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Our Views, A8

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THURSDAY
October 30, 2008

WESTLAND Observer

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City tweaks proposed park remediation proposal

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

After tweaking a plan to redevelop portions of lead-contaminated Central City Park, Wayne County and Westland city officials hope to submit a formal proposal in early December to the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality.

Project consultants are working diligently to prepare

a document that Assistant Wayne County Executive Alan Helmkamp said will likely amount to "many hundreds of pages" before it is handed over to MDEQ officials.

When asked Monday if he is confident the proposal will be submitted before the December holidays, Helmkamp said, "that certainly will be the case, if all things go as we hope."

November will mark the two-year anniversary when it was

publicly revealed what some officials had known for years — that Central City Park, a former landfill, was contaminated yet still used for recreation purposes ranging from Little League baseball to the cancer-fighting fund-raiser Relay for Life.

Meanwhile, county and city officials in September learned that they would have to fine-tune a conceptual plan submitted two months earlier to MDEQ. Initially, officials hope

to redevelop about 15 acres along the 100-acre park's eastern edge for use as soccer fields and walking areas.

"I feel good that things are moving along," Westland Mayor William Wild said Monday, adding that he is hopeful "shows can be put into the ground this spring."

Even so, officials can't say with certainty when any of the park's fenced-off areas might be ready for public use. Westland

City Councilman Charles Pickering has voiced frustration with the pace of progress in addressing the park situation.

In another development, Helmkamp confirmed that a verbal agreement has been reached that continues a long-standing agreement, which was to expire this fall, in which the county owns the park but leases it to the city. A more formal agreement is pending.

Wild said the city has tried

to partially compensate for the park's closure by erecting a huge play structure, dubbed Play Planet, that was built last week in Tattan Park, just north of Central City Park. He also said the city hopes to install just south of Play Planet a summertime "spray park" — a water-play area dubbed H2O Zone — within the next year or so.

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

Across the street, across the hall



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Bernie Karody, 99 (left), and Joe Frey, 98, lived across the street from each other as children. Now they live across the hall at American House I in Westland.

From childhood through golden years, friends stay connected

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

When it was time for Joe Frey to move into a "rest home," he thought of his childhood friend Bernie Karody and

the business card he had given. He called the number on it and three weeks ago moved into a room across the hall from Karody at American House I in Westland.

"He's a friend I've known a

long time, he's a friend that you can trust and have fun with," said Frey, 98. "We use to chase the same women at the same time."

"I couldn't believe it," said Karody, 99, when he heard his

childhood friend was moving in. "I told my kids Joe was coming and they could hardly believe it. They remember him from when they were little."

Please see **FRIENDS, A3**

Clerk's office open Saturday for election

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

If the foot traffic continues, Westland Clerk Eileen DeHart expects absentee ballots will surpass the number of ballots issued in the 2004 presidential election.

"As of Wednesday, we've given out 9,750 ballots, so I think we'll easily surpass the 10,000 we issued in the last presidential election," she said. Time is running out to

request an absentee ballot. They're available during regular business hours through Friday and during special hours — 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. — Saturday. As of Monday, people needing absentee ballots will have to come in and vote at city hall.

"Those hours will be strictly for the election, don't plan to come in to buy dog tags," DeHart said.

Interest in the election is running high. People "came in

droves" to register. By the Oct. 6, deadline the tally was at more than 4,300 new voters.

And it's been a steady stream of residents coming in or faxing over requests for absentee ballots. People have been waiting in line at 9 a.m. to wait for the clerk's office to open, DeHart said.

"At any given time, there's a line of 20 people at the counter," she added.

Everything has gone smoothly to date and DeHart

predicts election day will be a busy one.

"I brought in a cake from Mary Denning's (Cake Shoppe) that said six more days for my staff, but we haven't had time to eat," she added.

Westland City Hall is at 36601 Ford, west of Wayne Road. For more information, call the clerk's office at (734) 467-3185.

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It's back!

3 intersections targeted for Click It or Ticket campaign

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Although Michigan ranks among the top states for seat-belt usage, some drivers still refuse to buckle up.

Westland police hope to prod them with traffic stops and fines today (Thursday) through Sunday, when local officers will join the now-familiar Click It or Ticket campaign.

Local officers will target three of Westland's busiest and most accident-prone intersections during the four-day crackdown — Ford and Wayne, Ford and Newburgh, and Wayne and Warren.

Motorists who get slapped with tickets could face fines of \$65, according to Westland 18th District Court.

A seat-belt survey last summer by the Wayne State University Transportation Research Group found that 97.2 percent of Michigan motorists are buckling up. In contrast, 93.7 percent of the state's drivers wore their seat belts in 2007.

The Click It or Ticket effort, a National Highway Traffic Safety Administration campaign started in 1993, has repeatedly stressed the importance of drivers — particularly teens — wearing their seat belts.

"Michigan has the second

highest compliance for safety belt usage in the United States," said Westland police Sgt. Ron Kroll, who is in charge of the local department's traffic bureau. "In a continuous effort to save lives, we are proud to help enforce this worthwhile campaign."

Mayor William Wild issued a prepared statement saying he hopes the program "will encourage motorists to be mindful that the simple act of wearing a seat belt can not only prevent you from getting a ticket, but can ultimately save lives."

According to the NHTSA Web site, more Americans than ever are buckling up. U.S. Secretary of Transportation Mary E. Peters said the rate has increased to 83 percent nationwide — still well below Michigan's rate.

"We have seen seat-belt use rising steadily every year, and that means more and more lives are being saved and countless serious injuries prevented," Peters said in a statement.

The NHTSA estimates that nearly 270 lives are saved for every 1 percent increase in seat-belt use.

For more information, go online to www.nhtsa.gov.

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Military veterans: Share your memories

The *Observer & Eccentric* is looking for photographs and stories from local veterans.

Send us your memories, anecdotes, and stories — no longer than 200 words — and we'll publish them in an upcoming issue.

Include a photo from your time in the service, as well as a recent photo. E-mail the photos — attached as JPEGs — and

information to sdargay@hometownlife.com or mail to Sharon Dargay at the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers*, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150.

Be sure to include a telephone number and your city of residence. Submissions must be received by Tuesday, Nov. 4.

All memories and photographs will be published in the Sunday, Nov. 9, edition.

For Home
Delivery call:
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Newspapers

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Coming Sunday:
Country music's
supertrio: Rascal Flatts

Police seek suspects in 2 armed robberies

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

(734) 722-9600.

Westland police are investigating a pair of armed robberies on opposite ends of the city, and authorities don't believe the incidents are linked.

One robbery happened at 7:55 p.m. Saturday inside the Dollar General store near the northeast corner of Merriman and Ann Arbor Trail, and the other occurred shortly after 10:30 a.m. last Friday at the Check 'n' Go cash-advance location in a Kroger-anchored shopping center at Michigan Avenue and Merriman.

Anyone who has information about either robbery is asked to call the Westland Police Department at (734) 721-6311 or

A lone gunman brandishing what was described as a semiautomatic handgun went into the Dollar General store and robbed an employee of an undisclosed amount of money, police Sgt. Steve Borisch said. No shots were fired and no one was injured.

The bandit was described as a black male in his late 20s or early 30s with a medium build. He wore a dark blue coat with red and white stripes across the front, back and down the sleeves, a witness told police, and the gunman also had a hat pulled down to partially conceal his face.

A police dog was brought to the scene in an attempt to locate the gunman but couldn't find

him, Borisch said.

The Check 'n' Go incident happened when a lone black male went into the store last Friday morning and robbed a male store employee of an undisclosed amount of money, police Sgt. Thad Nelson said.

"This guy walked in, went up to a teller window and slid him a note," Nelson said, adding that the note read, "Give me all the money in the store. I have a gun."

No gun was actually revealed, but the employee complied and turned over an undisclosed amount of money before the bandit escaped and fled west from the store.

The suspect was described as a black male, 30 to 35 years old, 5-foot-8, 185-200 pounds, with a mustache and a beard that con-

tained some gray hair. According to the witness, the suspect wore black pants and a black-hooded sweat shirt that had large letters across the front. His pants had an unknown letter that appeared to match the sweat shirt.

"It was a matching outfit," Nelson said.

Before the Check 'n' Go robbery, a gray, four-door SUV was seen sitting in the parking lot. However, after the incident a witness reported seeing a small red pickup truck in the same area. A black male was seen getting into the truck, which Nelson said was driven by a white male.

However, police couldn't be certain if either vehicle was linked to the robbery.

