and Beck Road, in Plymouth.

The Men Eating All The Animals tailgate features all red-blooded food including wild game.

Patrons are also urged to bring a canned good for the Oakland County Food Bank to feed those who are less fortunate.

All vendors and restaurateurs who would like to participate in MEATA '08 must download the rules and an example insurance certificate form. You must provide your proof of insurance certificate before cooking.

For more information, visit wdfn.com.

Surprise package

Franklin's Taylor twins 'say yes' to Grand Valley

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Under NCAA rules, Grand Valley State University women's basketball coach Janel Burgess isn't allowed to comment on her two latest recruits until they sign an NCAA letter-of-intent later in the year.

But it's a safe bet she's performing a few cartwheels in Allendale these days after Livonia Franklin senior twins Briana and Brittany Taylor verbally committed last Friday to play for the Lakers beginning in the 2009-10 season.

Burgess, coming off a 16-12 season in her inaugural year as head coach, was able to attract a pair of Division I-caliber athletes who are also considered top-notch softball players.

To say she got a steal with the package deal would be a huge understatement.

Division 1 schools Michigan State, Toledo and Central Michigan all vie



Brittany Taylor



Briana Taylor

for the Taylors' services in softball, while Loyola of Chicago expressed interest in basketball.

The 5-foot-9 Brittany, a catcher, was an honorable mention All-Stater and first-team All-Observer selection while batting .526 with 21 extra base hits (including six homers), along with 27 RBI and 30 stolen bases. On the basketball court, she averaged 12 points and 11 rebounds per game for the 18-5 Patriots, who captured their first Class A district championship since 1993.

Briana, who stands an identical 5-9, earned first-team All-Observer honors in basketball and softball. She

averaged 18 points and 13 rebounds per game while shooting 46 percent from the floor. As a shortstop, the honorable mention All-Stater helped the Patriots to 23 wins while batting .518 with team-best 33 RBI and 87 putouts.

The two honor students, who plan to study pre-med and biology, have been inseparable since their days at Adams Elementary and Riley Middle School.

"I guess we made a pact — since I was born," Brittany said. "We're going to room together and go to med school together. I didn't have to convince her (to go to Grand Valley). She knew, too, and I wanted to go there already."

"It's a good (scholarship) offer, a nice school and a good match. It's a modern campus, lots of (academic) choices, nice dorms and the food is good, too. You're not too far from the beach and there's a downtown mall. It's a good location."

Please see **TWINS, B3**

Area icer Darnell heads for Europe

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Brent Darnell might be a little tardy for the start of school, but he has a legitimate excuse.

The Livonia native and junior from Novi-Detroit Catholic Central High is among four Michigan players selected to play for the 2008 U.S. Under-17 Select hockey team, which will compete in the Five Nations Tournament, Aug. 19-24, in Prievidza, Slovakia.

The center from Canton, who scored 13 goals and had 20 assists during his sophomore season at CC, will be joined by Rochester's Eric Preston (Little Caesars), Bloomfield Hills' Bryan Rust (Honeybaked) and Austin Czarnik (Belle Tire) on the 21-player 2008 squad which will compete against teams from the Czech Republic, Germany, Switzerland and Slovakia.

The U.S. squad will be coached by Eric Rud, an assistant at St. Cloud State (Minn.).

The 6-foot, 175-pound Darnell has his passport ready and is anxious to make the trip, which will cut into his schooling. He has played in Canada, but never in Eastern Europe.

"It's good competition," Darnell said. "All the other kids are as good as you, if not better. I'll just try to play my game and hopefully click with my linemates."

Please see **DARNELL, B3**

Today's summer camps not about lazy memories

Remember when summer camp meant swimming, swatting mosquitoes and munching S'mores?

Well, they don't seem to make 'em like that anymore. For starters, young hockey players got a jump start on the upcoming season last week, thanks to five-day camps at Suburban Ice-Farmington Hills.

There were separate camps for the boys and girls to attend, both with the simple catch phrase to "Get Better." With ex-college and professional players leading the myriad drills, players of various ages and experience levels from all over southeast

ized sports camps such as those at Suburban Ice-Farmington Hills. How about a "Summer Blast" soccer camp just around the corner in Garden City?

Or baseball, soccer and basketball camps served up by the Plymouth Family YMCA?

Many older athletes gearing up for the high school year take place in so-called camps for their future teams in just about every sport. But for them, it's not really summer camp because one year just blends into the next.

Then there's the Detroit Ignition professional indoor soccer team. The Ignition recently hosted a camp at Pembroke Park in Livonia.

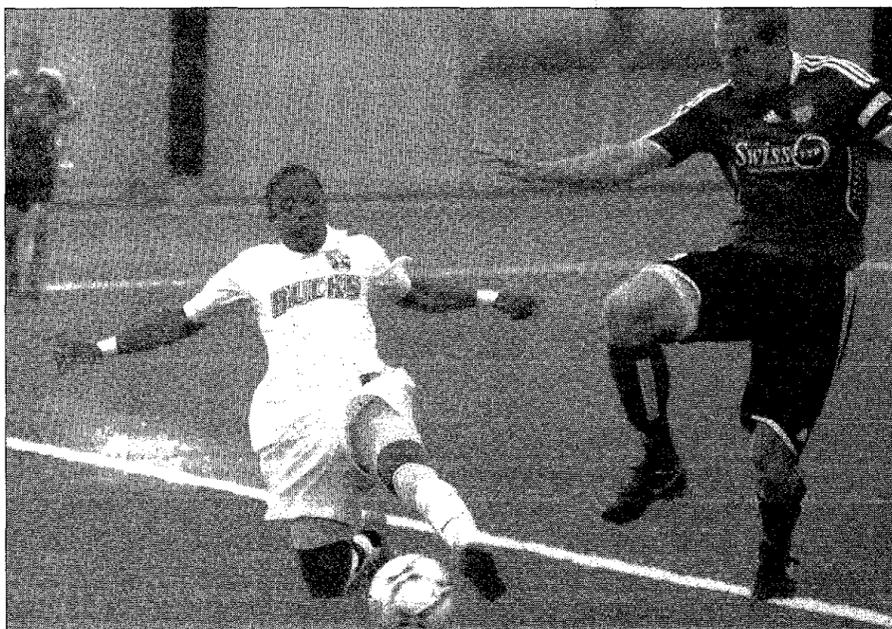
For five days, kids got their kicks getting plenty of soccer instruction from some of their Ignition heroes — guys named Callahan and Mack, for example.

"The kids are having a blast because the Ignition players are so enthusiastic about what they're doing," said Mark Warner, a Livonia youth coach. "And the kids aren't just having fun — they're learning important skills. This week is something they'll remember the rest of their lives."

He's right. Today's youth have so many dynamic summer offerings to choose from that can't help but build memories that trump those of yesteryear, like corn-eating contests or target practice.

It's great that they have such choices that can develop life-long passion for hockey, soccer or whatever sport they are interested in. Camps these days aren't just for the scrapbooks.

Tim Smith is sports editor of the Redford and Garden City Observers. He can be reached at (734) 953-2106 or via e-mail at tsmith@hometownlife.com.



JOHN STORMZANO | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Michigan Bucks midfielder Ty Shipalane and his teammates were upset victims in the Round of 16 Saturday night in the United Soccer Leagues-Premier Development League national tournament, falling to the Kalamazoo Outrage, 3-1, in overtime.

Outrage ends Bucks' year, 3-1

BY DAN STICKRADT
OGE STAFF WRITER

The No. 1 seed and high expectations didn't save the Michigan Bucks Saturday night.

After reaching the USL Premier Developmental League national championship each of the past two years with the same core of players, the Bucks were upset in the Round of 16 Saturday night at the Ultimate Soccer Arenas in Pontiac.

The bucks gave up a late goal in regulation and two more in overtime in suffering a season-ending 3-1 defeat to the Kalamazoo Outrage.

On Sunday night, second-seeded Thunder Bay Chill ousted Kalamazoo 4-0 to claim the Central Conference regional title and advance to the PDL Final four.

"We just didn't get it done," admitted third-year Bucks head coach Dan Fitzgerald, who cited many reasons for his team's

unexpected upset exit from the national tourney.

All-PDL midfielder Nate Jafta, who had missed five games during the last month due to injuries, was held out and fellow all-league forward Kenny Uzoigwe, ranked in the top 10 in the nation with 23 points during the regular season, went down with a re-aggravated hamstring injury in the seventh minute and didn't return. With two core players gone from the Bucks' attack, Michigan struggled to find the back of the net.

"With Nate out and Kenny going down in the first few minutes, it really hurt," offered Fitzgerald. "We had to move people around. But even with them out, I think we dominated a little bit. We just couldn't get that second goal to put it away."

Michigan (13-3-2, 13-2-2 against PDL teams) took the lead in the 31st minute, when forward Doug DeMartin (Mason/Michigan State) fin-

ished off a cross from Billy Weaver (Lake Orion/Indiana).

That proved to be the Bucks' last goal of the season.

Kalamazoo (10-7-2), which opened the PDL tourney with a 2-0 victory of favored Chicago Fire, finally weather the storm of Michigan's attack and forced overtime in the 86th minute. Eric Alexander's cross into the box was redirected into the goal by Tom Oatley, who headed the ball past Bucks netminder Steve Clark.

"They gained a little momentum after that goal," said Fitzgerald. "We had our chances, but they were the ones that scored in the overtime. It's disappointing."

Lance Muckey scored the go-ahead goal in the 98th minute of the first overtime, finishing off a cutback pass by Chase Corricelli.

Kalamazoo goaltender Bobby Shuttleworth proved many key saves down the stretch and the

Outrage sealed the upset with a late insurance tally in the 120th minute by Alexander, who walked in a shot when the Bucks had most of their team pushed up into the offensive side trying the net the equalizer.

"What are you going to do," asked Fitzgerald. "We probably had 10 good chances in overtime. But if you can't score, it doesn't matter."

4 Bucks All-Conference

Bucks attacking midfielder Nate Jafta and forward Kenny Uzoigwe were both honored for the third straight year on the United Soccer League's Central Conference First 11 team as selected by the coaches and general managers.

Bucks captain Mike Holody (Clarkston/University of Michigan) earned his second straight honor, while Oakland University goalkeeper Steve Clark (Mason) earned his first selection.

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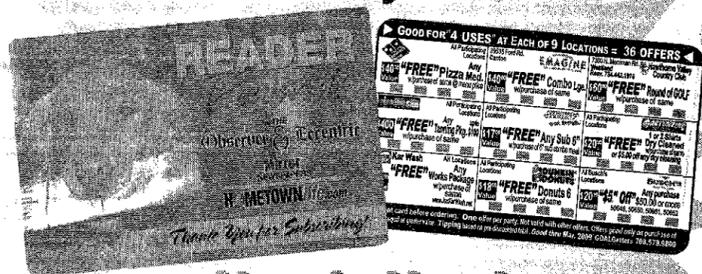


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True to forms

Over the Fourth of July weekend, Kil's Taekwondo of Livonia came away with three medals in the 2008 U.S. National Taekwondo Championships and USAT Junior Olympic Championships held at Detroit's Ford Field. The event attracted nearly 3,000 athletes from all over the country competing in four different categories including forms, weapons, board breaking and sparring. Representing Livonia were Master Choi (top row, left), a fifth degree black belt who was born and trained in South Korea, and Master Tim Dennis (top row, right). Also representing Kil's were (front, from left) Ryan Delp, Ali Birge, Shane Morge and Laurent Shala, all of Livonia. Dennis, a fourth degree black belt, captured a gold medal in forms and competed in sparring despite a broken thumb. Delp, a heavyweight blue belt and Shala, a lightweight red belt, each captured silver medals in sparring while also competing in forms as 11-year-olds. Birge, 9, was the only female who competed in forms as a lightweight red belt, while Moore, 8, was a lightweight blue belt who competed in forms and sparring. Beau Bloomfield (not pictured), 13, was a first degree black belt who competed in board breaking and forms.

DARNELL

FROM PAGE B1

It's going to be mostly all hockey when we're there, but I think we'll have a little sightseeing and team building the first few days."

Darnell was invited last month to earn a spot on USA Hockey's 2008-09 Under-17 National Select Team (based in Ann Arbor) during a player development camp at the ESL Sports Centre in Rochester, N.Y. The camp featured several of America's top players born

in 1992.

Darnell, entering his third year on the varsity with the Shamrocks, did not make the cut, but benefited immensely from the six-day camp.

"It was pretty intense, we had one practice and then we'd have a game," he said. "There were a lot of college and junior scouts there and I tried to make a good impression. It was a top camp, a ton of fun and a great experience."

Darnell attended St. Michael's grade school for eight years before enrolling at Novi-Detroit CC as a ninth-grader.

He began playing organized hockey as a Mite with the Livonia Hockey Association Sabres where he was coached by John Louwers. He also played for the Livonia Knights, a squirt travel team, in 2001-02.

He credits his stepbrother Brad Darnell, now a Livonia police officer, for exposing him to the game.

"I don't play any other sports, he's the one who got me into it," said Brent, who aspires to play collegiate hockey some day.

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TWINS

FROM PAGE B1

Brianna Taylor also echoed Brittany's sentiments.

"It's the best campus we visited," she said. "It's modern, it's clean and they're always putting up a new building. It's perfect for me, right in the middle (between a big school and a small school)."

During the summer the Taylor sisters have been busy playing softball tournaments for the Livonia Storm, but now they will concentrate on winter basketball season in preparation for the late November start. Both will opt out of playing volleyball this fall for the Patriots.

Brittany also entertained

thoughts of playing high school golf in the fall, but decided otherwise.

"Golf is fun, but I wanted to work out for basketball as far as college and the high school season," she said. "I want to play with more confidence and start off this year the way I finished last season."

Added Brianna: "Personally I want to become more rounded offensively and defensively. I want to become a better defensive player. Team-wise, I think we can go pretty far — possibly the regional final or beyond."

Their father, Reno Taylor, was also impressed with Grand Valley, which captured the NCAA Division II national championship in 2005-06.

"They have a good team already, they're just missing a couple of key ingredients," Reno said. "They play a good schedule. It's a good program and they put a good offer on the table."

The Taylor twins said Burgess also left the door open to play softball.

"We still love to play softball," Brianna said. "Before we worked to become better at both (sports), but now we're going to try and get better to play basketball."

"She (Burgess) said that we could choose softball as well as basketball," Brittany added, "but the first year we're going to concentrate on basketball because the first-year is a transition year."

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AREA GOLF DIVOTS

O&E Women's Tourney

"Drive" time is fast approaching for all women golfers looking to claim the title of 2008 Observer & Eccentric Women's Open champion.

The one-day, 18-hole tournament is set to tee off Saturday, Aug. 16, at Whispering Willows Golf Course in Livonia.

The deadline for entries is 6 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 9.

All entrants will be trying to dethrone defending champion Susan Macinkowicz, who earned medalist honors by carding an impressive round of 78.

Participants must have a current United States Golf Association index to play in the annual O&E Open.

Registration forms can be picked-up at Whispering Willows Golf Course, which is located at 20500 Newburgh Road, Livonia; at Fox Creek Golf Course, which is located at 36000 Seven Mile Road, Livonia.

Registration forms can also be found at www.golflivonia.com.

The entry fee for the tournament

is \$50, which does not include a cart. For pairings and starting times, participants are encouraged to call (248) 476-4493 after noon on Thursday, Aug. 14.

The O&E men's tournament is scheduled for Sept. 20 and 21 at both Whispering Willows and Fox Creek golf courses. The men's event is a 36-hole tourney.

Hole-in-one club

■ On July 27, Steven Berriman, of Livonia, used a 9-iron to record an ace on the 126-yard, No. 4 hole at Idyl Wyld Golf Course. It was his first ace in 19 years. Berriman shot a 102 for 18 holes.

■ On July 28, James Paval, 52, of Livonia, used a pitching wedge to ace the 119-yard, No. 4 hole at Redford's Glenhurst Golf Course. For Paval, who shot a 39 for nine holes, it was his third ace in 29 years.

■ On July 26, Stephen Morawa, of Livonia, used a 7-iron to ace the 144-yard, No. 17 hole at Whispering Willows Golf Course. It was Morawa's first ace in 10 years.

He shot a 42 for nine holes.

■ Also on July 26, Kevin Elsner, 23, of Canton, used a pitching wedge to ace the 150-yard, No. 6 hole at Fox Hills Classic Hills.

■ On July 25, Andrew Vagnetti, of Livonia, used a 9-iron to ace the 126-yard, No. 4 hole at Idyl Wyld Golf Course. It was Vagnetti's first ace in three years. He shot 90 for 18 holes.

■ On July 22, Evan Chipman, 12, of Canton, used a 9-iron to ace the 90-yard, No. 1 hole at Fox Hills Strategic Fox.

■ On July 18, Cliff Fair, of Livonia, used an 8-iron to ace the 161-yard, No. 11 hole at Fox Creek Golf Course. It was Fair's first ace in 48 years. He shot 87 for 18 holes.

■ On July 18, Harry Ganas, of Livonia, used a 5-iron to ace the 184-yard, No. 3 hole at Fox Creek Golf Course. It was Ganas' first ace in 43 years. He shot a 38 for nine holes.

■ On July 15, Jacob Hettell, 11, of Plymouth, used a 7-iron to ace the 94-yard, No. 3 hole at Fox Hills Strategic Fox.

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HORNETS

FROM PAGE B1

Horde also had three hits, while Semak went 2-for-4. A 3-0 record in preliminary round play put the Hornets into the regional semifinals with Jawad going 3-for-4, including a pair of doubles and three runs scored in an 11-6 triumph over the Illinois Big Dogs. Conti added two hits and two RBI, while Horde went 2-for-4 with an RBI. Roed also knocked in three runs. Ginster (5-2) worked the first four innings to pick up the win. Roed came on for the final three innings in relief to

pick up his fourth save of the year. The pair combined to allow six runs on six hits and five walks. The Hornets will fly out next Wednesday and play against the host team beginning at 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 7. The game will be broadcast on local Puerto Rico television and radio. Area fans can follow the game on www.tutv.puertoricopr. "It's a big deal down there, the mayor gets involved and the whole town shuts down," said Pironello, who last guided a Concealed team to the 2003 16-and-under AABC World Series.

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Members of the Pee Wee Reese 12-and-under American Amateur Baseball Congress regional championship team headed next week to Puerto Rico for the World Series includes (bottom row, from left): Alex Roed, West Bloomfield; Badhi Jawad, Dearborn Heights; J.T. Conti, Trenton; Mike Vomastek, Livonia; (middle row, from left) John Slater, Southfield; Drew Horde, Oak Park; Jake Ginster, Commerce Township; Zach Tallman, Brownstown; Jake Semak, Livonia; head coach Lou Pironello, Livonia; (back row, from left) assistant coaches Todd Conti, Trenton; Chuck Ginster, Commerce; Spencer Roed, West Bloomfield.