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Westland police have released a photograph of a man wanted in connection with a robbery at last Friday at the Check 'n' Go cash-advance location in a Kroger-anchored shopping center at Michigan Avenue and Merriman on Friday, Oct. 24.

AROUND WESTLAND

Ladies Night Out

St. Damian's Ladies Night Out will feature over 30 vendors and crafters for a night of shopping with raffle baskets, manicures and massages, along with a buffet with finger foods, desserts and a cash bar. The event is scheduled for 6-9:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 14, in the St. Damian School community room, 29891 Joy Road, west of Middlebelt, in Westland.

Admission will be \$5 and includes a raffle prize ticket. Those attending must be age 13 or older.

Participants will include Avon, Tastefully Simple, Stampin' Up!, Simply Fun, Lia Sophia, Tomboy Tools, Home Interiors, Creative Memories, Longaberger, Youngevity, Swarovski, Arbonne, Tupperware, Tealightful Treasures, Two Sisters Gourmet, The Pampered Chef, Mary Kay, Princess House, Discovery Toys and Young Living. According to organizers, gold, silver and coins also may be brought in for purchase by Bob Mason from W. R. Mason Jewelers.

Garage sale

The first, annual multi-family garage sale will be held 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, Oct. 31, through Sunday, Nov. 2, at the Masonic Temple, 37137 Palmer, east of Newburgh, Westland. Household items, tools, fall and Christmas decorations, indoor and outdoor furniture, toys and games plus numerous other items will be on sale during this huge event. Plenty of parking is available.

ON THE WEB

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

Scrapbook Day

Scrapbooking enthusiasts are invited to an all-day crop sponsored by Wayne Memorial High School's Parent Advisory Council - Z-PAC. Spend the day scrapbooking while helping raise money for a farewell dinner for the senior class. Registration fee includes workspace and a goodie bag. Concession stand will be open throughout the day. Students are welcome!

The crop will take place 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 1, at Ss. Simon & Jude Church, 32500 Palmer east of Venoy, in Westland. The cost is \$25 per person. The registration deadline is Oct. 30. For more information, call (734) 722-1343.

Annual holiday fair

The Wayne First Congregational Church will hold its 62nd annual fair, "Santa Season," 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday-Friday, Nov. 13-14, at the church, 2 Towne Square, Wayne.

There will be a Christmas shop, country store, attic treasures, coffee shop, boutique, book store and specialties shop, as well as aprons, homemade goods and candy.

Lunches will be served 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and dinners 5-7 p.m. Dinner prices will be \$4 for children ages 3-11 and adults \$8.

W-W recognized for financial reporting

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The magic numbers stands for the Wayne-Westland Community Schools are seven and nine. They represent the number of consecutive years the district has been honored for its Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.

"Out of some 700 school districts in the state, only three submit and disclose their full financial report," Superintendent Greg Baracy said. "We're one of a few districts across the state which fully disclose our financials as well we should. These awards are something the school board, the citizens and the district can be proud of."

For the ninth consecu-

tive year, the district has been awarded a Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Association of School Board Officials International. And for the seventh consecutive year, it's received a Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada.

"Why do we do it? The answer is simple," said Gary Martin, deputy superintendent of administrative and business services. "We feel the parents, the students and the staff deserve a full accounting of how we spend \$161 million."

The ASBO award is the highest recognition awarded

for school district financial operations offered by the organization and is only given to districts that have met or exceeded the standards of the program.

Likewise, the GFOA certificate is the association's highest recognition given in governmental accounting and financial reporting and represents "a significant accomplishment by a government and its management."

Martin said participating in the ASBO and GFOA certificate of excellence programs is a rewarding experience.

"Attaining these awards brings a feeling of confidence and has remarkably increased our financial reporting credibility not only to the district but to the community as a

whole," Martin said.

He added that the awards were the end of a long process and that the district's auditing firm of Plante Moran "keep us on our toes."

He also acknowledged the efforts of his "excellent staff," including Linda Compton, senior executive director of business and operations; Sue Rawson, her executive secretary, and Angela Black, supervisor of business/purchasing. "They do a super job," he said.

"It's gotten so we expect these excellence awards every year," said board President Martha Pitsenbarger in congratulating Martin and his staff.

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

Play Planet dedication ceremony set for Nov. 3

Hundreds of volunteers. Three days. One gigantic play structure.

On Monday, Nov. 3, Westland Mayor William R. Wild will host the official grand opening for Westland's Play Planet play structure. The ceremony will take place at 5:15 p.m. at the site of Play Planet in Tattan Park, just east of the Bailey Recreation Center.

The concept of Play Planet was part of the Westland Parks and Recreation five-year master plan approved by Westland

City Council earlier this year and funded by the Westland Downtown Development Authority.

"We have much to celebrate," said Westland Mayor William R. Wild. "Our city now boasts this incredible play structure for our youth, thanks to the members of our DDA and the hard work, time, and dedication put forth by numerous volunteers who worked tirelessly to make this happen."

Westland Parks and Recreation Director Bob Kosowski said the grand open-

ing will include lots of special surprises befitting of this space-themed wonderland.

"Let's just say that attendees will be pleasantly surprised," he said.

Play Planet was completed ahead of schedule last Saturday after a three-day community build effort. Approximately 50 to 100 volunteers pitched in each day to help construct the play structure. A wide array of local businesses donated supplies for the construction as well as refreshments for the volun-

teers during the community build, including Mary Denning Cake Shoppe, Toarmina's Pizza, Tim Horton's, Texas Roadhouse, Panera Bread, Culvers, Buffalo Wild Wins, Jimmy John's, National Block, Nankin Hardware, Coca-Cola, Inc., Polish Roman Catholic Union, Lowes, Dario's Italian Eatery and Sam's Club.

Play Planet includes rockets, space ships, lunar slides, moon buggies, and more and ranks among the five largest continuous play structures in the United States.

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CITY OF WESTLAND
INVITATION TO BID

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Westland Purchasing Division, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan 48185, on or before **November 6, 2008 at 10:00 a.m.** (no exceptions will be made) for the following:

Video Surveillance System - Library

Complete specifications and pertinent information may be obtained from the Purchasing Office at (734) 467-3204 or at <http://www.CityofWestland.com>. Proposals must be submitted by the time stated above or they will be returned. The City of Westland reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Jade M. Smith
Controller

Publish: October 30, 2008

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Sarah Daley

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"Apocalypse Now"

The Cherry Hill Church will present a series of prophecy seminars on today's events and Biblical Prophecy, "Apocalypse Now."

All sessions are free of charge, without any obligations, and each session will include a question and answer period. Some handouts will be provided.

Pastor Eduard Petreaca will be the main speaker.

All seminars will begin at 7:00 p.m. and end at 8:00 p.m.

These nightly seminars will be conducted on Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings for four weeks. Childcare will be available.

Beginning on Halloween-Friday, October 31st, at 7:00 p.m.
"The End of the World, is it here, near, or mere fear?"

Other Topics include:

- "America in Prophecy, what will happen after the November election?"
- Angels from Heaven or spirits of the dead?
- Armageddon and the 7 Last Plagues
- What is the real meaning of the Mark of the Beast and 666?
- Finding Hope and Answers to the Mystery of Death and many more will be discussed.

The Cherry Hill Church
33144 Cherry Hill Road
Garden City, Michigan

The church is located east of Wayne Road and west of Venoy, about 1 mile west of Merriman Road.

For more information please call
734 524-0880 or 734 740-5212.

Pastor Petreaca

Madison treasure hunters search for school's time capsule

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Time is running out for Sandy Kingston and her band of treasure hunters. In four days, Madison Elementary School in Westland will be celebrating its 50th birthday, and they've yet to find a time capsule that was buried 25 years ago.

"We'll search for it right up to the day, the kids really want to find it," said Kingston, the Madison school principal. "One of our staff members says it feels like Christmas morning."

The hunt has been centered on the school's back courtyard, but tips on the location have it within two feet of a wall — courtyard unknown — according to former principal Don Massey, in the middle courtyard, according to former staffer Jean Harrison, and by a pond in the long courtyard, according to Shanna Yamity. Unfortunately, there's no pond in that courtyard.

And even what the capsule is made of is in doubt.

"Some say it's tin, some thought it was plastic," Kingston said. "One parent, Jeff Schrader, brought in a metal detector to help find it, but no luck."

Kingston would like to combine the contents of the 25th birthday time capsule — including a Matchbox car a former student donated and has asked for it back — with what's being collected for the 50th and bury it as part of the celebration on Monday, Nov. 3. The current collection includes a panda Webkin, donated by a student who has written a note about it.