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WOMEN SEEKING MEN

HOMEBODY SEEKS SAME
SBF, 44, 5'2", 165lbs, black hair, brown eyes, light complexion, N/D, N/S, enjoys movies, bowling, dining, plays, concerts, reading. Seeking SBM, 38-51. **☎283327**

TRADITIONAL VALUES
Well-educated DWF, 5'8", dark blonde/green, full-figured, interested in finding friendship leading to more with a WM, 30-50, to share life with. **☎283327**

VERY ATTRACTIVE
SBPF, 37, mother, looking for attractive, sexy, tall, dark-complexioned, intelligent BM, 33-50, for friendship possibly leading to LTR. **☎282115**

ONE GOOD WOMAN LEFT
SBF, 47, 5'7", full-figured, N/S, likes rollerskating, canoodling, exercise, theater, travel. Seeking a gentleman, 45-70, who is healthy, fun-loving, financially secure, looks decent. **☎287305**

A POLISHED DIAMOND
Attractive, sexy BF, 34, seeks true gentleman. You won't be disappointed when we meet! **☎287057**

EARTH BABY
DWF, 52, 5'10", 300-lbs, N/S, N/Drugs, many interests, family-oriented, honest, loyal, easygoing, optimistic, seeks friendship first, possible LTR with SDWM, 48-60. **☎285168**

FORMER RUNWAY MODEL
Attractive SBF, 5'10", 140lbs, N/S, one kid, likes clubs, outdoor activities, dancing, working out. Seeking Arab male, 25-38, 6'1", N/S, slim to medium build for friendship first, dating and more. **☎286513**

FOLLOW THIS HEART
DWF, 59, 5'2", attractive, sincere, loveable, is waiting for you, loves life in general, likes doing anything with that someone special. Call me, you won't be disappointed. **☎276729**

BEAUTIFUL SBF...
37, seeks SWM, 30-50, who is spontaneous and knows how to have fun. Casual relationship first, maybe leading to more. **☎271683**

LOADS OF FUN
Active WF, young 50s, good sense of humor, enjoys different music, travel, dining out, dancing, more. Seeking decent, kind, honest man for indoor and outdoor activities. **☎283342**

OVERGROWN TOMBOY
SBF, 54', 116lbs, easygoing, straightforward, honest, enjoys playing pool, photography, working on cars, reading, writing. Looking for muscular SM, 24-50, for casual relationship. **☎281155**

KEEP COOL
SBF, 19, 5'3", looking for cool, down-to-earth, attractive SB/HM, 18-25, who keeps it real. **☎287598**

ONE GOOD WOMAN LEFT
SWF, 37, 5'7", long brown hair, full-figured, two daughters, loves all kinds of movies, being outdoors, beaches, playing catch. Seeking SWM, 32-40, for possible relationship. **☎286534**

CUTE AND CUDDLY
SF, 45, tall, long brown hair, big baby blue eyes, tall, looking for fun, down-to-earth guy, 38-55, who enjoys camping, travel, big trucks, Harley's. **☎279724**

SEEKING SINCERITY
SBF, 54', 150lbs, N/S, N/D, enjoys walking on the beach, outdoor activities. Looking for down-to-earth, family-oriented SM, 40-50, with same interests. **☎285607**

ARE YOU THE ONE?
SWF, 36, long brown/green, N/S, athletic build, creative animal lover, in search of attractive, fit, funny, easygoing SWM, 27-43, with no children, for dating, possible LTR with right man. **☎286634**

SEEKING FRIENDSHIP
SBF, young 60s, w/good morals, caring, nice-looking, 5'3", 155lbs, N/S, N/D, N/Drugs, clean, honest living, party retired, enjoys card playing, casinos, and movies. Seeking honest man 60-80, race open. **☎2134425**

IN THIS BOX U CAN FIND...
A 42-year-old SWF, ISO SWM, 38-45, for friendship and possibly more. I'm sociable, affectionate, 5'7", 120lbs, long dark curly hair, N/D, N/S, D/D-free, never married, no children. Interested? Call **☎224748**

HELLO OUT THERE
SWF, 39 years young, seeks SWM, who enjoys life's simple pleasures. I enjoy dining out, computers, movies, the park, walks, travel and life in general. Friendship first. **☎241298**

READY FOR A FRESH START?
DWF, 47, 5'5", 120lbs, long blonde/blue, well-proportioned, very feminine, attractive, self-employed. Seeking SWM, 45-57, 6'1", 225lbs+, good sense of humor, energetic, traveler, outdoorsman, adventurer, manly gentleman. **☎892549**

WARM SMILE
SBF, 21, N/S, looking for SM, 21-40, for friendship first, possibly more. Call me, let's talk and get to know each other! **☎287187**

HARD WORKER SEEKS SAME
SBF, 44, N/S, mother, in search of affectionate BM, 29-49, N/S, homebody, to explore all life has to offer! I enjoy reading, bike rides, playing tennis. **☎274519**

ARE YOU THE ONE?
SWF, 42, 5'11", loves Italian food, music. Looking for SWM, 32-50, who is successful, financially secure, has a good head on his shoulders but also has a wild side. **☎284915**

LET'S DANCE IN THE RAIN!
Petite SBF, 36, 150lbs, brown eyes, mother of two, enjoys cooking, music, church. Looking for SM, 35-75. **☎281372**

A WOMAN OF CLASS
SWF, 68, likes movies, dining, theater. Is it you? **☎271085**

GOOD SENSE OF HUMOR?
WF, 48, 5'3", brown/brown, has pets, N/S, great sense of humor. Looking for WM, 45-55, who likes dining out, museums, movies, reading and more, to do things with. **☎280581**

SEARCHING FOR A MAN...
40-60, who's looking for commitment, love and laughter. I'm a 47-year-old who's bright, spunky and pretty. Only Jewish men please. **☎962317**

LOVE IS THE GOAL
DWCF, 71, looks younger, 5'2", long dark brown hair, brown eyes, positive attitude, seeks faithful SWM for LTR. **☎569284**

STARTING OVER
DBF, with two teens, 5'3", 140lbs, short hair, would like to meet a nice, honest, down-to-earth man for friendship, possibly leading to LTR. Race open. 40-50. **☎277526**

NURSE
Attractive SWF, 64, 5'10", 135lbs, dark hair, blue eyes, fair skin, looking for N/S, honest gentleman, 60-70, who has numerous interests including history, traveling, and home life. **☎409879**

COULD IT BE YOU?
SBF, 44, professional, hard-working, independent, enjoys church, shopping, more. Looking for a SPM, 44, employed, open-minded, warm-hearted and considerate, to share all life has to offer. **☎235988**

GREAT EXPECTATIONS
Good looking SBF, hwp, intelligent, mature, spiritual, seeking a SW, 5'7", 48-50, physically fit, good looking inside and out, loving, who likes traveling, for friendship first leading to LTR. **☎147056**

WHY NOT CALL?
SBF, full-figured, seeks a SM, 37-80, for friendship, possible LTR. Call me, let's get together and get to know each other. **☎217234**

BEAUTIFUL
BIBF, 37, beautiful, classy and open-minded, looking for BF, 25-40, race open, D/D free, H/W proportionate. You will be confident with who you are. **☎271860**

HEART OF GOLD
SBF, 39, 5'10", average build, smoker, enjoys crossword puzzles, old-school lifestyle, movies, dining. Seeking athletic, active BM, 30-42, 6'+, smoker, for friendship, possible romance. **☎286442**

DOWN-TO-EARTH AND HONEST
SBF, 56, 5'10", N/S, short hair, no children, looking for SBM, 35-50, who enjoys festivals, travel, spending time together. **☎280950**

DOWN-TO-EARTH
Asian woman, 5'2", 110lbs, slim, attractive, independent, loving, caring, enjoys movies, fine dining, travel, quiet times at home. Seeking very handsome W/M, 47-56, N/S, clean-shaven, H/W proportionate, for friendship first. **☎281229**

ENJOYS THE OUTDOORS
BF, 5'5", 150lbs, likes cooking, listening to music, camping and more. Would like to meet a man to enjoy life with. **☎36-60. ☎284318**

ZOOMER SEEKS ADDED ZIP
SWF, 55, passionate about life, enjoys the outdoors, good political discussions, dancing, more. Would love to meet a man engaged in life. 53-70. **☎284371**

SINCERE AND HONEST
Happy SF, loves country music, dancing. Looking for honest, sincere SW/BM, 30-80, children ok, for friendship first. **☎284932**

COULD YOU BE THE ONE?
Bright, spunky, pretty SF, 47, educator, outgoing, pretty eyes, wishing to meet a kind Jewish man, 45-60, who's looking for commitment, love and laughter. **☎230694**

DOWN-TO-EARTH
SBF, 42, intelligent, romantic, independent, caring, looking for SBM, 30-50, with same characteristics, who knows what he wants out of life. **☎287680**

ONLY SERIOUS NEED REPLY
Voluptuous SBF, 42, would like to meet a nice, serious SBM, 35-50, who would like to become acquainted with a woman and who is ready, willing, and able to commit. **☎273893**

DOWN-TO-EARTH
Easygoing DWF, early 50s, would like to meet a really nice WM, 50-65, with the same qualities, minimal baggage, to share the ups and downs of life. Seeking possible LTR. **☎279171**

LET'S GET TOGETHER
SBF, 54, 5'8", N/S, enjoys life's simple pleasures. Seeking SB/WM, 48-62, N/S, for friendship or more. **☎282444**

PERSONABLE AND SPECIAL
SWF, retired, talented, fun-loving, attractive, 132lbs, 5'5", blonde, seeks well-groomed gentleman, 65+, to share life and enjoy each other's company. **☎891247**

LADY IN THE WOODS
SWF, 50, looks younger, blonde/hazel, 5'5", average build, educated, dog lover, classy, sassy and fun, seeking compatible, outdoorsy, rugged, good-hearted male to share the good things in life. Livingston county. **☎210247**

IN SEARCH OF
A man with a positive outlook for dating, dining out, and companionship. I'm a SWF, 58, 5'8", HWP, and I enjoy walks, cycling, skiing, snow-shoeing, and more. **☎288866**

GREAT-LOOKING BF...
35, seeks serious, mature, financially secure man for LTR. Call me; you won't be disappointed! **☎285172**

ARE YOU SEEKING?
DWF, 63, 5'2", Italian, brunette, attractive, well-dressed, sincere, loving, optimistic, likes theater, travel, dining, fitness. Wishing to meet N/S WM, 58-70, financially secure, easygoing, good morals, loves family, for dating. **☎630808**

BEAUTIFUL MAKEUP ARTIST
Sincere, outgoing, 53, professional, 5'11", 124lbs, professional, attractive, intelligent and educated, loves music, dancing, motorcycles, outdoors, movies and creative pursuits. Seeking attractive gentleman, 42-53, with like interests/qualities, for friendship. **☎245848**

SEEKING LOVING KINDNESS?
SBF, 54', 120lbs, interested in developing new friendships, maybe more. Seeks energetic, N/S SM, 45-65, that loves reading, midnight picnics, walking, and exciting conversations. Must have good SOH and self-worth. **☎282618**

HELLO THERE
Asian woman, 5'2", 110lbs, slim, attractive, health-conscious, vegetarian, N/D, N/S. Enjoys dining, movies, quiet times. Seeking clean-cut, fit, attractive, respectful, professional Asian or White male for dating and possibly more. **☎113901**

GREAT SENSE OF HUMOR
SWF, 27, mother, enjoys swimming, walking, nature, being outdoors. Seeking similar SWM, 23-45, for companionship. **☎282578**

FUN & OUTGOING
SBF, 18, 190lbs, brown eyes, loves walks on the beach, movies, basketball. Seeking SM, same age, for friendship or more. **☎257908**

GET TO KNOW ME
BF, 57', full-figured, brown eyes, N/S, social drinker, looking for a woman, 45-60, to share good, clean fun with. **☎280756**

HI THERE!
Mature SBF, 50, seeks sexy, handsome SWM, to develop a lasting relationship and maybe more. Let's meet soon! **☎286278**

VERY LOVING PERSON
Looking for a spontaneous, professional male, 25-40, music open, who is willing to go and have fun. **☎273294**

STILL SEEKING
SBF, 66, 5'9", 122lbs, interested in fit, good-looking, confident male, 45-58, N/S, intelligent, sincere, down-to-earth, who wants to commit to someone special. **☎113198**

COUNTRY GIRL
Good-natured, classy, attractive, fun-loving SWPF, 54, platinum/blonde, 5'5", H/W-proportionate, enjoys travel, horseback riding, exercise, dancing. Seeking SWM, 55-65, N/S, N/Drugs, for serious relationship. If you love motorcycles call me. **☎765845**

ARE YOU HERE?
SBF, 61, enjoys going out, having fun, dancing, playing, laughing, and enjoying life. Seeking an honest SBM, 56-62, with varied interests, for possible LTR. **☎289770**

TAKE A CHANCE!
SWF, 30, middle school art teacher, likes nature, music and learning new things. ISO nice gentleman, for dating and to share life together. **☎283845**

CHOCOLATE TREAT
Refined, romantic, creative divorcee, enjoys an eclectic lifestyle. Professionally employed, very youthful and fun-loving. 50s, enjoys dining, travel, music, the arts, family and friends. Seeking fit non-smoking gentleman, 50+. **☎281187**

GET TO KNOW ME
Loving, open-minded SBF, 60, 145lbs, attractive, enjoys music, dining, concerts, travel. ISO honest, compassionate SM, 57-65, N/S. Possible LTR. **☎563780**

CLASSY LADY
SBF, middle-aged, attractive, enjoys dining, movies, plays and bowling, seeks a SM, 48-68, N/S, good sense of humor and good values/morals. **☎207254**

I NEED A LOVE...
to keep me happy. Attractive, classy, delightful, charming WF, 62, no kids, seeks SWM, 45+, no kids, N/S, fun, loving, caring. **☎588059**

SERIOUS WOMAN WANTED
SBM, 48, looking for a serious, intelligent person for LTR, someone who enjoys walks, movies, sporting events, cuddling at home. Please be snappy, independent and know what you want in life. **☎82416**

LONELY & READY
SWM, 49, average build, Italian, heart of gold, Virgo, N/S, seeks WF, 45-65, with a nice build, good SOH, for companionship, possible LTR. **☎860305**

HANDSOME & FUN-LOVING
Sincere, fun-loving, down-to-earth SBM, 44, ISO romantic, honest, intelligent BF, 25-35, with great SOH, for companionship, possible LTR. **☎961147**

ENJOY THE VIEW
Romantic, thoughtful SWM, 39, is looking for love, enjoys hugs, kisses and cuddling, seeks kind, attractive SWF, age and area open. **☎113835**

YOUR ATTENTION PLEASE!
Handsome, mature gent SWM, 50, traditional values, romantic, and thoughtful, enjoys cultural events, antiquing, short trips, etc. Seeking SWF for friendship and companionship. **☎176497**

A SPECIAL GUY
DWM, 56, 5'10", handsome and secure, seeks honest SD/WF, wise sense of humor, who enjoys travel, candlelight dinners, plays, dancing, concerts, boating, and movies. Friendship, possible LTR. **☎289846**

LET'S CHAT
SBM, 32, student, employed, light smoker, looking for a woman, 25-46. I enjoy basketball, time with my kids. **☎284405**

LOOKING FOR ME?
SM, 53, outgoing, cool, fun, honest and easygoing, loves Italian/Mexican food, racquetball, camping, travel, and much more-looking for fit, fun and active lady to share talks, good times, friendship/fun. **☎250719**

ARE YOU THE ONE FOR ME?
Single, middle-aged male seeks SWF for casual dating. She should be attractive, petite, financially independent. Prefer Oakland County. **☎266732**

LOOKING FOR YOU
SWM, 50, 5'11", 185lbs, seeks SWF, 35-52, who enjoys Backgammon/Chess, dancing, working out at Bally's, piano bars, comedy clubs, coffee houses, art galleries. Must be social drinker, N/S, H/W proportionate. **☎218827**

LOOKING FOR HZ RIGHT
WMM, 45, 5'11", 220lbs, is easygoing, fun-loving, enjoys a variety of activities, indoor/outdoor. Looking for LTR, with the right person. **☎265340**

BEAUTIFUL PRINCESS WANTED
SBM, early 40s, seeks attractive, younger lady, 25-45, for romance, companionship, must be independent and shapely. Serious replies only. **☎684601**

WAITING FOR YOUR CALL
Affectionate SWM, 40, 5'9", 210lbs, dark brown/brown, easygoing, friendly, enjoys dining, movies, talks, walks, and waterfront talks, quiet times home. Looking for compatible lady who knows how to enjoy life. **☎238130**

A WALK AND A TALK
Try this easygoing, lovable SWM, 50, good listener, who enjoys book stores, coffee shops, nature and concerts. I seek a like-minded counterpart for where ever it goes. **☎200890**

ALWAYS FAITHFUL
Gentle SWM, 54, 5'11", 168lbs, healthy young 60s, N/S, nice-looking, responsible, honest, loyal, humorous, desires nice-looking SF, 55-66, slim/medium build, similar qualities, for LTR. Let's talk. **☎280514**

SEEKING THE RIGHT PERSON
SWM, 35, 5'11", short dark/green, 175lbs, enjoys rollerblading, biking, running, outdoors, fishing. Seeking SWF, 24-37, similar interests. **☎280418**

MUSCULAR AND ATHLETIC
Tall, athletic SWM, 48, 6'2", 200lbs, brown/blue, no dependents, college-educated, clean-cut, good sense of humor, outgoing, seeks friendly SF, for fun. Age/location open. **☎897540**

SEEKS SOULMATE
SWM seeks brunette, 23-35, who is a little on the shy side, knows how to have fun. **☎286860**

AM I YOUR MISTER RIGHT?
SM, 28, 5'8", 165lbs, two tattoos, muscular build, goatee, nice smile, seeks SF, 19-47, for friendship or more. **☎287140**

EASYGOING
Sharp, sociable SWM, 45, with good character and pleasant personality, likes the outdoors, fishing, motor sports etc. W/MT SWF, for dating and fun times. **☎187614**

LET'S ENJOY LIFE
WM, 68', N/S, interests include candlelight dinners, car shows, bike riding, the beach and more. Looking for SWF, 35-47, N/S, preferably tall, to hang out with. **☎274599**

HONEST MAN
Caring SWM, 42, likes camping, fishing, travel and more. Looking for a supportive, honest, down-to-earth woman, 25-40, for LTR. **☎283534**

IF INTERESTED, CALL ME
WM, 40, 6'5", enjoys movies, sports, concerts, dining out, travel. Looking for an honest woman, 35-50, who likes to go out and have fun. **☎286510**

COUGAR LOVER
Some things do get better with age. Blue-eyed, handsome SM, mid 40s, physically fit, laid-back, good sense of humor, seeks woman, with like qualities, who likes travel, music, exercising, etc. **☎244230**

A LOT TO OFFER
SBM, 38, N/S, loves walking, jogging, dinner and a movie, having fun, partying. Looking for SF, 28-70, for friendship first, maybe more. **☎278442**

LIFE IS TOO SHORT
Very athletic SBM, 37, 5'9", 175lbs, loves volleyball, pet, seeks nice-looking, fit BF, 28-35, with sweet personality. **☎274599**

IMMATURE
WM, 61, good-looking, good sense of humor, interested in politics, sports, the arts, food. Seeking BF, 45-63. Glasses a plus. **☎278802**

TALL, ATHLETIC
SWM, 49, 6'2", 200lbs, part-time personal trainer, brown/blue, degreed, outgoing personality, enjoys outdoors, working out, new activities, seeking friendly SF, age/location open. **☎531308**

LET'S GET GOING!
SWM 40s, attractive, good shape, great listener, enjoys good conversation, friendship, spontaneous fun, and laughter, seeks personable SWF for dating and more. **☎128302**

GOOD BETTER BEST!
SWM, 49, 5'9", 185lbs, is cute about nature, SWF, enjoys the outdoors, fishing, etc. Seeks compatible SWF, to have and hold. **☎992943**

RETIRED
SWM, 65, smoker, wants to meet a SWF, 48-67, prefer heavyset, for friendship first. I love cooking, devoting time to a loving companion. **☎284754**

SINGLE DAD
WM, 57', 150lbs, brown/brown, medium build, two children, likes the outdoors, working out on cars, having fun. Looking for a good, down-to-earth, honest, attractive WF, 23-33, for dating. **☎284933**

WELL-ROUNDED
DWM, retired gentleman of independent means, outgoing, friendly, secure, honest, eclectic, N/S, seeks slender, physically fit woman who loves the outdoors. **☎284895**

LOOKING FOR SOULMATE
I love to hold; love to be held. Love to laugh, paint, write, sing. N/S. Give me a sign. It will be fun. I promise. **☎280656**

FAMILY-ORIENTED
Self-employed, 43, 6'1", 210lbs, athletic build, smoker, construction worker, seeks woman, 24-50, for LTR. I enjoy parks, time with family. **☎281784**

HOPE 2 HEAR FROM U SOON
SWM, 43, in shape, 5'8", 170lbs, brown/brown, looking for older woman 50-60, fit and attractive, easygoing and secure, who knows how to have a good time in life.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Girls hockey tryouts

A final tryout for the Livonia Knights, a girls 16-and-under travel hockey team will be from 8:30-9:50 tonight at Edgar Arena.