The western celebration — Madison is the home of the Mustangs — will be from 3:30-4:30 p.m. at the school. There will be stick pony races through the hallway, line dancing and the singing of a school song written by a student. God willing, the contents of the two time capsules will also be on display. There will be no official burial, however. That will be done on the sly.

"We'll show it to the students and when they're not looking, we'll bury it," Kingston said. "And we'll keep a very good record of where."

All current and former students and staff are invited to attend. People who have Madison memorabilia that they would like to display during the celebration — in case they don't find the time capsule — can bring it to the school, Kingston said.

The celebration will shift to the Texas Roadhouse on Ford Road for a Dine and Donate from 5-10 p.m. A portion of the bill as well as 10 percent of all gift card purchases will go to the school for the purchase of technology equipment for the students. There will be face painting and a cowgirl/cowboy costume contest with prizes every hour. The PTA also will set up a bake sale in the corral.

"When the Roadhouse heard we were doing a western theme, they were geeked," Kingston said.

In fact, Andy the Armadillo, the Texas Roadhouse mascot, will make a special appearance at the

FRIENDS

FROM PAGE A1

The two men have a life-time in common and it starts with their home state. Both were born in Pennsylvania — Karody near Pittsburgh and Frey near Harrisburg.

The Karody family came to Detroit, specifically the one-block long Bacon Street, in 1918, lured away from the coal mines by a job offer at Kelsey Hayes. The Frey's family moved to Bacon Street in 1920 attracted by a job with the Dodge brothers.

Karody landed a job at Studebaker at 16 and worked there for two years. A smile crosses his face when he explains how he got it.

"I lied, of course," he said. "I could pass for 18."

When his family moved to South Bend, Ind., he stayed and went to the Henry Ford Trade School.

Frey also went to the trade school. Getting in was a case of "being in the right place at the right time," he said. He had gone to the school on a Saturday to apply and met the dean. He let him in and let him fill out an application even though the school was closed.

"There were 1,400 people with applications and I got in," Frey said. "I graduated with high honors."

While the friends went to the same school, they were in different buildings, studying different subjects. Karody came out a tool maker and went to work at the Rouge plant where he was responsible for 26 grinders. Frey was in engineering and ended up on working in Highland Park before transferring to the Rouge "just as they were starting to design the Model A."

Even when they married and had families, the two men kept in touch.

"His family and my family visited each other when we

lived in Detroit," Karody said. "We kept in touch with each other."

Karody worked for the Ford Motor Company for 18 years. He left after meeting a man who had a patent for a carbide saw and worked for the Jaylee Co. for 28 years.

"Ford came after me, but I said no, no, I quit," Karody said.

The only time they've really been apart was when Frey moved Florida. He did that after his wife died, fulfilling a lifelong dream.

"I always wanted to live in Florida, but my wife didn't want to go," he said. "I was there about 22 years. That's the most time we've been apart, but we kept in touch."

Frey was a "top of the line" engineer who ended up retiring from GM. The day after he retired he went to work for Continental Aviation. He had caught the flying bug during the war when he was working at a Ford plant out of state and flying home on weekends. A

flight delay led him to buy a surplus airplane and learn how to fly.

While he had promised his wife he would quit flying at age 70, he continued to do it until he was 80, and he was still driving up until a short time ago when he was hit by another car.

That's when he decided he needed to make a move to assisted living.

"My legs gave out, and they said I needed to go to a rest home," he said. "The first thing I thought of was Bernie."

The two men are now looking out for each other. When one goes to eat, he make sure the other goes, too.

"I'm tickled to have him here," Bernie said. "I was counting down the days until he got here."

As for the rest home, Frey admits it's OK.

"They treat you good here," he said. "The staff is good, and the eats are good."

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

CELEBRATION

What: The 50th anniversary of Madison Elementary School

When: 3:30-4:30 p.m. Monday, Nov. 3, at the school, 1075 S. Carlson, Westland, followed by a Dine and Donate from 5-10 p.m. at the Texas Roadhouse on Ford Road.

Who: All current and former staff and students are invited to attend.

Information: Call the school at (734) 419-2710

school for the celebration.

Madison School was built in 1957. It had 12 classrooms, an office, a multipurpose room and a capacity for 400 students. According to Kingston, the school was originally a California-style building with exterior hallways.

"The piano teacher would have to wheel the piano outside from room to room," she said. "If the students went to art in the winter, they had to get their coats, boots and hats on."

That lasted about five years when 12 more classrooms and a large multipurpose room with a kitchen were added and the hallways were enclosed.

Portable classrooms were added in the late 1960s to handle overcrowding, but by the 1970s, they were no longer needed. The portables, however, returned in 1979, when Cady School was closed at Wayne Road and Cherry Hill and 140 students and five teachers were transferred to Madison.

Kingston admits that while it may take ground penetrating sonar to locate the time capsule, her treasure hunters — a custodian, a PTA person and herself — are still digging.

"Some say it's buried two feet down, I didn't realize how much dirt that is," she said.

And while it's been strenuous, the search has also been "a blast."

"We have classrooms that face the courtyard, so all the kids are watching; they're so excited, and when the kids get excited, I get excited," she said. "When I go to lunch, they ask if I've found it, especially the first-graders."

Family friends are helping to raise money for 8-year-old Alyssa Jennings, a Wayne girl who is battling a rare, aggressive form of brain cancer.

Neighbor Robin Kinsman said doctors removed a brain tumor, and now Alyssa is going through chemotherapy and radiation treatments.

To complicate the family's problems, Alyssa's mother, Nicole, is not working because of her daughter's illness, and

Alyssa's father, Jeff, has just returned to his job at Ford Motor Co. from a layoff, Kinsman said.

"We are raising money to help the family while Alyssa receives her treatments and to help with anything that isn't covered by their insurance," Kinsman said.

A benefit dinner has been scheduled for 1 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, at the United Auto Workers Region 1-A hall, located at 9650 Telegraph Road south of

I-94 in Taylor. Admission is \$10 for adults and free for children age 13 and under.

The event will include auctions, raffles, a bake sale, pictures with Santa and other

fund-raising activities.

According to family friends, a foundation also has been set up at the Wayne-Westland Credit Union, 500 S. Wayne Road, in Westland.

Benefit to raise money for cancer patient, family

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The Center for Medical Weight Loss is the first national network of physicians to bring trained medical expertise to the field of weight loss. Founded in 2002 by Dr. Michael S. Kaplan, a specialist in bariatric medicine, the center offers patients a long-term weight-loss approach managed with the full support of certified medical professionals.

patients are suffering from severe health issues due to excess weight or merely looking to lose 15 to 20 pounds, all receive a full medical consultation with scientific measurement of their body mass and basal metabolic rate and individual body composition analysis to accurately predict weight-loss results.

According to Dr. Kaplan, "Treating people with weight problems isn't simply a matter of telling them to eat less and exercise more," he says. His research found that a central factor is addiction - to food - and an unhealthy pattern of eating. His primary approach, therefore, is to break food addictions and help patients reach a safe and healthy target weight quickly. Most importantly, the center's program teaches patients how to maintain their weight loss permanently.

The center uses the latest techniques and medical data, and has access to high-quality nutritional products and the newest FDA-approved weight-loss medications that are available only to medical doctors.

"Unlike many consumer weight-loss programs whose staff requires no medical knowledge or training, The Center for Medical Weight Loss' physicians are certified professionals," notes Dr. Kaplan. "They fully understand the complex factors that are related to weight gain such as individual psychology and genetics, contributing illnesses and prescription medication."

The average weight loss experienced by patients is 21 pounds in four weeks. In addition to the weight loss itself, health benefits include a decrease in dependence on blood pressure, diabetes and cholesterol medications, as well as lesser risk of chronic disease such as congestive heart failure, clinical depression and sleep apnea. Many successful patients refer to their experience at The Center for Medical Weight Loss as life-changing, and in many cases, life-saving.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

Flu clinics
Flu clinics are scheduled for the Sav-On Andrews Drugs, 29436 Ford, Garden City, 10 a.m. to noon Tuesday, Nov. 25, and the Sav-On Drugs, 190 S. Wayne Road, Westland, 3-5 p.m., also on Nov. 25. Flu shots are \$25, and pneumonia shots will be offered for \$35. The clinics are open to people 14 years and older. Payment options include cash, check and credit card, as well as Medicare and medical insurances. For more information, call the Garden City store at (734) 421-1900 and the Westland store at (734) 728-5200. For a weekly listing of flu clinics, visit flushotcalendar.com or call (877) 728-6628.