The tryout cost is \$15 (per skate).
For more information, e-mail Joe Monendo at coach-joe31@comcast.net; or visit www.livoniahockey.org.

GC volleyball tryouts

Tryouts for the Garden City girls volleyball team will be from 3:30-5:30 p.m. (JV players in grades nine-10) and from 5:30-7:30 p.m. (varsity players) beginning Monday, Aug. 11 at the high school.

Coaches wanted

Wayne Memorial High School is seeking a boys varsity soccer coach for the fall and a girls varsity bowling coach for the winter.

Previous high school coaching experience is preferred. Interested candidates should send a letter of interest and resume to: Greg Ambrose, athletic director, 3001 Fourth St., Wayne, MI 48184. Information can also be fax to (734) 595-2227.

Girls fastpitch tryouts

Tryouts for the Livonia Storm girls fastpitch softball team will be from 10 a.m. until noon (10- and 12-and-under) and from 1-3 p.m. (14- and 16-and-under), at Bicentennial Park (fields nos. 9 and 10).

Additional inform is posted on www.livoniastorm.com; or e-mail Ken Jewell at kjewell@livoniastorm.com.

For more information, call Jewell at (734) 266-9109; or (313) 350-5183.

The Thunderbirds girls travel fastpitch organization will hold tryouts for 2008-09 on Aug. 16, 17 and 23 at Heritage Park in Canton.

Try-out sessions will begin at 9 a.m. (10U), 10 a.m. (11/12U), 11 a.m. (13/14U) and noon (16U/18U).

Most players will only need to attend one session. Thunderbirds Softball Inc. (TSI) is a Canton-based non-

profit corporation (founded in 2000) dedicated exclusively to supporting and promoting young women's fastpitch softball. The organization is comprised of travel teams with players ranging in age from 8 to 19 years.

For more information, contact Ray Barnes (734) 927-4739 or Humaira Afzal at hafzal@comcast.net.

Jr. Olympics Aug. 6

The rescheduled 50th annual Redford Parks and Recreation-hosted Junior Olympics will be Wednesday, Aug. 6, at Hilbert Middle School, located at 26440 Puritan, one-half mile north of Five Mile and one-half mile west of Beech Daly, in Record.

Registration is from 9-10 a.m. and is free for Redford residents (\$5 for nonresidents). Field events and races begin at 10 a.m.

Parents should be present at all times, no organized teams are welcome and no spikes will be permitted on the field. For more information, call (313) 387-2650.

Churchill High fall tryouts

Fall team sports 2008 tryouts have been announced at Livonia Churchill High School including:

Boys cross country - 9 a.m. Monday, Aug. 11, at Cass Benton Park in Northville. (E-mail coach John McGreevy at jmcgreev@livonia.k12.mi.us); Girls cross country - 9 a.m. Monday, Aug. 11, at Cass Benton Park in Northville. (E-mail coach Sue Tatro at stattia2@livonia.k12.mi.us);

Football - 6-8:30 p.m., Wednesday, Aug. 6 (workouts and conditioning) at the Churchill football field. (E-mail coach John Filiatraut at (jfiliatr2@livonia.k12.mi.us);

Girls golf - 10 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 7 at Whispering Willows Golf Course. Bring golf equipment. (E-mail coach Paul Worley at paulworley@pga.com);

Boys soccer - 9:15 a.m. Monday, Aug. 11 the Churchill track. (E-mail coach Reid Friedrichs at rfriedri@livonia.k12.mi.us);

Girls swimming and diving - 8-11 a.m. Monday through Friday, Aug. 11-15, at the high school pool. (E-mail coach Aaron Rieder at arieder@livonia.k12.mi.us); Boys tennis - 3 p.m. Monday, Aug. 11 at the high school courts. (E-mail coach Dave Farmer at daf222@msn.com; or call (734) 709-8574); Girls volleyball - 8-11 a.m. and 1:30-4 p.m. Monday, Aug. 11 at the competitive gym. (E-mail coach Mark Grenier at mgrenier@livonia.k12.mi.us. For general information, call the Churchill athletic office at (734) 744-2650.

Youth baseball tryouts

Tryouts for the 2009 Motor City Pirates 12-and-under baseball team will be from 3-5 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 2, at the UAW Fields, located at 48055 Michigan Avenue, Canton.

The Pirates play in the Kensington Valley Baseball and Softball Association and will play in several tournaments in 2009.

Those interested should contact coach Angelo Lanava at alanava@wowway.com.

Tryouts for the Canton Cardinals 2008-09 12-and-under travel baseball team will be Wednesday, Aug. 6 and 13.

The team competes in the KVBSA League and in the USSSA and Sylvania tournaments. The Cardinals will also play in one or two tournaments later this fall.

For the first time ever, out-of-district exemptions are allowed.

For more information on tryout times and locations, contact Jim Hejka at James_Hejka@jeffersonwells.com.

The 14-and-under Plymouth/Canton Grizzlies travel baseball team will stage tryouts for the 2009 season from 6:30-9 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 10 at Heritage Park in Canton.

Players must be 14 or younger on April 30, 2009.

To pre-register or for more information, call Rob Sudz at (734) 637-1638.

Tryouts for the 2009

Livonia-based, 11-and-under Michigan Bulldogs travel baseball team will be from 10 a.m. until noon, Saturday, Aug. 16; and 3:30-5:30 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 17 at Bicentennial Park in Livonia.

For more information, e-mail head coach Scott Linsler at coachscott@michiganbulldogbaseball.com; or visit www.michbulldogs.com.

Adult flag football

Players are need for an adult flag football league, which runs Mondays and Wednesdays, during the months of September and October, in Royal Oak. The sponsor is Waterford Flagstar Bank. Registration is through Wednesday, Aug. 20.

For more information, call Rod Honaker at (248) 627-4815.

Elks Soccer Shoot

The City of Livonia Department of Parks and Recreation will stage its annual soccer shoot beginning at 5 p.m. Monday, Aug. 18 at the Livonia Community Center soccer fields, located at Five Mile and Hubbard.

Registration starts at 4:30 p.m. the day of the event, which is free.

Age divisions for boys and girls include 7-and-under, 8-9, 10-11 and 12-13.

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

Punt, Pass & Kick

The City of Livonia Department of Parks and Recreation will stage the 2008 Pepsi Punt, Pass & Kick competition for ages 8-15 beginning at 5 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 27 at the Livonia Community Recreation Center soccer fields, located at Five Mile and Hubbard.

Registration starts at 4:30 p.m. the day of the event, which is free.

For more information (734) 466-2410.

Boys hoop league

Beginning the week of Sept. 23, the City of Livonia

Department of Parks and Recreation will stage a fall boys basketball league at the Livonia Community Recreation Center gym.

Team placement tryouts for Division I (ages 9-11) will be from 6-7 p.m. and Division II (ages 12-14) from 7-8 p.m., both Tuesday, Sept. 9 at the LCRC. Team notification will be Tuesday, Sept. 16.

Division 1 practices will be Tuesday, Sept. 23 and 30 followed by games on Oct. 7, 14, 21, 28; Nov. 4 and 11.

Division II practices will be Thursday, Sept. 25 and Oct. 2 followed by games Oct. 9, 16, 23, 30; Nov. 6 and 11.

The registration deadline is Monday, Sept. 8 and starts Monday, Aug. 18 (LCRC pass holders); Tuesday, Aug. 19 (Livonia residents); and Thursday, Aug. 21 (non-residents) at the LCRC, located at 15100 Hubbard (at Five Mile Road).

Fees are \$49 (pass holders), \$58 (Livonia residents) and \$65 (non-residents).

For more information, call (734) 466-2900.

Girls hoop league

Beginning the week of Sept. 28, the City of Livonia Department of Parks and Recreation will stage a fall girls basketball league for ages 10-13 at the Livonia Community Recreation Center gym.

Team placement tryouts will be from 6-7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 12, followed by practices on Sept. 26 and Oct. 3. League games follow Oct. 10, 17, 24; Nov. 7, 14 and 21.

The registration deadline is Thursday, Sept. 11, and starts Monday, Aug. 18 (LCRC pass holders); Tuesday, Aug. 19 (Livonia residents); and Thursday, Aug. 21 (non-residents) at the LCRC, located at 15100 Hubbard.

Fees are \$49 (pass holders), \$58 (Livonia residents) and \$65 (non-residents).

For more information, call (734) 466-2900.

Diesels elude K'zoo Outlaws

BY CHRISTIAN YOUNG
CORRESPONDENT

After a snarling, tough first half, followed by a second-half shootout, the Detroit Diesels outgunned the Kalamazoo Outlaws, 22-13, in a Great Lakes Football League matchup Saturday at Mayor's Riverfront Park.

The Outlaws got on the board first with a touchdown pass, but the extra-point attempt was blocked.

Quarterback Andy Hess (Lutheran Westland) struck right back in the second quarter for the Diesels, with a halfback option to Venzal Russell, who then connected with Jon Craven (Farmington) for a 40-yard score. Keith Thomas ran in for the two-point conversion to take the Diesels up 8-6 at halftime.

The Outlaws, however, came right back scoring on a punt return in the third quarter.

But the Diesels retaliated when Russell leaped in the air for a long bomb from Hess. It initially looked to be broken up by the Outlaw defensive back - until Russell fought for the ball, and cut across field, winning the foot race for the end zone. He also caught the ensuing two-point pass.

Hess found Craven again for the final go-ahead touchdown early in the fourth quarter.

The Outlaws had another chance to go after them, but the Detroit defense held like a brick wall, allowing the Diesels to run out the clock. Hess finished 9-of-21 passing for 144 yards, two touchdowns, and five interceptions.

Despite those miscues, he was able to manage the game and pull out the win. Russell caught four balls for 72 yards and that wild cross-field TD, in addition to his 40-yard scoring toss, while Craven had three catches total for 61 yards and his two TDs.

Earl Blanchette led the Detroit defense with six sacks, while Dan Hayes added four. Ja'Ron Embry and Lamarr Miller had three broken up passes each.

Taking their third straight win, the Diesels (4-3 overall, 4-2 GLFL) will face an old foe in the Genesee County Patriots, beginning at 6:30 p.m. this Saturday at Livonia Franklin High School.

The original opponent, the Lenawee County Crusaders, folded, but Diesels general manager Al Seder isn't worried.

"The Patriots game should be a good tune-up for our game against the (Northwest Ohio) Knights," said the G.M., whose team will meet the Knights at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 9 at Franklin to close the home portion of their schedule.

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RELIGION CALENDAR

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

AUGUST
Vacation Bible school
 Outrigger Island continues 6:15-9 p.m. through Friday, Aug. 1, at Merriman Road Baptist Church, 2055 Merriman, Garden City. Bible stories, crafts, music, games, and snacks in a tropical paradise setting.

Free, open to ages infant to senior adult. One of the highlights of the VBS is the children's musical 6 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 3. The church offers a wide range of ministries for all ages. Sign interpretation for the deaf and nursery for young children available at all services. Call (734) 421-0472.

AMPEC election
 7:15-9 p.m. Friday, Aug. 1, at Canton Islamic Center, 40440 Palmer. Sponsored by American Muslim Political Education Committee.

Married couples retreat
 Friday-Saturday, Aug. 1-2, at Manresa Jesuit Retreat House, northwest corner Quarton Rd. and Woodward, Bloomfield Hills. For reservations, call (248) 644-4933 or visit www.manresa-sj.org.

Church bazaar
 7:30-11:30 p.m. Friday, Aug. 1, 12:30-3:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 2, and noon to 8 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 3, includes entertainment, open air market, children's games, food, raffles, petting farm and pony rides, at Sacred Heart Church, 3451 Rivard at I-75 and Mack, Detroit. Free admission. Friday night jazz concert \$20 advance, \$25 at door (313) 863-4687. For information, call (313) 831-1356 or send e-mail to sacred-heart@mcleodusa.net. Proceeds go to church benevolent fund including feeding the homeless.

Seekers of spiritual intelligence
 Beacon Hill Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) pastors show how injustices in the Bible are played out today and why God gave you a passion for justice, during the 1 p.m. Sunday worship service in August at St. Michael Lutheran Church Chapel, 7000 N. Sheldon, south of Warren, Canton (enter through south double doors next to play area) For information, call (313) 402-6900 or (313) 806-PRAY, send e-mail to beaonhillccdoc@aol.com.

New Song ministry
 Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church at 40000 W. Six Mile, Northville, hosts music and drama ministry sponsored by Geneva College, Beaver Falls, Penn. Sunday, Aug. 3, during morning and evening services. Reception follows 7 p.m. service. No charge. Call (248) 374-7400.

Carillon concert series
 10 a.m. and noon Sunday, Aug. 3, 17, 24 and 31, at Kirk in the Hills, 1340 W. Long Lake Road, Bloomfield Hills. Call (248) 625-2515 or visit www.kirkinthehills.org.

Vacation Bible School
 9 a.m. to noon Monday-Thursday, Aug. 4-7, at Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia. Call (734) 422-0149.

Tent revival
 Radio personality Robin Sullivan, vocalist Ruth Naomi Floyd and other Christian musicians along with Detroit preachers 2-7 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 9, at Resurrection Lutheran Church on Kelly Rd., one block south of 8 Mile. Health screenings offered. No charge. Call (313) 372-4902 for information.

Summer music ministry
 Hymn sings Aug. 10, Sept. 7. Family Choir, all ages invited to sing at 9 a.m. rehearsal and then morning service Aug. 24, and Sept. 7, at St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford. Call (313) 534-7730. All are welcome.

Vacation Bible school
 The Anglican Church of Livonia holds its Vacation Bible School 6:30-8:30 p.m. Tuesday-Friday, Aug. 12-15. This year's theme is Bible Beach Bash - Soak up the Son! For information, call (248) 442-0422.

Wom's retreat
 St. Michael the Archangel Parish in Livonia invites all Catholic Moms in the area to take personal time for prayer and relaxation coupled with adult discussion of topics relevant to daily faith life 8:30-10:45 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 13, and Aug. 27. Children's Ministry offered while moms enjoy Mass, continental breakfast and discussion. Cost is \$8 per session, \$2 per child for Children's Ministry care. Call (734) 261-1455, Ext. 200 or visit www.livoniaimichael.org.

Open house
 For Hosanna-Tabor Lutheran School 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 14, at 9600 Laverne, Redford. The school offers infant day care, preschool for 3-4-year olds, full day kindergarten and first-eighth grades. Call Laura at (313) 937-2233 or e-mail lgoode@hosanna-tabor.org.

Concert
 Karen Peck & New River, 2007 Grammy Award Nominee, perform 6 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 16, in the sanctuary at Joy Baptist Church, 37055 Joy Rd. at Newburgh, Westland. Admission free, but seating limited. Doors open at 5 p.m. For information, call (734) 425-0466.

Bible study
 A Word for You Bible Study continues 7 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 19, in the Green Room at the Bailey Recreation Center, 36651 Ford Rd., Westland. The one hour study includes Praise and Worship and the Word. All are welcome. For more information, call (313) 289-8336.

Summer camp
 Christ Our Savior Lutheran Early Childhood Program for Summer Camp continues to Aug. 22. The center is open 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Friday for ages 18 months to 12 years. For information, call (734) 513-8413 or drop by 14175 Farmington Road, north of I-96, Livonia.

Water works park
 For families needing all-day activity, Ward offers SHINE day camp with hours from 7 a.m. until 6 p.m. Cost is \$15, requires pre-registration. Details at wardchurch.org.

Summer day camp
 Offered by Ward Church in Northville for children entering grades 1-6, continues to Aug. 24. Hours 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. with extended care available at extra cost. Campers participate in one field trip per week with additional local outings and weekly water days. Daily elective classes include sports, drama, music, and foods. SHINE is a fully-licensed day care through

the State of Michigan Department of Human Resources. Weekly full-time registrations range from \$135 to \$165. Information available at wardchurch.org, or by calling (248) 374-5975.

Health program
 U-Count Empowered to Get Health Family Edition is an 8-week, life-changing program that promotes complete health and family development. Biblically-based classes, workshops, exercise training, and accountability. Breakout sessions for adult, youth (12-18), and kids (5-11). Informational meeting noon Saturday, Aug. 30, in R-201, at Detroit World Outreach Christian Center, 23800 W. Chicago, Redford. Opening Day 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 13, in R-201, cost \$75. Information available at (313) 255-2222 ext. 359 or sledie@dwo.org.

UPCOMING
Exploring the Catholic faith
 Starts 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 2, in Bixman Hall (church building) at St. Aidan Catholic Church, 17500 Farmington Rd., Livonia. Call (734) 425-5950.

Dorje Chang is living in America
 Presentation focusing on reincarnation of the highest leader of Buddhism, HH Dorje Chang Buddha III, 7-9 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 11, at 960 E. Jefferson, Detroit. For information, visit www.zhaxizhuoma.net/ Respected Zhaxi Zhuoma, a close disciple of HH Dorje Chang Buddha III will lead the congregation in Detroit.

Spirit of Manresa
 Dinner and auction begins with 5:30 p.m. Mass Saturday, Sept. 27, at The Marriott at Centerpoint, 3600 Centerpoint Parkway, Pontiac. Cost \$150, \$250 patron, includes dinner, silent and live auctions, dancing. Call (248) 644-4933, ext. 34 or visit www.manresa-sj.org. Manresa Jesuit Retreat House is a place of quiet, peace and prayer that seeks to help people grow in their spiritual life.

Tiny Tots Preschool
 Now enrolling for 2008-2009, openings for 3- and 4-year olds at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 39020 Five Mile, Livonia. Cost \$25 for the first child, \$20 for each child thereafter. Call (734) 464-0211.

Crafters wanted
 The Women's Guild of St. Michael Catholic Church of Livonia invites all interested crafters to participate in their annual Craft Fair and Bake Sale 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 25, in the cafeteria of St. Michael's School, 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth Rd. 8-foot-long tables are available for rent at \$25 each. Applications available at parish office or on-line at www.livoniastmichael.org. A photo of the item(s) sold must be submitted.

ONGOING
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 \$8. Call (313) 534-7730.

Eucharistic adoration
 St. Michael the Archangel Church in Livonia continues its monthly program of Prayer and Eucharistic Adoration on the third Wednesday of each month. The church will be open for prayer and private worship from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Benediction service in the evening. All are welcome. Call (734) 261-1455.

Worship schedule
 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Sunday (9:45 a.m. Sunday School), at Community Free Will Baptist Church, 33031 Cherry Hill, west of Yeno, Westland. Wednesday prayer and Bible study is 7 p.m. Youth fellowship every other Friday at 7 p.m.

Time change
 Come to hear about the love of Jesus Christ for you 9:30 a.m. Sundays (May 25 to Sept. 7) at Faith Lutheran Church, 30000 Five Mile, west of Middlebelt, Livonia. For information, visit www.livoniafaith.org.

Sunday worship
 The early service for the Anglican Church of Livonia is at 7:45 a.m. at Trinity Church, 34500 Six Mile, west of Farmington Road and next to Stevenson High School, Livonia. The 10 a.m. service will continue to be at the Livonia YMCA at 14255 Stark Road, between Lyndon and the I-96 service drive.

Reformed Protestant services
 The doctrines and teachings of solid, Reformed Protestantism are preached by the 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/rsi-worship/detroit.html.

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

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.

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.singleplace.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.

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.

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 continue every Monday. 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.

Day of service
 Began in January, a Day of Service and Spirituality will be made available by the Capuchin Soup Kitchen and the Solanus Casey Center. The purpose of the day is to serve, to meet, and to have one's faith grow. The day allows groups to help at the Capuchin Services Center and dine with guests at the Capuchin Soup Kitchen. A tour of the Earth Works urban garden, which provides six tons of produce each season, will also be made available. The day concludes with a self-guided tour of the Solanus Casey Center, a spirituality center dedicated to the Capuchin friar who is credited with miraculous cures and valued for his wise and compassionate counsel. The minimum age is 7th grade and the maximum size of the group is 30. The day starts at 8:30 a.m. and ends at 2:30 p.m. There is no cost. Lunch included. For information, send e-mail to ccrane@theapuchins.org. To learn more about the Capuchin Soup Kitchen, visit www.cskdetroit.org.

New schedule
 9 a.m. Sunday school for all ages and Faith Forum, 10 a.m. Worship Service with Communion and nursery, at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA), 30650 Six Mile, Livonia. All visitors welcome. For more information, call (734) 427-1414 or visit www.holycrosslivonia.org.

Worship Service
 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Adult Bible Class at 9:30 a.m., Children's Sunday School during worship at 10:30 a.m., at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 27035 Ann Arbor Trail, Dearborn Heights. For more information, call (313) 278-5755.



ALLEN NEIL SMITH

Ann Arbor, MI, (formerly of Plymouth, MI). Age 71, died on July 22, 2008 after a long struggle with cancer. Former husband of Dian Barnard of Plymouth, he is survived by his daughters: Andrea (Darren) Morgan of Lewis Center, OH; Melissa Ann Smith of Williamsport, PA; and Penelope (Donald) Timmer of Kettering, OH, six grandchildren, and his partner, Susan Rasmussen of Ann Arbor. Visitation on Monday, August 4th from 3:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the Muehlig Funeral Chapel, 403 Fourth Avenue, Ann Arbor, and Memorial Service on Tuesday, August 5th at 11:00 a.m., also at Muehlig's. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Single Place Ministry of First Presbyterian Church, 200 East Main Street, Northville, MI 48167.

Messages
 Obituaries, Memorials, Remembrances

1-800-579-7355 ♦ fax: 734-953-2232
 e-mail: oeobits@hometownlife.com
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EDWARD SCHOMBERGER

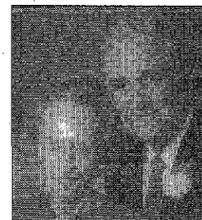
Age 78, of Plymouth, July 27, 2008. Beloved husband of Flora "Liz", Dear father of Theresa (Dan) Anteau, Edward (Florence), Mary (David) Eddington, and Margaret Johnston. Dear grandfather of seven and great-grandfather of one. Funeral service were held Wednesday 11 AM, at Vermeulen Funeral Home, 46401 W Ann Arbor Road (btwn, Plymouth, Visitation Tuesday 1-9 PM. Memorial contributions may be made to Make-A-Wish Foundation of Michigan, 230 Huron View Blvd. Ann Arbor 48103. To view obituary or share memories, please visit: vermeulenfuneralhome.com

RICHARD KOZLOW

Beloved husband of Lois Kozlow. Dear father of Amy (Dr. Eddy) Elkaim, Abby (Avi) Gruber, Rabbi Julie Kozlow and Jenny (Ricardo) Kozlow Rodriguez. Loving grandfather of David (Noemie) Elkaim, Joshua Gruber, Jordan Gruber, Chelsea (J. Nieto) Poyo, Zachary Poyo, Marley Poyo, Gabriel Rodriguez, Julian Rodriguez and Antonio Rodriguez. Cherished brother of Robert A. (Carol) Kozlow. Dearest brother-in-law of the late Ruth West, the late Mildred Wayburn and the late Joel Feinberg. SERVICES 10:30 FRIDAY MORNING AT THE IRA KAUFMAN CHAPEL, (248) 569-0020. INTERMENT AT CLOVER HILL PARK CEMETERY. www.irakaufman.com.

SUZETTE WEST PISTAGNESI

Age 80, of South Lyon, passed July 27, 2008. Funeral Service Thurs., July 31, 11am at Casterline Funeral Home, Inc. 59255 10 Mile Road, South Lyon.



WIN FACKNITZ

July 24, 2008, age 86, of Farmington Hills. The eldest son of Albert and Martha, born and baptized in Barth, Germany August 12, 1921. Win immigrated to Hamtramck through Ellis Island in 1926 and was raised in Centerline. He married the love of his life, Anna Pedersen October 2, 1942. "She was beautiful and she would be a wonderful mother of his children," he would say. He served in the Army as an occupational counselor at the end of WWII, and had a 40 year career in the Carboloy division of General Electric until his retirement in 1983. Win loved his family, his Lord, "up north" vacations, fishing and German celebrations. Through his woodworking hobby he fashioned clocks and toys for his grandchildren. Win is survived by his beloved wife Anna; daughters Christina (Hugh) McMartin and Lisa (Rod-recently deceased) Minto; grandchildren Erika (Kenny) Ingle, Amy Thompson, Bradley (Paula) McMartin and Alissa (Martin) Bocks; great-grandchildren, Cameron and Donovan Ingle, Anna and Sara Thompson, and Caitlin and Emma Bocks; sisters-in-law Wilma, Geraldine, and Julianne Facknitz, as well as many nieces, nephews, and friends. Win was preceded in death by his parents; brothers Alvin, Arnold, and Konrad and great-grandson Luca Nayus Ingle. Visitation will be held for Win at 10am Saturday, August 2 until time of memorial service 11am, Hope Lutheran Church, 39200 W. 12 Mile Rd., Farmington Hills. Pastor Brad Gee officiating. Memorial contributions in Win's name may be made to Hope Lutheran Church.

JOSEPHINE NAEI

Of Livonia, MI. Passed away with her loving family around her on July 26, 2008. Josephine was born in New York City on March 10, 1922 to Roy and Frances Browner. She married her sweetheart Wilfrid on October 5, 1946 in Detroit, MI. She is survived by her son Patrick (Tina) of Lapeer and daughter-in-law Cheryl of Whitmore Lake, grandchildren Adam and Audrey, sister Regi Kovak and brother-in-law George. Josephine is preceded in death by her husband Wilfrid, son Michael and sister Delores. A Mass of Christian Burial will take place on Thursday, July 31, 2008 at 10 AM at St. Damian's Catholic Church in Westland. Donations are suggested to Angela Hospice, envelopes will be available at the church where the family will receive friends from 9 AM until the time of service. Please leave a message of comfort to Josephine's family by calling 877-231-7900 or sign her guestbook at www.borekjennings.com

JUDITH M. GRODEK

July 29, 2008, Age 68, Livonia, MI. Service St. Edith Catholic Church, Livonia. Visitation Fred Wood Funeral Home, Livonia, MI

KIMBERLY J. MANOOGIAN

Age 50, of Farmington Hills, MI, passed July 26, 2008. Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington, MI

LOIS M. KUFFEL

Age 81, of Milford formerly of Farmington Hills, died July 28, 2008. Loving mother of Sandy (the late Richard d. 1996) Clodfelter, Sue (the late Pat d. 1999) Quiney, Mike (Carolyn) and the late Don (Linda) d. 2002. Dear grandmother of Darcy (Tim), Tracey, Lisa, Richard, Beth, Patrick (Stephanie), Ben and Peter. Sister of Avis (Bob) Skelley and Gus (Anne) Amundson. Also leaves many loving nieces, nephews, extended family members and dear friends. Lois worked for the Farmington Hills Post Office for 20 years. A Funeral Service will be held at Lynch & Sons Funeral Home, 404 E. Liberty, Milford, Friday, August 1, 2008 at 3 PM with Rev. Gregg Mayberry officiating. Burial Milford Memorial Cemetery. Friends may visit Thursday 3-9 PM. Memorials to the Arthritis Foundation. For further information call 248-684-6645 or visit www.LynchFuneralDirectors.com.

Mrs. JOYCE McROBERT "Grandma Sam"

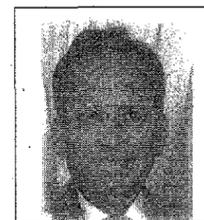
Passed away on July 28, surrounded by her family at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ann Arbor, MI following a lengthy illness. She was born on December 12, 1920 in Petrolia, Ontario, Canada. Joyce was preceded in death by her husband Donald on November 30, 1995. Grandma Sam was a member of Dearborn Baptist Temple, Fordson Chapter Order of the Eastern Star and the Rainbow Hues. She is survived by her loving children; son, Michael (Patty) McRobert of Butler, IN, and her daughter, Joanne Zavis of Dearborn, MI, her cherished extended family; Amy Densted, David (Carie) Darkowski, Christine Densted, Kerri Svenson, Zach Nick and Kayla. Funeral services for Joyce were held on July 30 at the Higginson & Neal Funeral Home, 209 Main Street, Belleville, MI 734-697-9400.. Interment followed at Roseland Park Cemetery in Berkley, MI. Memorial contributions in Joyce's name are suggested to Heartland Hospice, 3840 Packard Rd, Ann Arbor, MI 48108. www.hnhfhome.com



CATHERINE McDONALD

Loving mother, grandmother and wife, died Monday at her home in Westland. Catherine, or Cathie, was born July 27, 1934, in Glasgow, Scotland, to James Archer, a manufacturer for Singer Sewing Machines, and Annie Archer, a homemaker. Raised in Glasgow, Cathie was the youngest of nine children, including her identical twin sister, Charlotte. Cathie was just entering grade school at the outbreak of World War II, and she and her family were often evacuated to underground shelters during air raids. She and her twin sister were briefly sent to live with a family in the countryside before being retrieved by their mother Annie, who couldn't bear to be separated from her children. In 1955, at the age of 20, Cathie decided to emigrate to America. She was sponsored by her older sister May, who had made the journey years earlier, and May's husband, Robert Sinnerton. Cathie sailed on the Queen Elizabeth Two, arriving in New York with \$13 in her purse. In March of 1956, Cathie met her husband-to-be, Hugh "Red" McDonald, at Patterson's drug store in downtown Detroit. They were engaged to be married by October of that year. Within weeks, Red was drafted into the U.S. Army. Knowing a good thing when she saw it, Cathie waited two years for her fiance's return. Red was discharged from service on October 15, 1958. Red and Cathie were married at St. Gregory's church on October 25 - ten days later. On March 8, 1960, Cathie gave birth to the couple's first child, Carol Ann. On January 17, 1961, came their second, Kenneth James. In 1970, the family moved from Detroit to neighboring Redford Township. Their third child, Glenn Michael, was born May 11, 1971. For many years, Cathie worked as a data technician for the accounting firm Ernst & Ernst, but spent most of her time raising the children and making a home for the family. Cathie was active in her church and community, and known as an avid and impossibly lucky bingo player. In 1991, Red and Cathie retired to their home in Westland. In addition to her husband and children, Cathie is survived by brother Freddie, of Westland Michigan; sister Patricia, of Largo, Florida; and sister Charlotte, of Glasgow, Scotland. Cathie had six grandchildren: Aaron, Cole, Declan, Emme, Jennifer and Jessica; and one great-grandchild, Mya. Visitation will be from 1 pm to 4 pm, and 6 pm to 8 pm, Wednesday at Griffin Funeral Home, 7707 Middlebelt Road, Westland. In state 11:30 am until the funeral service at 12 pm Thursday at St. Damian Catholic Church, 30055 Joy Road, Westland. Memorial contributions in Cathie's name to Beaumont Hospice service are greatly appreciated.

In Memory Of



IN MEMORY OF
 Dr. KURUVILLA ZACHARIAS

Passed away August 1, 2006. So be loved & missed very much. Love you always! Your wife Mariann

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A priest for peace goes to war

BY LUIS CARLOS MONTALVÁN
CORRESPONDENT

Jesuit priest the Rev. Timothy Meier does not exactly fit the typical profile of a soldier serving in a war zone. And yet Meier, director of the Honors Program in Biology at Stanford University, was mobilized to go to Iraq on June 30.

"I never dreamed of being a soldier," said Meier, 52. "I never, ever dreamt it. I was a kid during Vietnam and felt it a mistake for us to be there. I saw people mutilated from the war. My cousin, George, was severely wounded, his right arm damaged along with other wounds, and still walks with a perpetual limp."

Meier never thought he would become a Jesuit priest, either.

"Who wants to not be married and vow to a life of poverty?" Meier said with a chuckle.

Born in Detroit and raised in Farmington Hills, Meier worked seven days a week at his local parish and at a racket club doing administrative work to help pay his tuition to University of Detroit High School, where he graduated as class valedictorian.

It was after completing bachelor of arts degrees in biology and music with honors from Kalamazoo College that Meier decided to become a priest. And it was while on foreign study in Spain that he felt compelled to become a Jesuit. From

1978-80, he was a Jesuit Novice. In 1982, Meier received a Master of Arts in Philosophy from Loyola University of Chicago. He was then sent to La Specola Vaticana, the Vatican Astronomical Observatory, in Castel Gandolfo, Italy, where the pope has his summer residence.

While there, Meier identified 700 late-type red giant stars near the center of the galaxy. He also had the privilege of singing an a capella solo for Pope John Paul II at a Mass in his private chapel at the 17th-century Castel Gandolfo near Rome. The pope was still recovering from gunshot wounds he sustained in an assassination attempt the previous year.

"Every night I would walk to the heights of a spiral staircase of the medieval castle because I learned the acoustics were incredible. One day, some Polish children, who were visiting Pope John Paul II, heard me singing. For a few weeks we got to know one another and would sing together," said Meier.

One day, Meier was summoned to the Pope's private residence in the castle where he celebrated Mass. The pontiff had heard Meier's mellifluous tenor voice and the then 26-year-old was asked to sing at a Mass celebrated by John Paul II for a group of Canadian pilgrims. Afterwards, the pope gave him a modest pen and a photograph of Meier with the pontiff.

In 1984, Meier attended

Georgetown University and earned a master's of science in Biology (immunology), graduating again with distinction.

From 1984 to 2004, Meier vigorously pursued his studies. He was a Jesuit Fellow in Biology at John Carroll University in Cleveland Heights, Ohio.

From 1990-91, he attended the Weston Jesuit School of Theology in Cambridge, Mass., earning masters' degrees in divinity and theology. In 1998 and 1999, Meier received his Ph.D. in Biological Sciences (molecular neurobiology) and a post-doctoral degree in molecular virology from Stanford University. From 2002-04, Meier earned his post-doc in molecular neurobiology from Stanford, where he has been undergraduate research coordinator and director of the biology department's honors program since 2004.

"It is a joy to mentor students who are so dedicated to the pursuit of scientific research and advancement. They challenge me and I them. It is such a privilege," Meier said.

In 2006, Meier was commissioned a captain in the Chaplain Corps of United States Army Reserve. Later that year, he was transferred into the California Army National Guard. While at Stanford, Meier taught, coached and mentored R.O.T.C. cadets who studied there but travelled to train in military science elsewhere.



The Rev. Timothy Meier is a Jesuit priest and a U.S. Army captain now serving as a chaplain in Iraq. He served Mass at Our Lady of Victory Church in Northville shortly before leaving for the war-torn country in June.

The kind of help that cadets and soldiers want and need of chaplains these days is rare.

A shortage of chaplains, who give invaluable counsel to soldiers in times of stress and personal hardship, comes at a time when the number of suicides among active-duty U.S. soldiers has seen a sharp increase.

According to a statement given at the American Psychiatric Association's annual meeting in Washington on May 5, Thomas Insel, the U.S. government's top psychiatric researcher and director of the National Institute of Mental Health in Bethesda, Md., said, "The number of suicides among veterans of wars in Iraq and Afghanistan

may exceed the combat death toll because of inadequate mental health care."

Army Capt. Meier knows he is unarmed in a dangerous place where his entire life's experiences will be put to the test.

"My goal in Iraq is to provide spiritual comfort to women and men who place themselves in harm's way," Meier said.

Meier is the son of Tom and Nancy Meier of Northville.

Luis Carlos Montalván is a former Army cavalry captain who served two tours in Iraq and is recovering in New York from various wounds sustained in combat. Meier is his Catholic priest and spiritual counselor.

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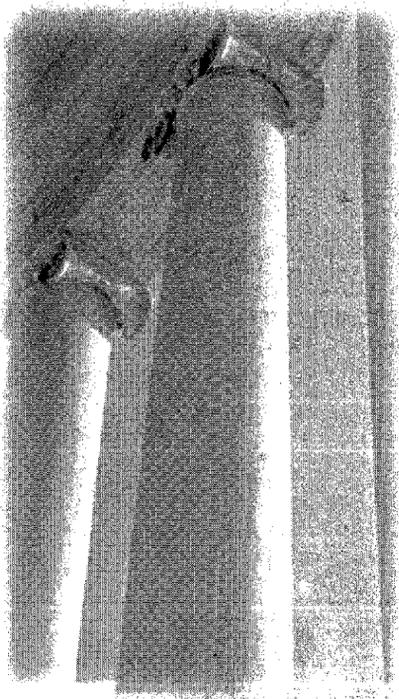
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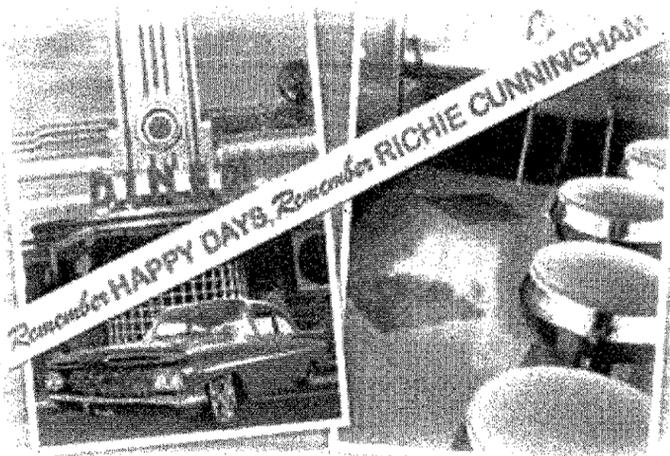
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3RD Judicial Circuit-Wayne County, Michigan



*"A Judge Should Not Be Inexperienced;
He Should Have Learned To Know Evil,
Not From His Own Soul,
But From Late And Long Observation
Of The Nature Of Evil In Others;
Knowledge Should Be His Guide,
Not Personal Experience."*

PLATO



Former Recorder's Court Judge **Richard Cunningham** is seeking election to the office of Wayne County Circuit Court Judge. He is one of eleven candidates seeking three open seats. His professional experience, demonstrated leadership and commitment to public service make him uniquely qualified for this important position.