Night of Music
Boulders and CareforKevin.org are sponsoring a night of music Saturday, Nov. 1, to benefit Kevin Christesen. Doors open at 7 p.m. and the music starts at 9 p.m. There's a \$10 cover charge. The Scott Martin Band, Streamliners, View and Kenny Kens and the Cash Creek Band will perform and there also will be raffles and other fund-raisers. Boulders is at 1020 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth. Christesen is a 28-year-old Canton resident who was diagnosed in July with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia. He is married and has a 3-year-old daughter. For more information, go online to CareforKevin.org.

Railroadiana
Ss. Simon and Jude Church's Ushers Club will sponsor a Toys and Train Show noon-4 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 30, at the church hall, 32500 Palmer Road, one mile west of Merriman

Road. Admission is \$2 per person, \$4 per family. Food and beverages are available. Parking is free. There will be approximately 130 dealer tables available at \$10 each. To reserve a dealer table, call Norm at (734) 595-8327. Dealer set-up is 9 a.m. the day of the show.

Free Movie
State Sen. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland, in cooperation with AMC Theaters of Livonia, will host a free movie screening of Clint Eastwood's film, "Flags of Our Fathers" at 3 p.m. Veteran's Day, Tuesday, Nov. 11, at Livonia AMC 20, 19500 Haggerty, north of Seven Mile. Concessions will also be provided free of charge courtesy of AMC Theaters of Livonia. The event is being held to honor the service of America's military veterans. Tickets are limited and required for admission. Veterans may request their free tickets by contacting Anderson's office by e-mail SenatorAnderson@senate.mi.gov or toll free by phone at (866) 262-7306.

Travel show
Party Animal Travel is holding a free travel show for residents in Wayne and Oakland counties 5-7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 14, at the Maplewood Community Center, 31735 Maplewood, west of Merriman, in Garden City. Discount travel deals, free travel coupons and some of the area's top travel suppliers will be present. Coupons and raffles will be available for all attendees. To reserve a spot, call (734) 525-9777. Space is limited to the first 300 callers.

Home-buyer extravaganza
Success Mortgage Partners, Inc., sponsors a pair of "Home-buyer Extravaganza" seminars where attendees can "learn how to tap into government programs and get free money to buy a home." These programs and others, including mortgage options available to the first-time home-buyer, credit coaching, buying a HUD home for \$100 down, and getting up to \$7,500 as an interest-free loan, are among topics



Pumpkin time

Members of the Junior Girl Scout Troop 1265 at Taft-Galloway Elementary School in Wayne ham it up with some of the 200 pumpkins they helped distribute to needy children last weekend at National Storage Center on Ford in Canton. The troop leaders are Lisa Shoupe and Nicole Ford.

to be covered. The events take place 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 11, or 10 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 15, at 1200 S. Sheldon in Plymouth. Those wishing to attend should call the 24-hour reservation hotline - (888) 776-3703 or e-mail Diane@SMPrate.com - to save a seat.

Classic movies
Enjoy classic movies on the big screen at the State Wayne Theater, 35310 Michigan Avenue W., Wayne. "North by Northwest," starring Cary Grant and Eva Marie Saint will be shown at 1, 3:35 and 6:10 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 2. Tickets will be the theater's standard price of \$2.50 for adults and \$1.50 for children, age 11 and under. For more information, call (734) 721-4700.

Charity casino
If you are looking for a place to show your skills at Texas Hold 'Em, the hottest game in town, the Canton Charity Casino, Western Wayne County's only charity poker room at the Shark Club on Ford in Canton every Thursday through Sunday. The Canton Charity Casino offers nightly tournaments as well as continuous cash games and a venue for players of all skill levels. Non-profit, charitable organizations are licensed by the State of Michigan to sponsor each weekend, allowing them to raise funds for their special causes. The hours are 7 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Thursday-Friday (tournament at 8 p.m.) and 2 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Saturday-Sunday (tournament at 5 p.m.) The Shark Club is at 42070 Ford, just west of Haggerty in Canton. Non-profit groups interested in sponsoring a fund-raising weekend can call (734) 502-7033 or send an e-mail to scpokertb@gmail.com.

Class reunions
Cherry Hill High School Classes of 1983 and 1984 will hold a reunion 6 p.m. to 1 a.m. Friday, Nov. 28, at the Hawthorne Valley Country Club on Merriman north of Warren Road, Westland. The cost is \$50 per person and includes dinner and open bar

(casual attire). Advanced tickets only must be purchased by Sept. 30. Contact one of the following committee members for additional information: '83- Lori Westerholm at (734) 834-6796, '83- Mary McCollough (Potvin) at (734) 658-1014, '83- Mary Ann Brejka (Stempien) at (734) 729-6783, '83- Mark Tyl at (313) 587-0092, '83- Lori Hagedorn (Schuler) at (313) 730-1303 or '84- Renee Liske (Scott) at (734) 425-7826. ■ Garden City High School Class of 1989 will hold its 20th reunion 6 p.m. to midnight Aug. 29, 2009, at Joy Manor in Westland. Tickets are \$65 before March 1 and \$75 March 2-June 1. Tickets includes, dinner, premium open bar, DJ, door prizes, picture CD and other gifts. Tickets are available for purchase at www.gardencity89.com or by contacting Paula at gch-1989reunion@hotmail.com.

Fisher 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.

CRAFT SHOWS

Garden City Knights of Columbus
Crafters are needed for the Garden City Knights of Columbus second annual craft show 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday Nov. 22, at the hall, 30759 Ford, Garden City. For more information, call Linda at (734) 422-0373 or Vicki at (313) 538-0204.

St. Sebastian
Crafters are needed for St. Anne Altar Society's Fall Craft Fair 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Nov. 15, at St. Sebastian Catholic Church, 20710 Colgate Ave., Dearborn Heights. For more information, call Charmaine at (313) 278-1266. St. Sebastian Catholic School needs vendor for its craft show 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Oct. 18 at the school, 20700 Colgate Ave., Dearborn Heights. For more information, call Michelle at (313) 586-1133 or (313) 563-6640.

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.

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CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

The Westland Police Department will conduct an online public auction of miscellaneous seized and forfeited items. The auction will begin on Thursday, October 30th, 2008 and end Thursday, November 6th, 2008. Interested persons should: visit www.auctant.com click on the "Auctions" tab in the right column, click on the "Click here for live auctions!" The following items can then be viewed and are offered for sale to the highest bidder:
PS3 game system, JC Jino watch, Dewalt saw kits, Craftsman compressor, Targa banjo, Rickenbacker bass guitar, Fender guitar, Burton snowboard, GNU snowboard, JBL speakers, Pioneer mixer, Antec media case, Minn Kota trolling motor, motor cycle parts, big block heads, Cabelas climbing sticks, Weland manifold, Honda power washer, shop vacuum, Toro edger, Homelite blower, Honda lawn mower, and floor jacks.

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

Publish: October 30th, 2008

WNIC personalities to host lunch at Buddy's

WNIC listeners are in for a treat because the winner of this month's Dining with the Stars will lunch with Lisa Barry, co-host of the WNIC Breakfast Club, and Kevin O'Neill, WNIC's weekday afternoon (2-7 p.m.) drive-time host.

Tell us in 100 words or less why you want to have lunch with Barry and O'Neill of WNIC-FM (100.3) at Buddy's Pizza in Farmington Hills. E-mail your entry to BuddysDiningStars@gmail.com by 5 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 12.

In addition to lunch with the WNIC radio personalities, the winner will be treated to a limo ride courtesy of Class Plus Limo, mini-makeover by Sebastian and Heba of I Design Salon and Spa in Dearborn, \$100 gift certificate from Reaver Diamond Co. in Southfield and dance exhibition by the Fred Astaire Dance Studio in Bloomfield



O'Neill



Barry

Hills.

Barry, a lifelong metro Detroit, grew up in Livonia and graduated from Bentley High School. She received a singing scholarship to Olivet College, where she graduated with a degree in communications. She started working at the campus radio station and has spent her entire career in Michigan and mainly Detroit on-air at news talk and country radio stations prior to WNIC.

Barry, who has two children — Benjamin, 17, and Parker, 13 — enjoys traveling, movies, shopping and eating out. She

is active in her church and in the community.

After her son, Benjamin, spent an entire month in Beaumont Hospital — when a benign tumor was found on his spine — she selected The Children's Miracle Network at Beaumont Hospital as her children's charity of choice.

"During this time ... Buddy's was also nice enough to send over pizza to the hospital to cheer up Benjamin and share with the staff something that made my family forever grateful to the wonderful people at Buddy's," Barry said.