Richard Cunningham is currently an attorney in private practice. His 29 year legal career includes service as an Assistant Wayne County Prosecutor, a trial court judge, an ethics prosecutor for the Attorney Grievance Commission, and staff attorney for the Veterans Administration. *Michigan Lawyers Weekly* named him an "Attorney Of The Year" in 2000. His exemplary judicial service was recognized by a major newspaper, which noted that he was among the 10 Michigan judges least likely to be reversed.

Richard Cunningham serves as an elected member of the Board Of Commissioners (the board of directors) of the State Bar of Michigan. He previously served two terms on the State Bar Representative Assembly. Other professional leadership positions include a term as President of the Criminal Law Section of the State Bar and three terms as Chairperson of Criminal Law Section of the Detroit Metropolitan Bar Association. He is a Trustee of the DMBA Foundation, and a Fellow of the State Bar Foundation.

Richard Cunningham is dedicated to the principle of "due process" for those accused of crimes, but has demonstrated his sensitivity and concern for crime victims. He has served as a member of the Board of Directors of Save Our Sons And Daughters (SOSAD) and on the National Board of Parents Of Murdered Children, Inc.

Richard Cunningham is involved in the community. He is the Vice-Chair of the Board of Directors for U-SNAP-BAC, a non-profit housing corporation. He is a graduate of Belleville High School, and was recognized in 2004 with a "Distinguished Graduate" award. He has served as an adjunct instructor at Henry Ford Community College.



Rated OUTSTANDING - Detroit Metropolitan Bar Association

This is the highest rating available to a candidate for judicial office. Richard Cunningham is the only one of the eleven candidates for this office to receive the "Outstanding" rating.

Major Endorsements Include

- THE DETROIT NEWS (Editorial endorsement on July 18, 2008)
- THE DETROIT FREE PRESS (Editorial Endorsement on July 24, 2008)
- MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION OF POLICE ORGANIZATIONS

Military Service

Richard Cunningham served our country as a combat infantryman in Viet Nam. He is a member of the Viet Nam Veterans of America and a Life Member of the Veterans Of Foreign Wars (VFW)

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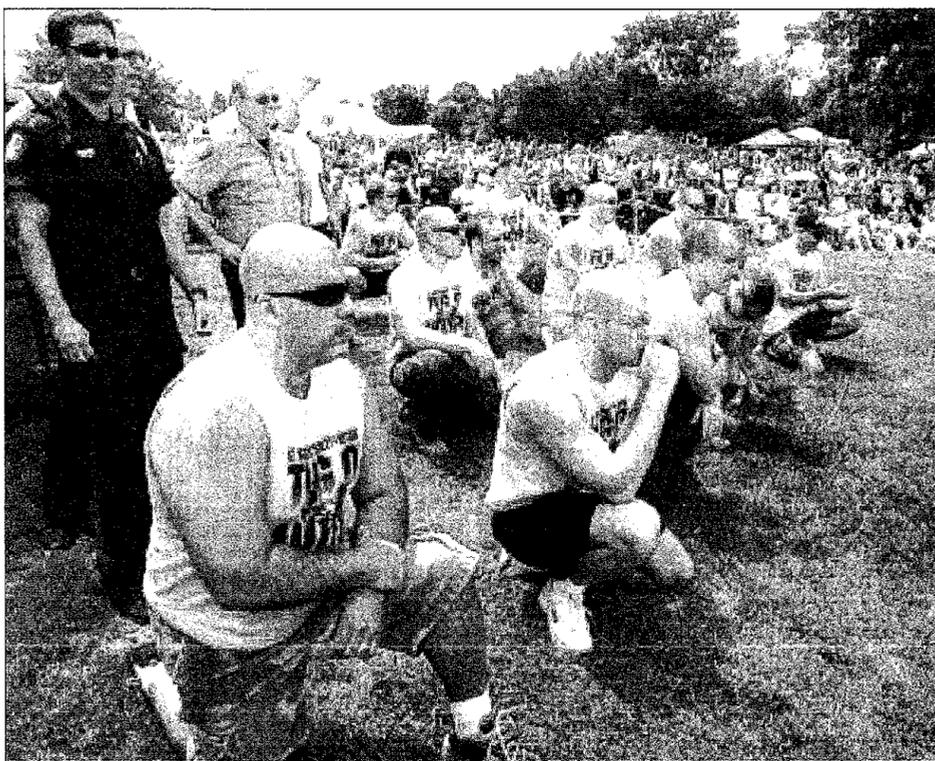
Chef Michelle Bommarito waxes on healthy eating at Concours d'Elegance

The St. Andrew's Society 159th Annual Highland Games

Livonia Firefighters ready to cream Marines



The big burly type will be showing off their strength in the traditional contests.



Who will win the tug-of-war at the Highland Games? The Livonia firefighters? The Harley riders? The Marine Corps or the Army?

Event takes place at Highland Games - Royal Oak woman crowned queen

BY LANA MINI
OGE STAFF WRITER

Livonia Fire Captain Robert Simmons was ready to do some Marine Corps trash-talking.

Relax, he means no disrespect, it's all in good fun. Besides, Simmons has to regain his team's title. The Livonia Firefighters lost a tug-of-war contest to the U.S. Marine Corps last year. It was the first time in four years the firefighters were defeated.

"But we're taking a different approach this year," Simmons said, treading carefully not to reveal too much of his strategic tug-of-war secrets. See the event at The 159th Annual Highland Games, taking place Aug. 1-2 at Historic Greenmead Village in Livonia.

"We have a 300-pound anchor (a firefighter) who will have the rope tied around his waist," Simmons said.

Other than that there's no gloves, no spiked shoes — just strength.

Each team is permitted 2,200 pounds of weight — which could mean about 12 men weighing 183 pounds — or fewer men with a lot more muscle.

The firefighters will pull against the Marines. The Harley-Davidson group will pull against the U.S. Army and then the two winners will pull for the title.

Simmons is coaching his team. The fun begins with a Scottish party on Friday, Aug. 1. Saturday,

Aug. 2 are the games. Highland Games is the longest, continuous running Scottish festival in North America and is organized strictly through volunteers.

The tug-of-war begins at 1:15 p.m. on Saturday.

And there's beauty. Fiona Dohanyos of Royal Oak was crowned queen of the games. Her Scottish roots are traced to clans Buchanan and Ramsay.

"I'm so excited," Dohanyos said. "The group does a lot for many charitable organizations and I want to be a part of that ongoing effort."

Proceeds from the games go to many charities.

A cosmetology student, Dohanyos said she wants to carry the independent spirit of Scots throughout her life and help people everywhere.

IT'S ALL COMPETITION

During the games, there will be Scottish music; athletic games; bagpipe, drumming and dance competitions; parades including clans from across the country, and food.

The highlights though are the hulks.

The games include massive men who are among the Earth's strongest who toss large stones, hammers and the popular caber.

"We're fortunate to have most of the continent's top performers coming to compete year after

Please see **GAMES, D5**

THE ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY 159TH ANNUAL HIGHLAND GAMES

Where: Historic Greenmead Village; 20501 Newburgh Road, Livonia

When: Friday and Saturday, Aug. 1-2

Parking: It's hard to find at the village after 11 a.m. on Saturday. Park at Schoolcraft College on Haggerty between Six and Seven Mile roads. Free shuttle every five minutes.

What is it: Heavy athletic games, genealogy and clan tents, Scottish food, music, dancing and bagpipe contests, vendors, kids games, and a lot more Scottish fun.

Special: The event is handicapped accessible.

Tickets: For Saturday, \$15 at the door, \$10 in advance with free admission for kids under 12. Purchase at www.highlandgames.com

For the Friday Ceilidh, tickets must be purchased in advance, \$15. Ceilidh (pronounced kay-lee) is a traditional Scottish party with food, drink and entertainment.

Hours: 5 to 11 p.m. Friday; 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday; Register for amateur athletic and drumming games at 8:30 a.m. Saturday.

Details: (734) 742-4100. See full schedule at www.highlandgames.com



Fiona Dohanyos was crowned at the Highland Games. Her goal is to preserve her heritage and better the community.

Farmington Hills hosts Johnny Cash tribute

He's the ultimate cool guy — Johnny Cash.

The man in black will be remembered tonight as the Farmington Hills "Stars in the Park" series features Terry Lee Goffee, known as the "ultimate" Johnny Cash tribute artist.

The concert at Heritage Park begins at 7:30 p.m. where you will hear Cash's most popular songs including *Ring of Fire*.

Goffee grew up admiring Cash's music. One of his great-

est thrills was when he was performing and Cash's brother and sister attended the show. Joanne Cash Yates told him, "you don't impersonate my brother; you pay tribute to him with honor."

The concert takes place in the new amphitheater, opened last month, situated in a grassy "bowl" with outdoor acoustics. Heritage Park is located at 24915 Farmington Road, just south of I-1 Mile.

Call (248) 473-1848.

-L. Mini

Count On Kidpalooza at Kellogg Park

Plymouth's Kellogg Park will surely be kid central 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 2, in celebration of Kidpalooza. Participating youngsters are invited to embark on a Treasure Hunt through the downtown shopping district, where they'll play games, watch kid-friendly street performers and earn prizes.

"This is really about families discovering the treasures of downtown Plymouth," said Jessica Perlman, event chair. "It's exciting to be doing something new and different."

To participate, stop by Kellogg Park any time after 10 a.m. and register. Activities are meant for children 6-12, though all ages are welcome. Child care will not be provided. Call (734) 455-1453 or visit www.downtownplymouth.org.

-S. Casola

Top Chefs work to end hunger

Talented chef Rich Travis of Tribute restaurant in Farmington Hills gathers six top chefs from the Detroit-area and around the country to create a masterful menu paired with exquisite wines for Share Our Strength's *A Taste of Pursuit* presented by Lexus, on Monday, Aug. 4.

Funds raised from the high-end dinner and auction will support Share Our Strength's efforts to end childhood hunger in America. Other chefs include: Steve Allen and Chuck "Rocky" Rachwit of Steve & Rocky's in Novi; Brian Polcyn of Five Lakes Grill in Milford; Greg Stroker, pastry chef of Tribute Restaurant in Farmington Hills; Bradford Thompson of Lever House in New York; and Don Yamauchi of Porté Restaurant in Birmingham.

Also special guest Tony Abou-Ganim, The Modern Mixologist of Bar Milano in New York, will demonstrate his cocktail craft. Each chef will prepare a course.

The live auction will be conducted by Billy Harris, one of the country's most sought-after corporate entertainers. Guests can bid on culinary and travel items.

Tickets are \$150 each. Tribute is located at 31425 W. 12 Mile in Farmington Hills. Reservations can be made by visiting: www.strength.org/atp_detroit or calling (248) 848-9393.

-L. Mini

Birmingham appraiser featured on 'Antiques Roadshow'

ANTIQUES ROADSHOW

What: The popular PBS show stops in Michigan
When: Saturday, Aug. 9
Where: DeVos Place, 303 Monroe Ave. NW, Grand Rapids
Tickets: Distributed earlier this summer based on a random drawing. For more information, visit http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/roadshow/cities/grandrapids_2009.html. Only those with tickets may enter, and they may bring two items for appraisal.
Watch: Season 13 will begin airing Monday, Jan. 5, 2009 on PBS stations.

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA
OGE STAFF WRITER

Birmingham's Caroline Ashleigh grew up surrounded by art, antiques and collectibles in her Michigan home. She was bound for a career steeped in art and culture. And since the popular PBS program *Antiques Roadshow* got its start, she's been featured as an appraiser, circling the country in search of American treasures.

On Aug. 9, the show will film in Grand Rapids. According to Erika Denn, a marketing executive with WGBH in Boston, this marks a notable return. *Antiques Roadshow* filmed in Southfield in 1996, for an episode that aired in

its first season the following year.

Antiques Roadshow serves as a sort of Americana treasure hunt, drawing people from across the country who bring their collectibles, heirlooms and more to be appraised by experts like Ashleigh.

Born to parents who were avid collectors, she said: "I decided really early on I wanted to pursue a career in art." She worked at her parent's shop, Noah's Ark Antiques in New Hudson, Mich., to gain practical experience and earned her bachelor's degree in art history from the University of Boulder, Colo.

After working as an art dealer on Rodeo Drive, Ashleigh

Please see **ROADSHOW, D3**



Birmingham appraiser Caroline Ashleigh (right) estimates this 18th Century men's embroidered vest is worth between \$3,000 and \$5,000, during a Season 12 episode of "Antiques Roadshow" in Baltimore.

JEFF DUNN

Lebanese Fest includes ethnic bazaar, music, dance and comedy

The Lebfest in downtown Birmingham's Shain Park was so popular last year - that this year the festival has expanded.

Last year, it was held during the week. This year it has a precious weekend spot - all day and evening Friday and Saturday August 1 and 2. This year there's even more entertainment that celebrates the music, food, culture, dance, crafts and art of Lebanon and the Lebanese American community.

The musical mix is interesting - from jazz to a master oud player (a stringed instrument with an exotic sound) to music performed by several Lebanese divas.

The event kicks off with some Motown. Detroit's Martha Reeves will sing the National Anthem on Friday.

The festival is organized by the Lebanese American Chamber of Commerce.

"I'm so glad that Birmingham welcomed us back so warmly this year," John Akouri, the chamber chairman said.

Presented by Mezza Mediterranean Grille, the second annual event - is also known as a *Mahrujan* - which is Lebanese for festival.

There's also dabke dance (Lebanon's national dance) and traditional bellydance performances.

The festival is influenced by the Baalbeck International Festival of Lebanon that includes classical music, dance, theater, jazz, and modern world music.

In Birmingham there will be *An Evening of Lebanese Stars* featuring Jimmy A & his Rat Pack Rollers (paying homage to American greats); heart-throb teenage male singer Lance Attalla and teen sensation Ashley Peters; popular Lebanese

singers Amalia Kaddo and Soumaya Aziz; energetic Arabic performers Bassam Saleh and Usama Baalbaki; the Our Lady of Lebanon Dabke Troupe, Detroit Bellydance, jazz by Eric Watson, actor Alex Safi, New York veteran comedian George Saba, Oud player Karim Badr and others.

"This year we have a true national presence," Akouri said. "Attending will be film directors, national book authors, international singers. The support we are seeing locally and regionally - including the Lt. Governor (and his wife who is Lebanese), and the arrival of dignitaries, diplomats and celebrities is a nice attest to the work that we do."

Well-known faces who will attend: Honorary Chairman of the Festival Host Committee this year is Detroit Pistons Trainer Mike Abdenour. The 2008 LEBFEST Grand Marshall is NFL Great Lomas Brown, who will officially

cut the ribbon to open the concert. The former Detroit Lion will be joined by US Ambassador Sam Zakhem, Lt. Governor John Cherry, Secretary of State Terri Lynn Land, Wayne County Executive Bob Ficano, Southfield Mayor Brenda Lawrence, Detroit Red Wings singer Karen Newman, WNIC Radio Personality Kevin O'Neill, Miss Michigan 2006 Angela Marie Corsi, Lebanese Consul General Bachir S. Tawk and Birmingham Mayor Donald Carney.

As part of the closing ceremonies, the Lebanese American Chamber of Commerce is hosting a screening at the Landmark Maple Art Theatre in Bloomfield Township, of a yet-to-be released film shot entirely on location in Beirut, on Sunday, August 3, at 12:30 p.m.

Director Deborah Harse will attend that screening and discuss the film. Seating is limited to the first 400 guests.

LEBFEST

What: Lebfest 2008, the Lebanese Festival

Where: Shain Park, Birmingham at Bates, Merrill, Martin, and Henrietta streets, just west of Woodward and south of Maple.

When: 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday and Saturday, August 1 and 2

Admission: Free

Details: Visit (248) 320-7300 or www.lebanesefestival.org

Special details: Guests are encouraged to bring a lawn chair or blanket to sit on to enjoy the concert. Opening ceremonies take place Friday at 7 p.m.

Events: Singers, food, bellydance, dabke dance, shopping area & more

Woodward Dream Cruise music

The Woodward Dream Cruise has an official song. It's all about stopping and going and checking out the sights at the country's biggest love it or hate it car cruise.

The song *Drive On!* was created by metro Detroit recording artist RG Dempster and features music by accomplished musicians Johnny Trudell and Richard Becker.

The single has that 1950s feeling, and soon an entire album will follow.

Hear and purchase it at detroitrocksna.cc, or www.woodwarddreamcruise.com.

- L. Mini

The Great Art-doors

The Village of Rochester Hills will transform into an open air art gallery once again for its Summer Fine Art at the Village festival, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 2 and noon-6 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 3 at the corner of Adams and Walton roads in Rochester Hills.

More than 100 artists will present works in a wide array of media for this juried event.

"We believe the beautiful and relaxed atmosphere of the Village of Rochester Hills is the perfect setting to view artwork of this caliber and meet the artists," said Donna Beaubien, executive director of the festival. "Along with enjoying the exciting fine art and fine crafts, patrons can stroll the tree lined streets and visit the over 50 intriguing shop and restaurants. Children can enjoy the playground and participate in the free arts and crafts activities." Visit www.FineArtAtTheVillage.com.

- S. Casola



Arts and Apples in Rochester

In a recent edition of FILTER, we failed to include The National City Art and Apples Festival among a list of upcoming local art fairs. Presented by Paint Creek Center for the Arts, the 43rd annual festival will take place Sept. 5-7 in Rochester Park, located in downtown Rochester. To find out more about the state's second largest juried

- S. Casola

8 great works

Barebones Theatre Productions offers 8X8@8, an evening featuring eight plays by eight local playwrights beginning at 8 p.m. and running Aug. 6-8 at the Ringwald Theatre, 22742 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. Company Founder and Rochester Hills resident John Rutherford has assembled a cast of 10 local actors to feature this collection of funny and dramatic works centered on intimate and relatable moments in interpersonal relationships. The works are: *Blockbuster* by Birmingham's Kitty Dublin; *How Many Chuck's Would* by Pontiac's Janet Torreano Pound; *Last Call* by Farmington's Jan Radcliff; *The Tide That Binds* by Rutherford; *Subtext* by Beverly Hills' own Kim Carney; *Revelation* by David McGregor of Brighton and *Housewife With An Attitude* by M.V. Patton of Ferndale. Tickets \$10-\$15, call (586) 215-7538 or e-mail btptix@gmail.com.

- S. Casola

art fair, visit www.artandapples.com or stay tuned to FILTER.

Chopper Show Detroit Revs into Corktown

Choppers, custom motorcycles, art enthusiasts, rock music devotees, entertainers and barbecue connoisseurs will roll into Corktown Tavern 3 p.m. Aug. 9 for the fourth annual Chopper Show Detroit. Bikers are welcome to view motorcycles created by customs by Ron Finch, Keith Coleman and Garage Built, or ride in and compete for Chopper and Custom Class trophies. The event also features an art exhibit, live music, a fashion show with vintage wear from Mother Fletchers and performances by The Motor City Dolls. Foxy Fearless will offer a Burlesque Tribute to Tiger Stadium, while The Chanteuse From Crud hosts an R-rated dunk tank.

Corktown Tavern is located at 1716 Michigan Ave. in Detroit. Call (248) 924-0298 or visit www.choppershowdetroit.com.

- W. Von Buskirk

Illuminated Pleasures in Ferndale

The public is invited from 6-9 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 2, to Lawrence Street Gallery in Ferndale for the opening reception of this vintage-inspired show that runs through Aug. 30.

Artist Larry Zdeb of Troy and Gene Smith, formerly of Michigan and now in North Carolina, say "Objects d'Art" is an exploration into the past. The artists use vintage found objects as a major component in their constructions along with elements of data, randomness and chance. Layer after layer, the surfaces of these constructions reveal a variety of stimulating possibilities to the viewer.

Lawrence Street Gallery is located at 22620 Woodward, two blocks south of Nine Mile. Call (248) 544-0394, or visit www.lawrencestreetgallery.com.

- L. Mini

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ART

Art Leaders Gallery: "Art of Championships" Red Wing Victory Painting and more by Malcolm Farley, through Aug. 30, 33030 Northwestern Hwy., West Bloomfield, (248) 539-0262, www.artleaders.com.
Biddle Gallery: "13th Annual Climate Controlled Art Fair," through Sept. 12, 2840 Biddle Ave., Wyandotte, (734) 281-4779, www.biddlegallery.com.
Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center: Ruth Adler Schneer, open now; monotype prints by Dorothy Anderson Grow, through Aug. 29; Marie Woo, opening Sept. 21, 1515 Cranbrook Highway, through Sept. 12, 2840 Biddle Ave., www.BBARTCenter.org, (248) 644-0866.
Birmingham Conference Center: Abstract Landscape Paintings by Joy Huyck, Aug. 2-29, 31301 Evergreen Road, Birmingham.
Birmingham Unitarian Church: "People, Places & Things: From Realism to Abstraction," Aug. 29-Sept. 5, artist reception 6-9 p.m. Sept. 5, 38651 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills, (248) 647-2380.
Bohemian National Home Gallery: "SOMENEWORK featuring Diana May and Robin Sommers," through Aug. 1, 3009 Tillman, Detroit, (313) 525-5253, www.jeromium.com/bohouser.htm.
CPop: "Persons of Interest" with Bask and Tes One, through mid-August; Celebrate the release of the book "Please God Save Us," featuring Derek Hess and Kent Smith, 6-9 p.m. Aug. 1, 4160 Woodward, Detroit, (313) 833-9901, www.cpop.com.
Focus HOPE Gallery: Focus on the Mission, teen photography, through Aug. 29, The Gallery is located on the second floor of the Center for Advanced Technologies, 1400 Oakman Blvd., Detroit, (313) 494-4376.
Habatat Galleries: "From the Belkin Collection," through Aug. 14, 4400 Fernlee Ave., Royal Oak, (248) 554-0590, www.habatat.com.
Krepp Art Museum: "Silk Road to Clipper Ship: Trade, Changing Markets, and East Asian Ceramics," through Aug. 1, Michigan State University, East Lansing, (517) 355-7631, www.artmuseum.msu.edu.
Livonia Arts Commission: Liz & Bill Oliver, Mixed Media/Sculpture, Aug. 230, Fine Arts Gallery, second floor; Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile Road, (734) 466-2490; Livonia Arts Commissioners, mixed media, and "Collections," Aug. 2-29, Livonia City Hall, 33000 Civic Center Drive, (734) 466-2540.
Paint Creek Center for the Arts: "Uneasy" group show, through Aug. 9, Tim Johnstone, through Aug. 9, "Domestic Bliss, Aug. 22-Sept. 20 with closing reception 6-9 p.m. Sept. 19 and Gallery Talk 2 p.m. Sept. 20, 407 Pine, Rochester, (248) 651-4110, www.pccart.org.
The Print Gallery: "Scott Lesh Visual Music Series," through Aug. 30, 29173 Northwestern Hwy., Southfield, (248) 356-5454, www.everythingart.com.
Russell Industrial Center: "Image Meets Text" with The Sugar People, Aug. 9, Detroit.
Susanne Hillberry Gallery: "Judy Linn," through Aug. 9, 700 Livernois, Ferndale, (248) 541-4700, www.susannehillberrygallery.com.

BOARDS
Borders Birmingham: Daniel Silva, "Moscow Rules" (G.P. Putnam; Aug. 2008) 2 p.m. Aug. 2; Birmingham native Susan Shapiro, "Only As Good As Your Word: Writing Lessons From My Favorite Literary Gurus" and Liza Monroy,



"Mexican High," 6 p.m. Aug. 6, 34300 Woodward Ave., (248) 203.0005.
CPop Gallery: Detroit artist Derek Hess and Cleveland politician Kent Smith will sign their new socio-political art tome "Please God Save Us," (\$25, Strhess Press) during release party, Q&A and signing 6-9 p.m. Aug. 1, 4160 Woodward Ave., www.cpopgallery.com, www.strhesspress.com.
Westland Public Library: Vickie Stringer, "Still Dirty," 7 p.m. Aug. 7, 6123 Central City Parkway, (734) 326-6123.

CLASSICAL
Plymouth Symphony League: Entertainment book sale, with coupons for entertainment purposes, purchase a 2009 book and get a 2008 book free while supplies last, (734) 451-2112, www.plymouthsymphony.org.

CLUBS
The Ark: Shawn Mullins, July 31; Del McCoury Band, Aug. 1; Mustards Retreat, Aug. 2; Goldmine Pickers, Aug. 3, 316 S. Main Street, Ann Arbor, www.theark.org.
Crofoot Ballroom: The Medic Droid, Aug. 19, 1. South Saginaw, Pontiac, (248) 858-9333.
Magic Bag: Natives of the New Dawn, Aug. 1; The Supersuckers, Aug. 5; Matthew Marsh CD Release Party with Liz Larin, Aug. 15; The Backbeats, Aug. 16; Steve Lukather, Aug. 21; Gaelic Storm, Sept. 12; Brian Vander Ark, Sept. 26, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale, (248) 544-3030, www.themagicbag.com.
Plymouth Coffee Bean: Open mic 7:30-10:30 p.m. Mondays, 884 Pennington, Plymouth, myspace.com/plymouthcoffeebean.
The Shelter: Anthony Green, Aug. 8; Good Old War, Aug. 8, 431 E. Congress, Detroit, (313) 961-MELT.

COMEDY
City Theatre: Mike Bonner with Martini Harris and Michael McDaniel, Aug. 1, 2100 Woodward Ave., Detroit, (248) 433-1515.
The Fillmore: Carlos Mencia, \$42.50, Nov. 22, 2115 Woodward Ave., Detroit, (248) 645-6666.
Fox Theatre: George Lopez, Sept. 20, \$49.50-\$59.50; Kathy Griffin, Oct. 18; Jeff Dunham, Nov. 29, \$37.50-\$65, at 2211 Woodward, Detroit, Ticketmaster.com (248) 433-1515.

Go Comedy! Improv Theatre: Auditions Aug. 9-10, callbacks Aug. 12 to cast nine performers for new resident comedy troupe, register for an audition time by called PJ Jacques at (248) 327-0575 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Aug. 4-5. Stage manager and accompanist positions also available, visit www.gocomedy.net.
JD's House of Comedy: Stand-up shows, 8 p.m. Thursday and 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday; Apollo amateur night, 8 p.m. Wednesday; 25333 W. 12 Mile, inside Star Theatre complex, Southfield, (248) 348-2420 or www.ticketmaster.com.
Joe Louis Arena: Jeff Dunham Spark of Insanity tour, Nov. 29, 600 Civic Center Drive, Detroit, (248) 645-6666.
Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle: Ken Rogerson, July 31-Aug. 2, \$8-\$18, 269 E. Fourth St., Royal Oak, (248) 542-9900, www.comedycastle.com.
Meadowbrook Music Festival: Chelsea Handler, Aug. 9, on the campus of Oakland University, Rochester Hills, (248) 645-6666.
Michigan Theater: Bill Maher, Aug. 15, \$45-\$55, 603 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor, (248) 645-6666.

CONCERTS
Clutch Cargo: Rancid, Aug. 1; Children of Bodom, Oct. 4; Relient K with Ludo, This Providence, House of Heroes, Oct. 11, 65 E. Huron, Pontiac, (248) 645-6666.
DTE Energy Music Theatre: Tony Hawk's Boom Boom Jam, July 31; Sheryl Crow, James Blunt, Toots and the Maytals Aug. 5; Rod Stewart and Bryan Adams, Aug. 6; Backstreet Boys, Aug. 8; Rockstar Energy Drink Mayhem Festival with Slipknot, Disturbed, Dragonforce, Mastadon, Machinehead, Underoath, more, Aug. 9; Dolly Parton, Aug. 13, Travis Tritt, Aug. 14; Steely Dan, Aug. 15; Judas Priest, Aug. 18; Third Day and Switchfoot, Aug. 21; Brooks & Dunn with ZZ Top, Aug. 23; Allman Brothers Band, Aug. 27; Maroon 5 and Counting Crows, Aug. 29; Journey, Heart, Cheap Trick, Sept. 9; Toby Keith, Sept. 14, 7774 Sashabaw Road, Clarkston, (248) 645-6666.
The Fillmore-Detroit: Boys Like Girls, Aug. 2; Paramore with Phantom Planet and Paper Route, Aug. 13; No Fear Music Tour with Bullet for My Valentine, Aug. 16; Kottonmouth

Kings, Aug. 24; Sigur Ros, Sept. 23; My Morning Jacket, Oct. 4; Henry Rollins, Oct. 25, 2115 Woodward, Detroit, Call (248) 645-6666.
The Fox Theatre: Maze, Sept. 13; Kem with Raheem Patterson, Sept. 26; Celtic Thunder, Oct. 14, 2211 Woodward, Detroit, Ticketmaster.com (248) 433-1515.
Ford Field: Luke Bryan, 4 p.m. Aug. 2, \$69.50 & \$99.50, www.ticketmaster.com.
Freedom Hill Amphitheatre: G Love and Special Sauce, Aug. 8; Poison with Dokken, Sebastian Bach, Aug. 9; Paramore with Phantom Planet, Aug. 13, 14900 Metropolitan Parkway, Sterling Heights, Call (248) 645-6666.
Gem Theatre: Idina Menzel, 8 p.m. Thursday, 333 Madison Ave., Detroit, call (248) 645-6666.
Joe Louis Arena: Def Leppard with REO Speedwagon and Styx, Aug. 23; Carrie Underwood, Oct. 4, (248) 645-6666, www.ticketmaster.com, OlympiaEntertainment.com.
Michigan Theatre: Alanis Morissette, Oct. 7, 603 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor, (248) 645-6666.
Meadow Brook Music Festival: Chris Isaak, Aug. 17; Disney Music Block Party Tour, Aug. 19-20; George Thorogood & The Destroyers, Aug. 21, on the campus of Oakland University, Rochester Hills, (248) 645-6666.
The Palace of Auburn Hills: Neil Diamond, July 31; Rascal Flatts, Sept. 20; Nine Inch Nails, Aug. 23; Celine Dion, Sept. 26; Janet Jackson, Sept. 27; The Who, Oct. 21; New Kids on the Block, Oct. 25; Coldplay, Nov. 3; Sarah Brightman, Dec. 3, 1 Championship Drive, Auburn Hills, (248) 645-6666 or Palacenet.com.
Ren Can Riverfront Plaza: The Guess Who, Aug. 1; Kansas, Aug. 8; Blue Oyster Cult, Aug. 15; Foreigner, Aug. 22, www.gmrency.com.
Royal Oak Music Theatre: Squeeze w/Aimee Mann, Aug. 29, 318 W. Fourth Street, Royal Oak, (800) 919-6272, www.royaloakmusictheatre.com.
St. Andrew's Hall: Floboats with People Under the Stairs, Aug. 15; Robin Thicke, Sept. 22; Lagwagon and MXPX, Sept. 19, 431 E. Congress, Detroit, (248) 645-6666.

DANCE
Detroit Dance Collective: DDC Artistic Director Barbara Selinger teaches class, 10-11:30 a.m. Aug. 25, 27, 29, \$15-\$36, Marygrove College, 8425 W. McNichols, Detroit, Liberal Arts Building, Dance Studio, room 211, (810) 444-4553, bselinger@twmllr.com, www.detroitdancecollective.org.
Detroit Opera House: Erin Lamont, Jazz/Hip Hop, through Aug. 1; Christopher Huggins, Intermediate/Advanced Modern Intensive, Aug. 4-8, (313) 237-3426, chaldsted@motopera.org.
University Musical Society: Mark Morris Dance Group, Sept. 19-20; Balshuva Dance Company "Three," 8 p.m. Feb. 14, 2009, and "Deca Dance" 2 p.m. Feb. 15, 2009; Compagnie Heddy Maalem "Rite," 8 p.m. Oct. 15, 2009; Compagnie Marie Chouinard, "Orpheus and Eurydice," 8 p.m. April 25, 2009 and "Rite of Spring," 2 p.m. April 26, 2009; Rubberdance Group, "Elastic Perspective," 8 p.m. Jan. 9 and "Redux Phase II" 1 and 8 p.m. Jan. 10, 2009, www.ums.org.

FAMILY
Canton Cinema: Free matinees 10 a.m. & 11 a.m. Saturdays, 43555 Ford Road, (734) 844-3456.
Meadow Brook Music Festival: "If You Give A Mouse A Cookie," July 31; Disney Music Block Party Tour, Aug. 19-20, on the campus of Oakland University, Rochester Hills, (248) 645-6666.
Meadow Brook Theatre: Children's Series,

"Freedom Train," 10 a.m. Feb. 23, 2009; "Nate the Great," 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Feb. 28, 2009; "The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere," 10 a.m. March 20; "Charlotte's Web," 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. May 9, on the campus of Oakland University, Rochester Hills (248) 377-0300, www.ticketmaster.com, for more information, visit www.mbtheatre.com.
Palace of Auburn Hills: Pop Go the Wiggles, Live, 2:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Aug. 12, 1 Championship Drive, (248) 645-6666.
Playhouse Disney Life: Noon, Oct. 26, \$19-\$40, 1 Championship Drive, Auburn Hills, (248) 645-6666 or Palacenet.com.

FESTIVALS
Chrysler Arts, Beats and Eats: Aug. 29-Sept. 1, downtown Pontiac, (248) 334-4600, www.artsbeats.com.
Dancin' in the Street: Aug. 8-9, downtown Rochester.
FILM
Campus Martius Film Series: Runs Saturdays, 8 p.m. now through Aug. 9; "Bee Movie," Aug. 2; "The Accidental Husband," special advanced screening, Aug. 9, at the park between Fort Street and Michigan Ave., Detroit. Free.
Compuware Arena: Drive-in theatre, open seven days a week through Sept. 7, gates open at 7:30 p.m., movies at dusk (usually 9 p.m.), \$9, 13 and older; \$7, children 4-12 and students; free, children 3 and under, 14900 Beck Rd., Plymouth, (734) 927-3284, www.compuwarearena.com.
Fathom Events: Presenting one-night movie engagements, "Long Way Down," chronicling Ewan McGregor and Charley Boorman's 15,000-mile motorcycle trek through 20 countries, 7:30 p.m. July 31, Canton Cinema, 43555 Ford Road, and Livonia 20, 19500 Haggerty Road, www.FathomEvents.com.
Magic Bag: Brew & View, "You Don't Mess With the Zohan," July 31 & Aug. 6; "Iron Man," Aug. 7 & 13; "The Love Guru," Aug. 14; "Indiana Jones: Kingdom of the Crystal Skull," Aug. 20, "College," Aug. 28; doors 8 p.m., film, 9:30 p.m., 21 and over, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale, (248) 544-3030, www.themagicbag.com.
Marquis Theatre: Celebrates 30th anniversary with classic movies at 7:30 p.m. \$5 includes popcorn. "Murder on the Orient Express," Sept. 5; "Operation Petticoat (The Pink Submarine)," Sept. 6; "The Natural," Sept. 12; "The Great Gatsby," Sept. 13; "Gaslight," Sept. 19; "Funny Girl," Sept. 20; "The Sunflower," Sept. 26; "Out of Africa," Sept. 27, 135 E. Main St., Northville, (248) 349-8110, www.northvillemarquistheatre.com.
Movie Under the Stars: "Bee Movie," dusk, Aug. 12, Village of Rochester Hills, www.villageof-rochesterhills.com.
Penn Theatre: Summer Cinema Matinee Series, "National Velvet," July 31; "Life Begins for Andy Hardy," Aug. 7; "The Yearling," Aug. 14; "Swiss Family Robinson," Aug. 21; "The Muppet Movie," Aug. 28; showtimes 1 and 7 p.m., all seats, \$3, 760 Pennington, Plymouth 734-453-0870, www.penntheatre.com.
Redford Theatre: "The Adventures of Robin Hood," with Warner cartoon "Adventures of Rabbit Hood," Aug. 8-9; "The Scarlet Claw" with Warner cartoon "Rabbit Transit," Aug. 22-23; "Airplane," Sept. 12-13; "Casablanca," Sept. 26-27; "House of Wax" in 3D with glasses, Oct. 17-18; Halloween Double-feature "The Invisible Man," "House of Frankenstein," Oct. 24-25; "Miracle on 34th Street," Dec. 5-6; "White Christmas," Dec. 19-20, all at 17360 Lanier Road, Detroit, www.redfordtheatre.com.
The 42nd Street Drive-In: Double Features start at 8 p.m. for \$7 at Emagine Theatre.

Novi Shows: "Blue Sunshine" and "Brain Damage," Aug. 7; "Castle of Blood" and "Beast from Haunted Cave," featuring an appearance by Wolfman Mac, Aug. 14; "Lemora: A Child's Tale of the Supernatural" and "Long Weekend," Aug. 21; "Female Demon Oh-yaku" and "Quick Draw Okatsu," Aug. 28, www.emagine-entertainment.com.

GALAS
Capuchin Soup Kitchen Benefit: The 15th Annual Benefit on the Bay is 5:30 p.m. Aug. 22 at Mac & Ray's, on Lake St. Clair, Harrison Township. Raffles, silent auction, dinner, live music. Tickets \$50 per person with all proceeds going to the Capuchin Soup Kitchen. Call (313) 579-2100, ext. 202 or ext. 153.