Staffers at WNIC describe O'Neill as "sweet, kind, funny and just a really nice guy."

O'Neill was born and raised in Cleveland and his mom knew that broadcasting was in his blood when, at the age of 6, she found him creating his own "radio shows" (Dick Clark-style) using a soup strainer for a microphone. The rest is DJ history.

Throughout his career, O'Neill has worked at a variety of stations, including those in Cleveland, Akron and Oberlin, Ohio, as well as in South Bend, Ind., and Houston. He was offered a job at New York's premier oldies station WCBS-FM and declined because he had little interest in becoming a New Yorker. Years later, O'Neill made it back to the Midwest and to the Detroit area he loves so much.

Becoming a part of the WNIC family on Labor Day weekend of 2004 was the "right thing to do," O'Neill said.

O'Neill's life would be changed forever — twice — when his son, Brendan, was born in 1982 and again June 11, 2007, when a quintuple bypass would save his life.

Dining With the Stars is co-sponsored by Buddy's Pizza and the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers*.

MADD warns stay sober for Halloween

Mothers Against Drunk Driving warns that the three-day Halloween period can be deadly for drunken driving, especially with Halloween night falling on Friday.

From Oct. 30, 2007, to Nov. 1, 2007, 66 people were killed by a drunken driver with .08 or higher blood alcohol content, according to data from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

"We support enforcement efforts 100 percent in helping protect our children and our roadways this Halloween," said Richard Rondeau, executive director of MADD Southeast Michigan. "We want everyone to have fun, but drunk driving or providing alcohol to those under 21 can quickly turn a fun time into a very scary and terribly sad situation."

MADD has these tips to help ensure everyone's safety:

- Designate a sober driver before celebrations begin.
- Never serve those under the age of 21 alcohol.
- Plan safe parties, including providing non-alcohol drink options to guests and not serving alcohol the last hour of the party.
- Be prepared to get everyone home safe in case your plans or individual circumstances change.

Recent government data show that 1840 youth aged 20 and under were killed in crashes involving a driver at or above the legal limit of .08 blood alcohol content in 2007.

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Non-perishable food items needed:

- Stove Top dressing • Cranberry sauce
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Involve the kids by having them make turkey decorations and cards. Write letters of thanks to enclose in the boxes. And as always cash donations are needed for postage. Each box will cost \$10.95 to mail.

Your donation is tax deductible and Desert Angels, Inc. is a 501 (c) 3 non profit organization.

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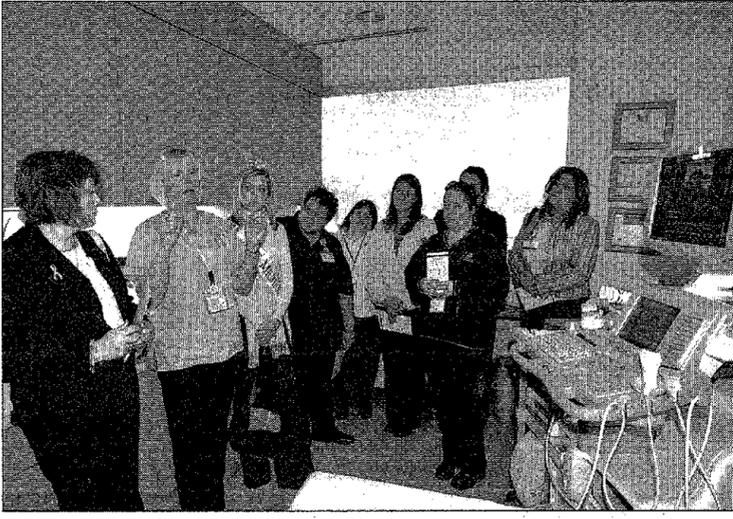


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Getting the facts

Miss Michigan Ashlee Baracy (third from left), and her mother, Janet Baracy (left), listen as Nancy Harvey, RDMS explains that ultrasound technology is a complementary tool to mammography in the early detection of breast cancer at Oakwood Healthcare's Breast Care Center in Dearborn. Baracy has breast cancer awareness her program as Miss Michigan. Her mother is a breast cancer survivor.



Ceremony caps 30-year naval career for Wacker

A former Westland resident was piped ashore for the final time recently, ending a 30-year career with the U.S. Navy.

Command Master Chief (SW) Steven Wacker, a 1978 graduate of John Glenn High School, was the guest of honor at the retirement ceremony. Wacker, joined the Navy in November 1978. He took his recruit training at the Recruit Training Center in Orlando, Fla., before reporting in February 1979 for training at the Naval Training Center in Great Lakes, Ill.

He also attended Combat Systems Technical School in Vallejo, Calif., between November 1979 and March 1980 before being assigned to USS Mount Whitney as a basic point defense missile systems technician. In October 1983, he reported to the Service School Command at Great Lakes where he was an instructor for almost five years then was assigned to the USS Coontz as the leading chief of the fox and gunnery divisions.

When the Coontz was decommissioned in October 1989, he transferred to the USS Caron where he served as the leading chief petty officer of the gun division of the combat systems department and as the materiel maintenance manager coordinator. While aboard the Caron, he was deployed to the Middle East as part of Operation Desert Shield and Operation Desert Storm.

Following the Persian Gulf War, he served as logistics

materiel assessment inspector and maintenance repair materiel systems coordinator/ADP officer for the Readiness Support Group Norfolk before attending the Senior Enlisted Academy in Newport, R.I., and the Aegis weapons systems course in Dahlgren, Va.,

In January 1996, he was assigned to the USS Arleigh Burke as the combat systems maintenance manager, a position he held until January 1997 when he was selected for the master chief program. He assumed duties as Command Master Chief of the USS Stout in June 1998 and completed two deployments and participated in Operation Desert Fox.

Wacker also saw service as command master chief with the fleet and senior enlisted leader at Keflavik, Iceland, before being selected as senior enlisted leader to NATO's Supreme Allied Command Transformation in May 2004. He help with NATO's Transformation and with professional development of non-commissioned officers.

He finished his career as a senior facilitator of the command master chief course at the U.S. Navy Senior Enlisted Academy at Newport, R.I.

During his 30 years with the Navy, Wacker was awarded the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Commendation Medal with four gold stars and the Navy Achievement Medal with two gold stars

Wacker, the son of Joan Wacker of Westland, is married to the former Kathryn Heaton. They have three children - Desiree, Joelle and Marshall - and live in Virginia Beach, Va.



Wacker

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PNA event is Just for Women

The word is pamper and it's meant for women.

The Polish National Alliance, a nationwide fraternal insurance benefits society, is inviting the public to a shopping event noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 2, at the Sgt. Romanowski VFW Hall, 28945 Joy Road, east of Middlebelt in Westland.

The event will feature a variety of commercial and home-based vendors including Avon, Mary Kay, Tupperware, Logeberger, Tastefully Simple and Pampered Chef, among others.

The Victorian Work Basket,

featuring luxury yarn products and hand-made, knit and crochet items, will be there, along with Olive Art, a business specializing in hand-carved, biblically-themed gift items made with wood from the Holy Land.

A special Polish boutique will sell various items from Poland, including Polish crystal, pottery and other gift items.

Tickets are \$3 each and are available at the door. For more information, call Gloria Platek at (734) 422-1731 or Barb Martin at (734) 643-7780.

Youngster aims for pageant title

A Westland youngster has been selected to compete in the National Inc.'s 2008 Miss Junior Pre-Teen Detroit pageant on Sunday, Nov. 2.

Taylor Hill, a second-grader at Walker-Winter Elementary School in Canton, was selected for the competition after submitting an application and participating in an interview with the Detroit pageant coordinator, Patty Neidert.

The daughter of Lilnise and Keith Hill, Taylor stud-

ied modeling and participated in the Talent Expo in Dallas, Texas. She enjoys dancing and modeling.

She will be competing National Inc.'s the junior pre-teen division of the pageant. She will be judged on modeling routines including casual and formal wear as well as in an interview with the judging panel.

The winner of the Detroit pageant will receive an expense-paid six days-five nights trip to Orlando, Fla., to represent Detroit and the surrounding area in the Cities of America National Competition where more than \$60,000 in prizes and awards will be presented.



Hill

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Appearing in Inspire Theatre's upcoming production of "Ten Little Indians" are John Donnelly (standing, from left), Ian Smith, Tim Seguin, Nenad Stojanovic, Sharon Brooks, Andy Fisher, Mike Wacławski, Bill Petersen, Allan Ebert (seated, from left), Dianne Griswold and Courtney Nixon.