JAZZ
Alexander Zonjic's Smooth Jazz Cruise: 5:45 (full buffet dinner) and 9 p.m. (hors d'oeuvres) every Tuesday through Aug. 26; Marion Meadows, Aug. 5; Alexander Zonjic and Friends featuring Ken Navarro and The Motor City Horns, Aug. 12; Gerald Albright, Aug. 19; Kirk Whalum, Aug. 26, The Detroit Princess Riverboat Port of Call Dock, Atwater and Bates in downtown Detroit just west of the Renaissance Center, Tickets, (248) 645-6666, www.ticketmaster.com, information (313) 964-5050, www.zonjic.com.
Baker's Keyboard Lounge: Gospel Show 2 p.m. Sundays; The International Detroiters Tuesdays, Jam Session Wednesdays, 20510 Livernois, Detroit, (313) 345-6300.
Cliff Bell's: Scott Gwinnell Jazz Orchestra, 9:30 p.m. Wednesdays; Jesse Palter Quartet 9:30 p.m. Thursdays; Social Sundays featuring blues, roots, americana at 8 p.m., 2030 Park, Detroit (313) 961-2543.
2008 Chene Park Jazz Series: Pieces of a Dream, Haggerty Road, www.FathomEvents.com.
Magic Bag: Brew & View, "You Don't Mess With the Zohan," July 31 & Aug. 6; "Iron Man," Aug. 7 & 13; "The Love Guru," Aug. 14; "Indiana Jones: Kingdom of the Crystal Skull," Aug. 20, "College," Aug. 28; doors 8 p.m., film, 9:30 p.m., 21 and over, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale, (248) 544-3030, www.themagicbag.com.
Marquis Theatre: Celebrates 30th anniversary with classic movies at 7:30 p.m. \$5 includes popcorn. "Murder on the Orient Express," Sept. 5; "Operation Petticoat (The Pink Submarine)," Sept. 6; "The Natural," Sept. 12; "The Great Gatsby," Sept. 13; "Gaslight," Sept. 19; "Funny Girl," Sept. 20; "The Sunflower," Sept. 26; "Out of Africa," Sept. 27, 135 E. Main St., Northville, (248) 349-8110, www.northvillemarquistheatre.com.
Movie Under the Stars: "Bee Movie," dusk, Aug. 12, Village of Rochester Hills, www.villageof-rochesterhills.com.
Penn Theatre: Summer Cinema Matinee Series, "National Velvet," July 31; "Life Begins for Andy Hardy," Aug. 7; "The Yearling," Aug. 14; "Swiss Family Robinson," Aug. 21; "The Muppet Movie," Aug. 28; showtimes 1 and 7 p.m., all seats, \$3, 760 Pennington, Plymouth 734-453-0870, www.penntheatre.com.
Redford Theatre: "The Adventures of Robin Hood," with Warner cartoon "Adventures of Rabbit Hood," Aug. 8-9; "The Scarlet Claw" with Warner cartoon "Rabbit Transit," Aug. 22-23; "Airplane," Sept. 12-13; "Casablanca," Sept. 26-27; "House of Wax" in 3D with glasses, Oct. 17-18; Halloween Double-feature "The Invisible Man," "House of Frankenstein," Oct. 24-25; "Miracle on 34th Street," Dec. 5-6; "White Christmas," Dec. 19-20, all at 17360 Lanier Road, Detroit, www.redfordtheatre.com.
The 42nd Street Drive-In: Double Features start at 8 p.m. for \$7 at Emagine Theatre.

More Music
Berkley First United Methodist Church: Singer, songwriter and pianist Matt Packer, 6:30 p.m. Aug. 10, 2820 12 Mile Road, (248) 399-3698.
Callahan's: Walter Trout and the Radicals, July 31; Jason Ricci & New Blood, Aug. 14; 2105 South Blvd., Auburn Hills, (248) 858-9508, www.atcallahans.com.
Downtown Rochester: Music in the Park Summer Concert Series, 7:30 p.m. at Municipal Park, (248) 651-9061, www.DowntownRochesterMI.com.
Heritage Park: Free "2008 Stars in the Park" concert series at new amphitheatre, 7:30 p.m.-dusk, Terry Lee Goffee, (Johnny Cash tribute artist), July 31; Sun Messengers, Aug. 7; Shout (Beatles tribute band), Aug. 14; Farmington Community Chorus, Aug. 21; Jill Jack, Aug. 28, all at 24915 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills, (248) 473-1857/1870.
Livonia Summer Concerts: Fabulous Oldies But Goodies Band, Aug. 7; Livonia Youth Philharmonic, Aug. 14; "Music from the Garage" featuring Consider It Done, Brandenburg, No One's Anthem, Good Luck Varsity and Time Enough at Last, Aug. 16; Hardline Drive, Aug. 21, all 7 p.m. at Civic Center Park, Five Mile and Farmington Roads; Livonia Symphony Orchestra, Aug. 28, 7 p.m., Livonia Rec. Center, Five Mile at Hubbard.

Whitefish Market advertisement featuring menu items like Broiled Great Lakes Whitefish, Great Lakes Whitefish Sauté, Grilled Great Lakes Whitefish, and Hazelnut Encrusted Great Lakes Whitefish, along with promotional offers and contact information.

Large advertisement for CareerBuilder.com with the headline 'YOUR RESUME ISN'T GOING TO EMAIL ITSELF' and 'START BUILDING'.

GAMES

FROM PAGE D1

year," said Kurt Pauli, a four-time champ himself.

Adult guests can participate in amateur athletics and the stone-put.

The live music includes The Raggle Taggle band — the only local group performing this year. Raggle Taggle plays traditional and modern Scottish favorites at 5 p.m. Saturday, said Raggle's guitarist Franklin Dohanyos.

Other musicians include Needfire, a Texas-based Celtic-rock band; Alex Beaton, a singer and storyteller; Barleyjuice, a band

featuring guitar, fiddle, accordion, bagpipes, bouzouki, mandolin, harmonica, banjo, tinwhistle, piano, bass and drums — played by just six members.

Dancing includes the Highland Fling — a wild dance that originated as a celebration of victory after every battle.

Kids will love the Wee Bairns where they can paint a shield for protection on the journey; take a wee tour of Scotland; visit MacFarlane's Company; drill with the 42nd Royal Highland Regiment; march in the Wee Bairns' Clan Parade; toss a wee caber; play cricket and race for prizes in organized field events.



The Raggle Taggle Band is the only local musical group performing at the Highland Games. Metro Detroiters pictured from left to right: Bob Ervin of West Bloomfield, Jeff Axelsen of Redford, John Dooley of Chesterfield, Franklin Dohanyos of Royal Oak, Ron Karvonen of Waterford and Jean Dohanyos of Royal Oak.

FILTER-ED BLOGS

Check out blogs by FILTER staff writers Stephanie Casola and Lana Mini, or start your own blog.

Visit www.hometownlife.com and click on "Voices and Views."

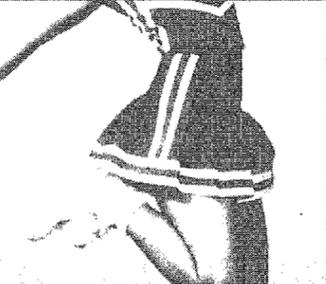


Casola



Mini

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



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Morgan showcases Santa Lucia Highlands wines



Focus on Wine

Ray & Eleanor Heald

pinot noir vineyards.

That's where we located Daniel Morgan Lee (better known as Dan) and followed his footsteps in Morgan Winery's Double L vineyard in the northern, cool end of the Santa Lucia Highlands, planted to two-thirds pinot noir and one-third chardonnay.

"After pinot noir," he said, "I think that syrah will be the best grape for the Santa Lucia Highlands, especially in the warmer, southern reaches of the region. Since our vineyard is closer to the ocean and cooler, our emphasis is pinot noir and chardonnay."

A LITTLE HISTORY

Lee fell in love with the wine business while at the University of California Davis. "I was born and raised in Turlock, Calif.," he said, "a

small farming town south of Modesto. I thought I wanted to be a veterinarian, but in my junior year I took an introductory viticulture class and fell in love with growing grapes."

Lee is one of the rare people who got into the wine industry without first earning a fortune in another business. "When we got into the wine business," he explained, "we had a brand but no vineyards. We had a couple of tanks, we bought 50 barrels and 30 tons of fruit and we were off and running. We started our business in the midst of a recession in 1982 and our friends warned us against starting our winery. People were having a tough time selling wine. We were too dumb to know better so we just plowed ahead and did it anyway."

Double L is the only certified organic vineyard in the Santa Lucia Highlands, so if earth-friendly strikes a chord with you, Morgan is a winery to get to know.

Eleanor & Ray Heald are Contributing Editors for the internationally-respected Quarterly Review of Wines and Troy residents who write about wine, spirits, and restaurants for the Observer & Eccentric. Contact them by e-mail at focusonwine@aol.com.

WINE PICKS

Focus on Wine offers details about MORGAN WINERY and here's WHAT TO BUY:

- 2007 Morgan Sauvignon Blanc, \$15 - bright citrus notes with refreshing crispness.
- 2007 Morgan R&D Franciscan Vineyard Pinot Gris, \$17 - lush and generous.
- 2006 Morgan Highland Chardonnay, \$26 - classic orchestration.
- 2006 Morgan Metallico, \$22 - one of the best unoaked styles on the market.
- 2006 Morgan Twelve Clones Pinot

Noir, \$31 - a Santa Lucia Highlands showcase.

- 2006 Morgan Double L Vineyard Pinot Noir, \$62 - from a certified organically-farmed vineyard.
- 2006 Morgan Garys' Vineyard Pinot Noir, \$62 - from another top Santa Lucia Highlands vineyard growing superior pinot noir.

If a retailer does not stock a specific wine we recommend, ask that it be ordered from the distributor, or since these are domestic wines, order direct from the winery.

Chef Michelle Bommarito waxes on healthy eating at Concours

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA
O&E STAFF WRITER

Ferndale-based Chef Michelle Bommarito made a name for herself as a foremost wedding cake and culinary artist in the metro Detroit area and beyond. But the energetic entrepreneur is about to step out of the bakery and devote more time to culinary coaching and promoting healthy living through her specialty — delicious cuisine.

The timing couldn't be better as Concours d'Elegance organizers have asked Bommarito to host two interactive cooking seminars at its inaugural Destination d'Elegance event on Aug. 2. Visitors to the Rochester Hills automotive event will taste the good life during this new day-long soiree, including Bistro d'Elegance food vendors, Shoppes on the Green and Ferrari seminars.

The Farmington Hills-bred chef began her career in the hotel business, after earning a bachelor's degree in marketing from the University of Michigan. She lived as far away as Italy and studied at the Institute of Culinary Education in New York, before she began working at the esteemed Waldorf Astoria Hotel or serving as a freelance artist for Martha Stewart Omnimedia. Since 2004, Bommarito has been featured on The Food Network six times in culinary competitions, taking home a gold medal in 2006. She crafted a cake that resembled a stack of antique books for a segment on the show *Sugar Rush*.

It was a Food Network appearance that led to her participation at the Destination d'Elegance. "I was so excited that they asked me," she said. "It's about food, cars and the luxury lifestyle."

Though her name may be synonymous with artistically crafted wedding cakes, Bommarito has devoted her life to living, eating and being healthy — and she's ready to share all she's learned and prove that healthy choices can taste delicious too. She offers private at-home courses, and culinary classes — from Cake Decorating to Super Power Foods — at Specialties Showroom in Berkeley, Whole Foods in Rochester and Schoolcraft College in Livonia, to name a few. At Destination d'Elegance, she'll auction off a private cooking class for one lucky winner and up to 30 friends.

Bommarito is a believer in eating all foods



Ferndale-based Chef Michelle Bommarito is at home in the kitchen. She'll share healthy tips and techniques during Destination d'Elegance at Meadow Brook Hall.

DESTINATION D'ELEGANCE

What: Culinary seminars add new flavor to Concours d'Elegance events

When: "Che Buono! Panini with the Posh Lifestyle" begins at 11 a.m. and "Cooking Healthy" begins at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 2.

Where: Meadow Brook Hall, at Adams and Walton roads on the campus of Oakland University, Rochester Hills.

Tickets: \$60 per person, visit www.mbconcoeurs.org or call (248) 643-8645

in moderation. "When you eat well, you won't believe how much energy you'll have," she said.

And she's a fiery testament to her words. In her first year of college, she was diagnosed with the fatigue-inducing Epstein-Barr syndrome. But through exercise and adopting a holistic diet, she found boundless energy — which comes in handy while working straight through the night to perfect a wedding cake.

Bommarito's approach to eating all but omits fast food, white flour, white sugar, and cream sauces. She favors flax seed, brown

rice, whole wheat pasta, quinoa, organic meats and locally-grown produce. It's a lifestyle built around being active, planning ahead and enjoying foods for fuel. But she doesn't rule out what she calls "celebratory foods." Wedding cake is one of them. Fettucini is another.

She doesn't ban anything completely — she just wants to inform, educate and show how healthful choices can make a difference. "It's not a diet," she said, "it's a lifestyle change."

During the cooking seminars on Aug. 2, she'll discuss the benefits of buying locally-grown food. Bommarito suggests shopping at your farmer's market, getting to know the grower and feeling good about what you purchase. "There are too many unknowns when you buy commercially," she said.

At Destination d'Elegance, she'll share preparation tips and grant tasting portions of healthy meals including roasted salmon with a yogurt dill sauce on a bed of fresh greens with candied walnuts, pistachio-encrusted goat cheese and toasted quinoa, and a flat iron steak with a horseradish yogurt sauce.

For more about the chef herself, upcoming classes and appearances, visit www.michellebommarito.com.

Jack Black

The comedian reveals a softer side to his funny-guy persona.



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BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Last year, Nicole Miller and Benjamin Whitefoot try out the beef at Station 885. Chef Mark Hincker carves and Kim Buerkle adds sauce.

Be hungry, and then get ready for Plymouth charm

BY LANA MINI
O&E STAFF WRITER

What a lovely way to absorb the charm of historic Plymouth: a walking tour of area restaurants.

Bring your empty belly. It's time for the Plymouth's ninth annual Old Village Restaurant Crawl. It's a three-hour event which gives you plenty of time to digest tasty food and hop from restaurant to restaurant.

The event, organized by the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce, is Wednesday, Aug. 6, from 5:30-8:30 p.m.

Last year, hundreds of people attended. So this year, tickets must be ordered in advance, said Plymouth Chamber Executive Director Wes Gaff.

Participating restaurants are Grecian Café, Hermann's Olde Town Grille, Station 885, Crawford's Kitchen and Plymouth Fish & Seafood Market.

At each restaurant, guests are offered a sampling of food items.

For example, at Plymouth Fish on Starkweather, patrons will get pieces of cod, steak cut fries and cole slaw dinners.

"It's a fun event, we really look forward to it," said Lorenzo Toia, whose parents, Vince and Lori Toia, own the restaurant.

"My dad and mom helped form the first restaurant crawl, we participate in it every year."

The Canton family has owned the restaurant for 12 years.

OLD VILLAGE RESTAURANT CRAWL

Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$5 for children under 12. They can be purchased at any participating restaurants or at the Chamber of Commerce office, located at 850 W. Ann Arbor Trail. Tickets must be purchased in advance, call (734) 453-1540.

At the Grecian Cafe, on Main Street, the restaurant is regularly open late nights and can be crowded even at 3 a.m. Regular menu items include Greek salads, big breakfasts, Greek, Mexican and American fare. Expect some of the cafe's most popular menu items to be served at the Crawl.

At Station 885, a family restaurant (but it also has a martini and wine menu) on Starkweather, regular menu examples are the Heartland Salad with candied walnuts, field greens and dried cherries. There's also a wild mushroom pasta and gourmet burgers. Expect to see hearty items at the Crawl.

At Crawford's Kitchen, on Starkweather, the ambiance is friendly and regular menu items include sandwiches and salads plus veggie options. The restaurant will serve its more interesting food items, too.

At Hermann's Old Town Grille on Liberty, there's often live music and pizza, burgers, quesadillas and more. You won't leave the place hungry.

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



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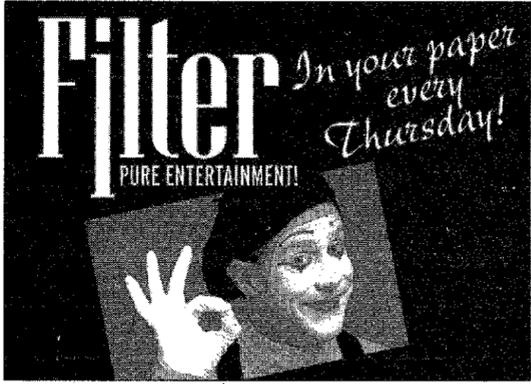
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Chelsea Handler talks about Detroit

Hilarious comedienne Chelsea Handler is coming to Meadow Brook next week — and popping in for a book signing for her very funny book *Are You There Vodka? It's Me, Chelsea* earlier that day.

We had a little e-mail chat with her recently and here's what she had to say.

Being a New Jersey girl, what's your opinion on Detroit?

My opinion on Detroit is that it gets the same rap as New Jersey. Although, you guys have the advantage of only being a city and we are an entire state. You win!

Why did you turn down "Dancing With The Stars?" No desire to dance? (We know you would do better than Jane Seymour, for example!)

I'm never doing DWTS, primarily because I'm already on a show five nights a week and don't want to force myself down everyone's throats every time they turn on their television. The second reason is that I'm a horrible dancer and I prefer to be horrible alone. Not with a partner.

You hold nothing back on your celebrity jabs, have you had instances of celebs confronting you for the insults? If so, can you share a story?

I haven't been confronted by anyone yet. Dina Lohan came up to me and told me she loved the show. I can only assume she can't hear.

How did you find Chuy? We love him.

I was looking for a nugget and they brought Chuy to me. I asked him what 2x2 was and he said 18. That's when I hired him.

How has your standup style changed from your initial days until now?

When I started doing stand-up I was 21 and a waitress, so my material primarily revolved around that experience. My material was a lot angrier when I started because I was generally a pretty angry person. I hated waiting tables and never knew if and when I was going to make it. I thought people were obnoxious and couldn't understand how it could take 20 minutes to decide what kind of pasta to have for lunch.

Do you have a preference between writing books and standup?

I prefer stand-up, because there's an instant reaction to a story although writing allows you to get into many more details of a story. With stand-up, the punch line needs to be close by, but with writing, it's easier to give into your imagination.

On your show, your humor of course is more celebrity-based rather than political — do you intentionally avoid politics?

I'm very interested in politics, but since my show is on E!, there's an expectation for it to be celebrity heavy, and I think most

CHELSEA HANDLER

Comedienne Chelsea Handler
Saturday, Aug. 9
5 p.m. In-store book signing
at Barnes & Noble, 2800 S.
Rochester Road,
Rochester Hills
8 p.m., Meadow Brook Music

people watching my show are trying to get away from the serious news of the day. It's my job to give people's brains a timeout.

Tell us a bit about your live performances — what can people expect?

I talk much more about my personal life during stand-up than on the show.

Favorite songs in your iPod?

Natasha Bedingfield's "Pocket full of Sunshine." I'm listening to a lot of Shooter Jennings, Sheryl Crow and Estella.

The best thing about your hunky boyfriend Ted Harbert?

Ted is a silver fox and he's very, very patient when I have episodes.

Mojito or Margarita?

Margarita.