Theatre group presents 'Ten Little Indians'

Westland-based theatre group is coming home to perform their latest installment, *Ten Little Indians* by Agatha Christie.

The Inspire Theatre production opens Friday, Nov. 7, at the Warren Road Light and Life Church at 33445 Warren Road, east of Wayne Road. The performance will be at 7:30 p.m. November 7-8, 13-14 and 15.

"I selected *Ten Little Indians* for its fall opener because we have yet to do a murder mystery," said the troupe's artistic director and founder, Len Fisher. "If we're going to do one, why not pick one of the greats?"

"I saw this play years ago and was amazed at its layers of complexity. It keeps the audience wondering until the very end," Fisher added.

The play is the story of 10 people who have been invited for a weekend on an island

mansion and one-by-one die for complicity to various murders which the law couldn't try.

The play is based on the novel, *And Then There Were None*. Written in 1939, it breaks many of the rules of the mystery genre. No detective solves the case, the murderer escapes from the law, and the plot is so constructed making the killer's identity nearly impossible to discover. The book is ranked as one of Christie's most acclaimed and popular novel to date. It was adapted for the stage by Christie herself, under the title, *Ten Little Indians*.

Christie wrote 80 novels and short-story collections, four works of non-fiction and 14 plays. Queen Elizabeth II awarded Christie the title of Dame Commander of the British Empire.

Inspire Theatre began in 2005 as an accident and a dream. Fisher, who formerly

pastored the now closed First Missionary Church, came to a point in his life where he was either going to follow his dream of creating a theatre group or put it on the shelf.

"I spent years telling people to follow their dream, it was either put up or shut up," he said.

The group bounced from space to space until they decided to approach Warren Road Light and Life Church. They performed their first show there in February 2005. Back then it was only a dream and a lot of hard work. It's still a lot of hard work, but it seems to be paying off, Fisher said. The group did a Christmas show there and sold out every performance.

Fisher added that there are plans to begin a youth theatre, as well as a group for seniors in the near future.

For more information about the play, call (734) 751-7057.

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OUR VIEWS

Recall isn't good for W-W district

First, it was the Westland mayor and four council members waiting to see if north end residents are successful in gathering enough signatures to force a recall election. Now, it's two Wayne-Westland school board members waiting to see if a group of parents are able to get language approved to launch a recall against them.

In the case of the former, residents are angry because of the position the mayor and council members took in regard to the proposed Nankin Mills Village development. We understand some of their concerns, but we strongly disagree that a recall is the answer.

Organizers in the Wayne-Westland Community Schools recall effort also are angry over what they perceive as the school board's poor handling of contract negotiations which led to a four-day teachers strike earlier this month. They support the teachers and their call for smaller class sizes, and believe the dispute is all about money, not the students.

The recall of elected officials is a popular way for the public to express discontent with the political process. It's also a drastic action that should be undertaken only with a very complete understanding of the issues involved. In the case of Wayne-Westland, the issue is nebulous.

Parents are siding with teachers over class sizes, which teachers say are too large. They also believe teachers deserve a fair and equitable contract. It's understandable they would do that because of a special relationship between the teacher, student and parent that exists. But what they see as grounds for a recall are issues that must be hammered out at the bargaining table, not on a picket line, not with bullhorns at rallies and not in the newspaper.

School boards are elected by the public to act as their representative in managing the public schools. That's what this board has done. The members have shown fiscal responsibility. They have maintained the educational programs for students and avoided many of the problems facing other school districts.

We live in a country where people are entitled to their own opinions, but we also must live by the laws of the land. Wayne-Westland teachers didn't. Their strike violated state law. The fact they will not be penalized for their actions doesn't make what they did right. Nor does recalling board members because they dared to vote to set up hearing procedures.

These board members have done nothing wrong and do not deserve to be recalled. We believe the students would be better served if people let the union and the district find a middle ground in fact finding. The strike, the rallies and the rhetoric have done enough damage to the school district. This recall will only exacerbate the situation.

To avoid long election lines, vote absentee

In less than a week, our nation will renew itself once again and elect a new president and a new Congress. Many communities also have a plethora of local races that will determine everything from state representative and county executive to township board and district court judge. Unlike some places in the world, where such decisions are made by those already in power, in America, it is we, the people, who decide. We hold the power.

Considering the various challenges facing our nation and state, the stakes will be higher for Tuesday's election than at any time in recent memory. Local and state election officials say the turnout will be massive. Long lines are expected, which means voting Tuesday could be a time-consuming process.

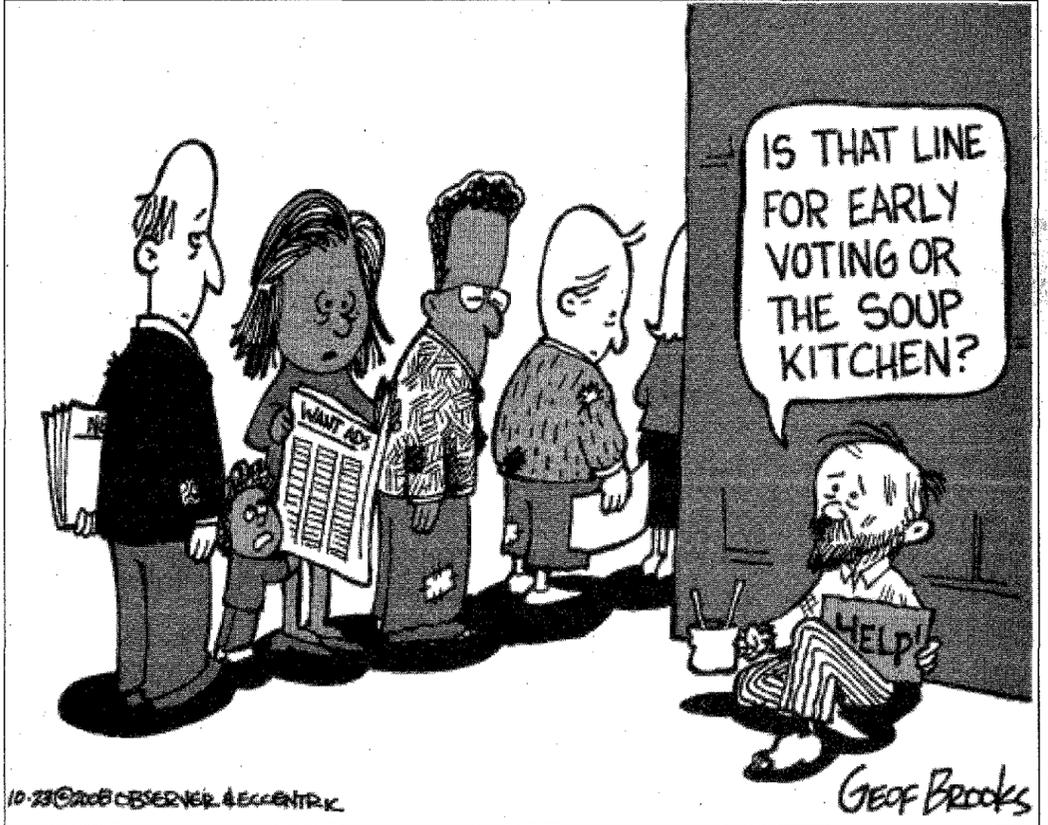
However, for people who might be physically unable to wait in long lines or have other issues that would prevent them from heading to the polls Tuesday, there is still an opportunity to vote with an absentee ballot.

To receive an absentee ballot by mail, you must submit an absentee ballot application to your township or city clerk by 2 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 1. You also have until 4 p.m. Monday, Nov. 3, to vote in person in your clerk's office. If emergency circumstances exist, the deadline for absentee voting may be extended to 4 p.m. election day.

There are several reasons that would make a person eligible to obtain an absentee voter ballot, including being age 60 or older; physically unable to attend the polls without the assistance of another; expecting to be out of town on election day; in jail awaiting arraignment or trial; unable to attend the polls due to religious reasons; or appointed to work as an election inspector in a precinct outside your precinct of residence.

For those of you who will be standing in those lines Tuesday, remember polls open at 7 a.m. and close at 8 p.m. (anyone in line at 8 p.m. will be allowed to vote). And remember to bring photo identification with you (it is required by law).

The fact that there is so much interest in the upcoming election is proof that Americans understand what is at stake and a testament to the power of our democracy. Don't be one of those people left out of the process.



Gebhardt is dedicated

On Nov. 4, 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 in 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 Nov. 4, I'm voting for Joan Gebhardt for Wayne County commissioner.