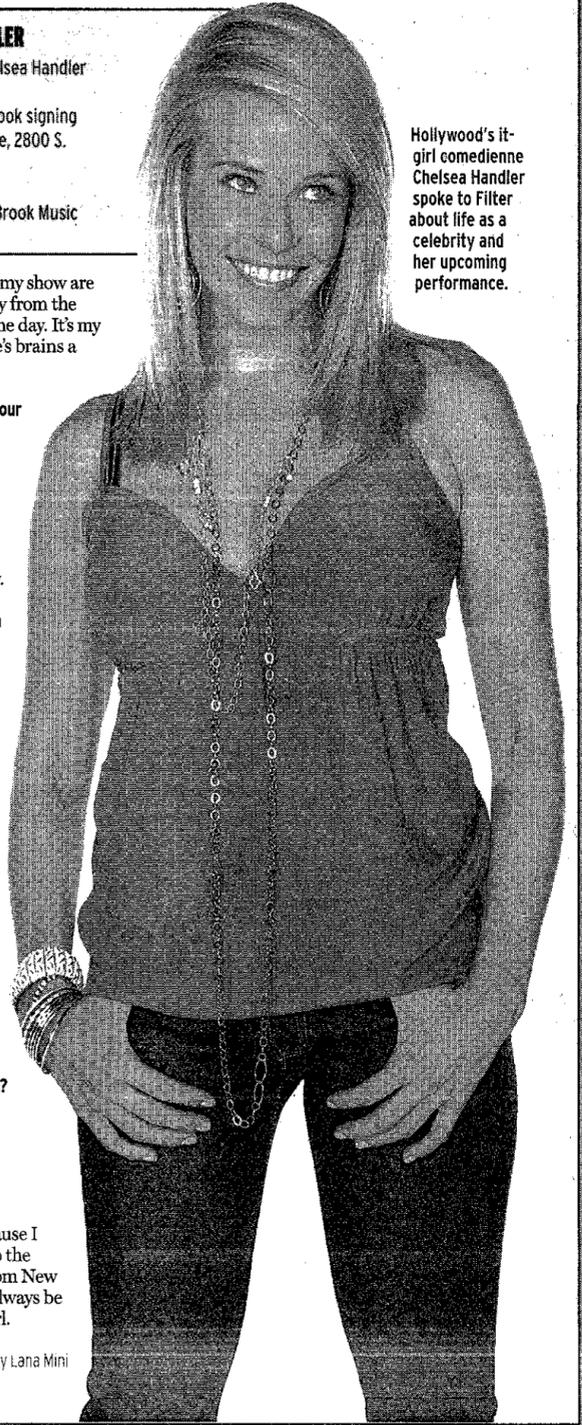
Steak or tofu?

Steak.

LA or NY?

I love LA, because I get to run next to the water, but I'm from New Jersey, so I will always be an East Coast girl.

—By Lana Mini



Hollywood's it-girl comedienne Chelsea Handler spoke to Filter about life as a celebrity and her upcoming performance.

Where available by deadline, features are listed.

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THE STRANGERS [R]
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WHAT HAPPENS IN VEGAS [PG13]
FORBIDDEN KINGDOM [PG13]
STREET KINGS [R]
BABY MAMA [PG13]
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Wine, chocolate, travel locally

BY LANA MINI
OSE STAFF WRITER

TRAVEL LOCALLY

Save money but still travel ... right to Livonia. Take a little getaway, for example, at a Bed & Breakfast at the Radisson Hotel & Conference Center in Livonia at 17123 Laurel Park Drive. The B&B package includes a \$20 breakfast voucher for couples and \$30 voucher for families. Rates begin at \$99 per night. Some rooms have "Sleep Number" beds. The hotel includes an atrium, indoor pool, Jacuzzi, lounge, and state of the art fitness center.

Visit www.radisson.com/breakfast for more information.

PB&J AND A COLD BEER

Who doesn't love PB&J? We just had to share this little tidbit from the July/August issue of *DRAFT* magazine:

What beer do you pair with a peanut butter and grape jelly sandwich?

Answer: Sierra Nevada Porter

"The porter's dark roasted malt flavors match up well with the roasted peanut taste, while the beer's effervescence washes the stickiness from your teeth. Plus, the sweet grape jelly evokes chocolate notes in the porter, creating a truly grown-up snack experience," the magazine states. Also try: Deschutes Black Butte Porter, Marin Point Reyes Porter.

CHOCOLATE, I NEED CHOCOLATE!

Panera Bread and The Henry Ford have teamed up to offer discount cards, good for 25 percent off admission to Henry Ford Museum which is hosting a huge chocolate exhibit. The cards, offered at all 44 southeast Michigan Panera Bread locations, are available for the duration of the exhibit through Sept. 7.

Visitors attending the decadent event, may sample Panera's chocolate-themed products on select weekends.

Henry Ford Museum is open seven days a week, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is \$14 adults, \$13 seniors and \$10 youths; members and children 4 and under are free. Call (313) 982-6001 or visit www.thehenryford.org or www.panerabread.com.

POPULAR CHEF TAKES NEW POSITION

Jim Barnett, former executive chef for The Townsend Hotel in Birmingham, has been appointed executive chef for The Westin Book Cadillac Detroit, the 455-room, 33-story historic hotel that will reopen Oct. 1 following a \$200 million restoration. Chef Barnett will be responsible for all culinary operations including the 125-seat restaurant, The Boulevard Room, and Motor Bar. He will also oversee the hotel's 24-hour, in-room dining services; the gourmet "grab-n-go"

coffee outlet; banquets and catering and all menu content and execution.

"We are thrilled to have chef Barnett join our Westin team," said The Westin Book Cadillac Detroit General Manager Tim Freisen. "He has tremendous culinary experience and knows our community well. Our hotel guests, including meeting and conference groups will be very pleased with his creative offerings."



Barnett

Prior to joining The Townsend, Barnett was a corporate executive chef for the Matt Prentice Restaurant Group based in Bingham Farms. Over the last five years Barnett provided culinary leadership for the *Detroit Share Our Strength's Taste of the Nation*, a fund-raising event to help end childhood hunger in America.

Barnett was named the Midwest Operation Frontline Chef of the Year in 2000.

Learn more about the hotel at www.westin.com/bookcaddillac; or call (313) 442-1600.

IT'S VINO MANIA!

The Community House in Birmingham hosts *Vino Mania*, an event that combines wine tasting, hors d'oeuvres, wine trivia games and live jazz on the terrace, Thursday, Aug. 8, from 7:30-10 p.m.

Proceeds benefit Children's Health and Wellness in Oakland County on behalf of the Junior League of Birmingham and The Community House's 21st Century Leaders Program.

Hosting the event is certified sommelier Nidal Daher, who has worked in the wine industry for more than 15 years. He has served as the wine director, event sommelier, and catalogue scribe for the Detroit International Wine Auction; is a former fine wine director and buyer for the Merchant of Vino and is a professional member of the French gourmet society *Chaine De Rotisseurs*.

Reservations for *Vino Mania* are \$55. Contact The Community House, 380 S. Bates St., Birmingham, (248) 644-5832, or online at www.communityhouse.com. Ages 21 or older only.

AND MORE WINE ... THIS TIME AT DTW

Vino Volo (derived from the words "wine flight" in Italian) is a contemporary wine tasting room and retailer that just opened at Metro Airport's McNamara Terminal at gate A-45.

There travelers can taste wines and enjoy small food samples while chilling on lounge chairs.

More *Vino Volo*'s are supposed to open in the Detroit area over time.

Each store includes a lounge, tasting bar and boutique retail area. Tastings are served in Riedel crystal glasses and the menu offers rotating selections of wines grouped either by wine region or the grape variety.

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MEET MISTI While faced with many obstacles throughout her life, Misti graduated from Mackinaw Academy with above average grades while living at St. Vincent Villa Supervised Independent Living. She is enrolled at Delta College as a full-time student and will begin classes this fall. Misti's goal is to graduate from college and pursuing a career that will allow her to help others.

We ask you for your continued support.
Please visit hccsnet.org to donate today.

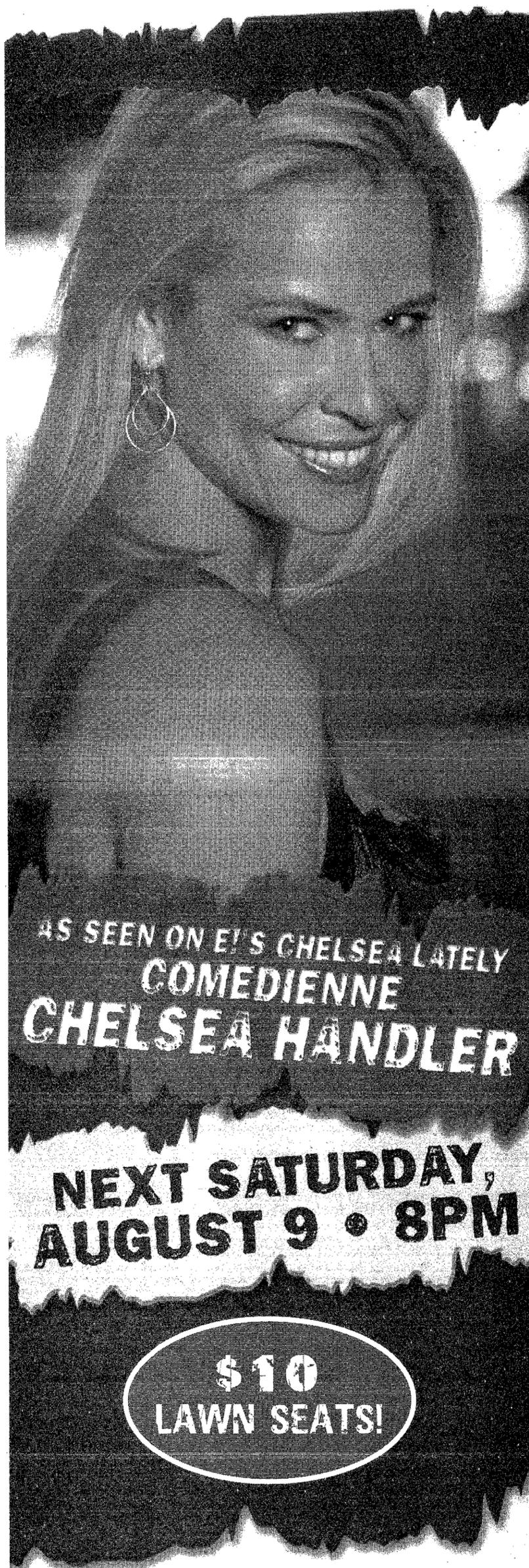
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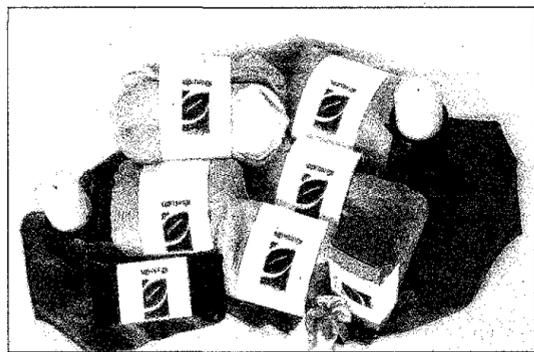


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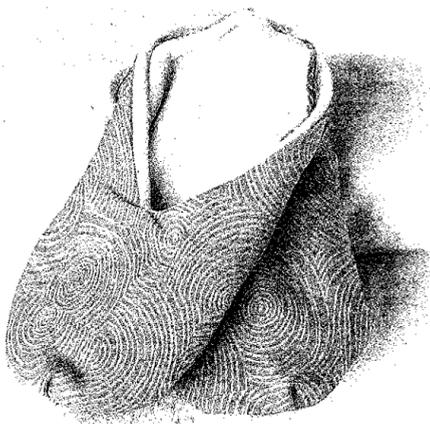
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Wensdy Von Buskirk, Features Editor (734) 953-2019, wvonb@hometownlife.com



Find Meghan Rossi's Uprising spa products at Plum Market or online at www.uprisingholistichealth.com.



PHOTOS BY KAREN LIPPONITHS

Uprising comfort booties, made with organic materials, will warm you up.

Comfort goes green with new Uprising spa goods

For Birmingham's Meghan Rossi a splendid spa experience simply goes hand-in-hand with sustainable environmental practices. But early on, she noticed the spa industry itself had some catching up to do when it came to going green.

Rossi has long held an interest in homeopathic treatments. For years she dabbled in creating comforting spa products on her own. So much so, she said, "my brother called me the witch doctor." Her combined professional experience working in the fields of homeopathy, nutrition and spa treatments has led her to create her own line of products under the name Uprising Holistic Health and Spa Products.

"Uprising is definitely a political type of word, but I see it as people coming together for a change," she said. And that's just what she's aiming to do. From spa pillows to eye masks and neck rolls to sweet sachets, Rossi combines natural, sustainable, fair-trade ingredients and materials with whimsical patterns for plush comfort in the spa, at home, or as fabulous gifts.

When Rossi began working in the spa industry — at the prestigious Golden Door Spa in Telluride, Colo. — she noticed the vast amount of paper, plastic and waste involved in the practice. "At that point, we

weren't doing anything green in the spa," she said.

She pondered solutions even before she headed back to her home state to start her own practice.

At Uprising Holistic Health, she offers massage, mud wraps, salt scrubs and other treatments, as well as health and nutrition consultations and homeopathic remedies, all based in Royal Oak. "I wanted to provide a product for people to take care of themselves," she said.

Rossi researched all sorts of textiles, fabrics and materials, conceptualizing, sewing and testing every prototype to find out which worked best. She tried out everything from toasty booties to warm neck rolls on family members and friends. After more than two years of development, Uprising products are now available.

Veering away from lotions, soaps and potions — simply because there are so many quality items on the market — she's focused on comfort items her clients can purchase for themselves. Uprising bath soak is made of Celtic sea salts, Epsom salts and an array of seaweeds that leaves water



Uprising Holistic Health offers lovely sachets made with sustainably-harvested hemp and silk, and filled with organic herbs and fragrant essential oils.



Meghan Rossi

silky and skin soft. Used regularly it draws out skin impurities to diminish signs of cellulite.

The lovely organic silk eye masks and soft organic cotton comfort pillows can be heated in a microwave or cooked in a freezer, then used for relaxation or to combat aches and pains. "They are filled with certified organic flax seed and buckwheat," she said. After trying various seeds and beans to fill the organic cotton spa products, she opted for those that heated without burning and had the most subtle scent.

Perhaps the most pampering items in her line include plush mittens, booties and a neck roll that would easily make any PINK girl feel like she's escaped to a spa while right at home. The packaging is made

of biodegradable cellophane and recycled paper. Rossi believes these products can be both environmentally friendly and luxurious.

Still an upstart venture, Rossi sews and fills every product by hand. The green goods — in a variety of patterns and colors — are available at Plum Market in Bloomfield Township and in Ann Arbor, as well as online at www.uprisingholistichealth.com. Rossi is currently expanding her line to include travel eye masks, yoga props and plush robes. She's also scouting for area boutiques interested in carrying these nurturing products.

Uprising Holistic Health is located in Suite 140, 225 South Troy Street, Royal Oak. Call (248) 414-4275 or e-mail meghan@uprisingholistichealth.com for products or information.

Stephanie Angelyn Casola plans to sport a pair of comfort booties while working on deadline. She covers beauty, fashion and pop culture for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. Have an idea suitable for Dollface? Contact her at (248) 901-2567 or scasola@hometownlife.com.



Duct Tape Duds

A local couple won stylish second place in the national "Stuck at Prom" Scholarship Contest, which challenged students to create formalwear from Duck brand duct tape. Haley Cavanaugh, 17, of Farmington Hills, and her date, Keith Porter, 17, of Grosse Pointe Shores, each won a \$2,000 scholarship, along with \$2,000 for Cavanaugh's school, Mercy High. Their purple, white and black geometric prom looks (above) impressed judges, who selected 10 top finalists based on workmanship, originality, use of colors, accessories and quantity of duct tape used. The public then voted for their favorite ensembles during a two-week online voting period. Next year's contest is slated to start on March 2, 2009 and end on June 8. Visit www.duckproducts.com for more.

Malls & Mainstreets

Saks Debuts David Yurman Fragrance

TROY — The David Yurman Fragrance Collection will debut at Saks Fifth Avenue on Friday, Aug. 1. The floral-chypre fragrance captures strands of exotic woods, patchouli, soft musk, rose, peony, water lily, and accents of mandarin, cassis and fresh green petals. Call (248) 614-3370.

Salon Awesome Makeovers

PLYMOUTH — When Kidpalooza takes place in downtown Plymouth 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Aug. 2, more than 25 stores will help create an entertaining family-friendly summer day. Salon Awesome, 290 S. Main St., will offer princess makeovers for \$10 per child, along with a story-reading and signing by Cheryl Zuzo, author of "Being Bella." Call (734) 927-0800.

FGI Honors Local Icon

TROY — Fashion Group International of Detroit will honor Irene Miller, founder of the legendary Claire Pearone boutique, with an intimate gathering 1:30-3:30 p.m. Aug. 3 at the Somerset Collection South Rotunda. Miller is credited with helping to launch designers like Valentino, Oscar de la Renta and Geoffrey Beene. Tickets, \$25, include hors d'oeuvres and drinks from Brio. RSVP at (248) 540-6202 or FGI.Detroit@gmail.com.

Parisian Laurel Park Events

LIVONIA — Earn a free \$10 gift card for every \$50 you spend on your Parisian card through Aug. 3 at Parisian Laurel Park Place in Livonia. Receive a free 8-piece gift with any Elizabeth Arden purchase of \$24.50 or more through Aug. 17. Call (734) 953-7536.

Books & Buds at The Village

ROCHESTER HILLS — The Village of Rochester Hills, in partnership with Rochester Hills Public Library, continues "Books, Buddies & Blankets" in



The David Yurman Fragrance comes in a pressed Italian crystal bottle designed to reflect the David Yurman Jewelry Collection.

Village's Festival Park. On Aug. 6 hear Cynthia Furlong Reynolds read her story "Grammie's Secret Cupboard." For a complete list of guest readers, visit www.villageofrochesterhills.com.

Rochester Offers Property Tour

ROCHESTER — The Rochester DDA will host its first-ever Downtown Rochester Property Tour 1-7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 14, showcasing available retail lease space in the downtown, and hopefully sparking interest in new business ventures. Check in at 314 Main Street, and use maps and brochures to navigate the self-guided tour. Call (248) 656-0060 or e-mail Sheila@DowntownRochesterMI.com.

Get your pass to Glamour METRO DETROIT — Shop, save and support a great cause with the Glam Pass, available in all Detroit area Macy's stores Aug. 1-23 for \$5. The Glam Pass highlights the season's hottest trends and includes coupons. Proceeds benefit Beaumont Hospitals. Visit www.macys.com.

Compiled by Wensdy Von Buskirk

STYLE BRIEFS

Rock the Runway

Kid Rock, Mariah Carey, Justin Timberlake, Beyonce and Rihanna will perform at the fifth annual Fashion Rocks concert celebrating the relationship between music and fashion.

The event will be held Sept. 5 at Radio City Music Hall, and will air in a two-hour special on CBS the following night. Proceeds will benefit Stand Up to Cancer.

Also performing: Keith Urban, Chris Brown, Fergie,

Lil Wayne and the Black Eyed Peas. Fashion Rocks magazine will also return for its annual issue. The magazine, helmed by *Vogue* Editor-in-Chief Anna Wintour, will accompany the September edition of 16 Conde Nast magazines.

Associated Press

Pattern Mixing Primer

There seem to be no "rules" when it comes to mixing patterns and prints — a hot trend in the youth market. But here's some advice if you want to get the look:

- Work in color schemes — perhaps blues and greens, or oranges and yellows, or choose only one patterned item and mix it with pieces in solid colors that wouldn't normally seem complementary. For example, a pink floral-pattern skirt is OK with a solid blue T-shirt.
- Allow one large-scale pattern per outfit, Harmon says. A small dot or floral, or a thin stripe can almost be treated like a solid, though.
- Don't just mix patterns, mix styles, too. Try an argyle

- sweater with rugged denim or a letterman sweater with a graphic tee underneath.
- Your daughter will get more use out of a crazy pattern skirt with a lot of colors in it than one with just one or two colors, because it will go with many solid-colored tops.
- Choose patterned socks or a patterned backpack if you want to be stylish but not draw too much attention.
- For girls, printed leggings can replace tights on cool mornings.

Samantha Critchell, AP

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