Gerry Wiatr
Westland

Supports Gebhardt

I support Joan Gebhardt for Wayne County Commissioner in the 12th District. I endorsed her as the best candidate in the primary and feel she will work hard for residents at a county level. I look forward to Joan's representation of Westland needs and I'm confident she will be an advocate for fiscal responsibility.

Roads remain a big issue as Westland residents frequently express concern about pot holes and dark streets and the need for improved traffic signals. As a resident in the northern portion of Westland, street lights on Merriman near Hines Park and even sidewalks to allow for better access for Saturday in the Park bike days are on my list of suggested projects.

Lastly, Ms. Bowman is to be commended for her time in office. I have always admired her dedication to social justice issues and hope that she

continues to seek ways to serve others using her many people skills.

Cheryl Graunstadt
Westland

Right-wing nonsense

In response to 15-year-old Janell Evans' versified prose lamenting her inability to speak out and imploring others to vote for the McCain/Palin ticket, I would submit that it is not her mouth that is closed, rather it is her young and vulnerable mind that is closed, having clearly been poisoned by right-wing nonsense, fear-mongering and despicable lies.

Is it her family who has so hardened her mind to reality, filled her with fear, and co-opted her ability to think? Or perhaps she has been relentlessly fed a hateful and intolerant version of Christianity, as espoused by some fundamentalist and evangelical churches that preach a perversion of the loving and inclusive Gospel of Jesus Christ?

Janell writes that "Obama will ruin" America's honor and dignity. I am not sure where she has been for the past eight years while history's greatest nation has been trashed on the world stage and set on a course of economic ruin by the same Republican Party she claims to support. Saddest of all, it is apparent that she has drank the Kool-Aid of conservative hate-mongering, urging support for those who have waged the least honorable, least dignified, and outright sleaziest political campaign in history.

Four years hence, President Barack Obama will be nearing the completion of his first term as United States president. His task of undoing the colossal failures and destruction wrought upon our America by Republican arrogance and stupidity will be daunting, but Sen. Obama is a brilliant man and with the support of all Americans he will succeed.

Janell will then be 19 years of age, legally an adult and able to vote for the first time in a national election. I pray that the intervening four years will be a time of growth and enlightenment for Janell as she completes high school and becomes an adult citizen of the United States. I also hope that she saves her words from this year, and looks back at this time as a benchmark, the beginning of when she learned to think critically and most of all, to think for herself.

Joe Golonka
Westland

Our best chance is Obama

I am writing in response to Janell Evans' letter printed in the Oct. 23 *Observer*. The writer claims to be afraid of a President Obama, encouraging readers to vote for John McCain and Sarah Palin. This letter, in the form of a poem, was presumably written by a 15-year-old young woman. Knowing nothing of the origin of Miss Evans' fears, it concerns me that a

teenager even has such fears.

The writer claims Barack Obama's past is "clouded in mystery" even though he has written two best-selling novels about his life. He and his wife, Michelle, have been completely forthcoming with all matters of their lives, including submitting all of his written medical records. The same cannot be said about John McCain who has yet to disclose copies of his medical records. His "full disclosure" consisted of allowing a limited number of members of the media to look over the hundreds of pages of medical documents for a few hours.

In her letter, the writer also claims Barack Obama would "ruin our honor and dignity." That could not be farther from the truth, as Barack graduated at the head of his class at Harvard with a degree in constitutional law. Under an Obama administration we can expect to see our rights, which have been suppressed under the current administration, restored. We can expect to see our standing with the global community restored, as well, as he begins to undo the failed Bush economic policies.

On the other hand, John McCain, having graduated at the bottom of his class from the U.S. Naval Academy, has voted for George Bush's failed policies 90 percent of the time. We can expect to see a McCain administration continue most of those same failed economic policies.

There is no mystery to the fact that Barack understands this economy is devastating working families. He turned down a lucrative job on Wall Street to help his community. He opposes bad trade deals and wants to block tax breaks for companies that ship jobs overseas. He promises tax relief to middle class families and will strengthen Social Security, not privatize it. He will fight for high-quality health care for all and supports our freedom to form unions and bargain for a better life to restore the middle class.

America's best chance to begin heading in the right direction is with a President Obama.

Patricia Linna
Westland

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

"In regard to the audit opinion, we've done the tests, we've been very thorough. There is no higher opinion." - Auditor Kathy Downey of Plante Moran in announcing that the Wayne-Westland Community Schools received an unqualified, or clean audit for 2007-08

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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's dire straits show need for innovative ideas, solutions

It's hard to see how the recent news for Michigan's economy could be any bleaker.

The domestic auto industry appears to be withering and dying before our eyes. According to Daimler, the German auto company that used to own all of Chrysler, and still has a 19-percent stake in it, Chrysler today has "no value."



Phil Power

General Motors is burning through cash at a \$1 billion-plus per month rate, trying to avoid bankruptcy, and is toying with a merger deal, mainly to get hold of what remaining cash Chrysler may have.

Ford has seen its chief financial officer and two influential board members bail out recently, while aged billionaire investor Kirk Kerkorian is selling millions of shares of Ford stock for something like one-fourth the amount he paid for them.

Meanwhile, Gov. Jennifer Granholm and her economic team is trying to figure out how to cope with the loss of 30,000 jobs. That's approximately what the absorption of Chrysler into General Motors would mean for our state. Any other scenario, such as a Nissan-Renault merger, would cost nearly as many.

If they are not already doing so, the governor and our other leaders might start thinking about what Michigan would look like if there is only one domestic automaker left after the recession's carnage is over. Sound farfetched? A couple of very senior auto experts I talked with last week didn't rule that possibility out — at all.

Whatever happens, it is perfectly clear that we'll need to jump-start our economy. So here's a list of bright ideas to do just that, culled from an evening recently spent with some of Michigan's brightest and best-connected folks. They are not my ideas. I just took notes at the discussion. And I don't vouch for any of them.

But taken together, they offer a fascinating range of suggestions from some very highly intelligent and well-informed people:

- Diversify our economy and make it far more entrepreneurial. It's too bad, but the domestic auto industry is going to shed lots of jobs, while other auto companies and manufacturers generally are scared to come to Michigan because of the unions. So focus instead on entrepreneurs and the services they need — venture capital, skilled management, high-tech research, educated workers. What about eliminating all state and local taxes for all newly formed companies in their first couple of years?

- Elect Dave Bing mayor of Detroit. The city needs a complete housecleaning and business-friendly orientation. Who could do it better than a successful businessman with unquestioned Detroit roots? While they're at it, what about eliminating all business taxes on firms located in the city? Sure, that would reduce city tax revenue, but Michigan's most troubled urban area needs a way to shrink city government to fit its present population.

- Attack the bad labor climate. The Grand Rapids Chamber of Commerce policy conference urged a statewide vote on right-to-work, a concept

that would outlaw the "closed shop" where all workers automatically have to be members of a union.

Teamsters Legislative and Community Affairs Director William Black warned against this; he called any attempt to try it the equivalent of starting World War III in Michigan.

So how about a compromise — how about experimenting with locally approved right-to-work districts, especially in economically troubled areas? Proponents claim a better labor climate would attract business, big-time. It's an opportunity to put that to the test.

- Concentrate on the workers of tomorrow. Assuming there is still a domestic auto industry, the companies that are left will need to hire thousands of new workers to fill holes left by a flood of retirements and layoffs. They'll need at least an associate's degree — probably one reason community college enrollments are way up.

Instead of letting new graduates leave the state, develop lots of internships, mentorships — anything to get recent college grads hooked up with Michigan-based employers.

- Recognize that our demography defines our future. Focus like a laser on the kinds of people we want to live here: educated, skilled, entrepreneurial. For out-of-state college grads, offer to rebate the high out-of-state tuition if they stay and work here for, say, seven years. For in-state grads, set up a massive, statewide job fair.

Try to import college-educated immigrants, taking a cue from Vancouver, British Columbia, which offered citizenship and a green card to any immigrant from Hong Kong with a degree and lots of liquid assets. They have helped Vancouver thrive.

What about "Welcome To Michigan" booths at our state's industry attraction offices abroad?

- Invest in human capital. Michigan has been leading the nation in slashing state support for universities, while Michigan's families are struggling to pay the tuition increases imposed to make up the difference. This is a foolish, strange and tragic disconnect between what we need — more and better college grads — and what we don't want — bigger and more expensive prisons.

Right now, by not investing in our schools, we are making it very likely that we will end up with even more prisoners.

- Fix the immigration law mess. High-tech employers (not to mention one of Michigan's top tourist attractions, Mackinac Island's Grand Hotel) are struggling because they can't get visas for skilled, experienced foreign-born workers. While wholesale immigration law reform languishes in the trenches of Washington, why not offer "distressed" communities exemption from these restrictive rules?

I don't argue for a moment all these ideas are good. In fact, I don't agree with some of them. But all of them are worth considering, especially in this time of large, and growing, economic troubles.

Phil Power is founder and president of The Center for Michigan, a think tank based in Ann Arbor. The opinions expressed here are his and do not represent the official views of The Center. Reader comments welcome at ppower@thecenterformichigan.net.

LETTERS

Changing colors

Having worked with kids for more 30 years, lots of it with sports, being involved with WYAA and John Glenn football, for many years, I think Westland is about to see a shooting star. His name is Keyshawn Martin.

I have been taking pictures on the sidelines for John Glenn football for many years. Over these years, you tend to see some kids with talent. Glenn has played against many that have made it, Drew Henson among them, but I think this kid is going to make it big. He is so talented. When the coaches at Glenn made him quarterback, they also saw the potential, and he set lots of records at Glenn.

Now, here is my predicament. I bleed Maize and Blue, Keyshawn plays for Michigan State. I have never allowed the color green to be part of my memorabilia collection. Well, times they are a changing. I am still true to the Blue. When I watch State — as long as they are not playing U-M — I root for them, but I found myself rooting for Keyshawn more and more as the game went on Saturday and State ended up winning. I felt so good for State.

Let me tell you why Keyshawn is playing for State. Brian Swinehart and Mark Anderson, the basketball coach, went through all the game films and made a tape to send to colleges. They sent several out, and Mark Dantonio called Brian, the AD at Glenn, and the rest WILL be history. They helped a kid who could not afford to go to college, and he is well on his way to being a standout player at MSU ... and possibly beyond.

So I said I would never allow anything green in my collection, well, I am getting a State Mini Helmet and I am going to try and get Keyshawn Martin to sign it. He is a true freshman this year and is being used a lot in the games. He is a wide receiver and punt returner and can throw a football very, very far. And he is FAST.

So to all the coaching staff at John Glenn, Brian and Mark, you gave a kid a chance to play and play he did. I salute all of you. Job well done.

Bud Somerville
Westland

Chained dogs suffer

As winter approaches, there is always a large increase in the number of calls for help, usually from concerned neighbors, who can no longer stand to hear a chained or penned dog cry all night long, or who are just plain disturbed by the sight of a dog suffering through another winter.

Although the practice of 24/7 chaining is pervasive in many parts of the country, states, counties and cities have started to pass laws against the practice. California passed a law in 2006, and Texas followed suit in 2007. Hundreds of municipalities have passed, or are considering similar legislation to restrict or ban the practice entirely.

An estimated 6 million "backyard dogs" are

facing another lonely winter with nothing but a leaky doghouse, frozen water and agonizing days and nights of cold. Perpetually chained dogs often become neurotic or aggressive from their constant confinement, often posing a danger to people.

For more information on what you can do to help, please go to www.dogsdervebetter.org.

Barbara Mays
Garden City

From the Web

The following are comments posted on the online version of the *Westland Observer*.

- Regarding our endorsement of the Wayne County Community College District tax education and renewal:

Opinion4U2 wrote:

Wait just one minute! Being a resident in the WCCCD district myself for a number of years, I find it very hard to believe that MY tax dollars are being spent wisely! This college is nothing more than a CASH COW! This has been a burden on the Wayne County taxpayers for many years! WCCCD spends money hand-over-fist like it's water! I am putting a STOP to giving them a blank check! There have been professionals that have stated that there is NO reason why they need to re-new this millage years in advance! WE, THE PEOPLE MUST put this to an immediate halt on NOVEMBER 4th! Please vote NO on this proposal! The economy is bad enough. Why should the communities in the WCCCD continue to pay when OUR children DO NOT even attend this community college? There are BETTER community colleges than WCCCD! PLEASE JOIN ME ON NOVEMBER 4th and VOTE NO on this ballot proposal! ENOUGH IS ENOUGH!!!!!!

- Regarding our story on the probation sentence for a man who posed as a photographer and assaulted a woman:

jcjc1 wrote:

This guy has done this at least twice and Diane Hathaway gives him probation? How does she think serial killers get their start? And she wants to be elected to the Michigan Supreme Court? I don't think so.

- Regarding our endorsement of U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter:

MulberryBank wrote:

WHY?!

He has had his time. Who needs him? Not me. One-thing I learned during Bush43, is that the 'best and the brightest' need not be in the room. I need someone to REPRESENT me. Not nuance his way around a career.

These days I am pleased to vote for "basic Democratic talking-points and is honestly concerned about the war in Iraq and the foreclosure problems."

How dumb are we? No, ...really...?

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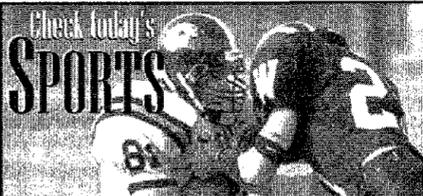
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NATIONAL ADOPTION AWARENESS MONTH

AdoptionMonth.org

Season of giving good time to evaluate charitable contributions

It's hard to believe there are a little over two months left in the year. There are important items to discuss before year's end and one of these deals with charitable contributions.



Money Matters
Rick Bloom

The holiday season is when many people open up their hearts and checkbooks to charitable organizations. In just a few weeks, we will start receiving various letters asking for money. Americans, by all accounts, are the most gener-

ous people in the world. However, there are many who take advantage of this generosity. If you are considering a charitable contribution, do your homework on the organization.

There are many fine charitable orga-

nizations that do good work with the money they receive. However, there also are a lot of organizations that do not effectively spend money on charitable purposes. In addition, there are organizations that out and out scam people out of money.

Many organizations sound very similar to legitimate organizations, but they are not. When you give to a charitable organization, you are giving money because you want to accomplish something good. There are a couple of Web sites, www.charitynavigator.org and www.give.org, that can provide you with a wealth of information about the charity you are considering.

One strategy used to maximize your charitable contribution is to donate appreciated securities. Donating a stock or an investment that you have a gain in means you can still deduct the full fair market value of the investment and avoid paying taxes on the gain. For example, if you paid \$1 a share for stock that is now selling for \$10 a share and you donate the security to a charity, you can deduct the full \$10 as a charitable contribution and avoid the capital gains tax. If you have losses on the security, then the better strategy is to sell the stock, deduct the loss for tax purposes and then donate the cash to a charity.

Not all charitable contributions are cash contributions. You also can donate clothes or household items. The key is to properly value the contribution and adequately document the donation. Whenever you make a charitable contribution, it is important to have the proper documentation. I have found — particularly with clothing and household items — that taking a picture and keeping it with your tax records is sufficient. That doesn't mean you have to take a picture of each item, but you do want some sort of documentation.

If you donate cash, save your cancelled check and the receipt that you receive from the charity.

When it comes to taxes, one thing no one wants is a letter from the Internal Revenue Service. Although you can't prevent the IRS from contacting you, as long as you have the proper documentation and receipts, you have nothing to worry about.

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

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Lyon tamers

Chargers rule KLAAs-Kensington

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The Livonia Churchill volleyball team ventured Tuesday night into South Lyon's "Jungle" and made it its own personal safari.

The Chargers, South Division champs of the Kensington Lakes Activities Association, earned the Kensington Conference title by sweeping the host Lions in three games, 25-23, 25-23, 25-19.

The victory also moves state-ranked Churchill into Thursday's league championship match against Lakes Conference champ White Lake Lakeland.

Once again, it was a balanced attack for the Chargers, who improved to 42-3 overall, while handing the KLAAs-Central Division champion South Lyon its third straight setback.

Senior Kristen Nalez paced Churchill's offensive attack with 15 kills, while junior Cierra Yetts added 12. Junior Sarah Sappelsa also contributed seven.

Defensively, Churchill got a sterling effort from senior libero Lindsey Graciak, who finished with a team-high 30 digs. Taylor Kerr also did her part with nine.

Assist-to-kill leaders included Kristy DeClercq (16), Cory Urbats (10) and Katie Matz (10).

Matz also contributed three kills and two ace serves.

"We had a couple of kids real sick," Churchill coach Mark Grenier said. "Nalez was fighting the flu and played really well. Urbats has pneumonia and Matz was sick, too. But this team shows the heart and perseverance to stick with it."

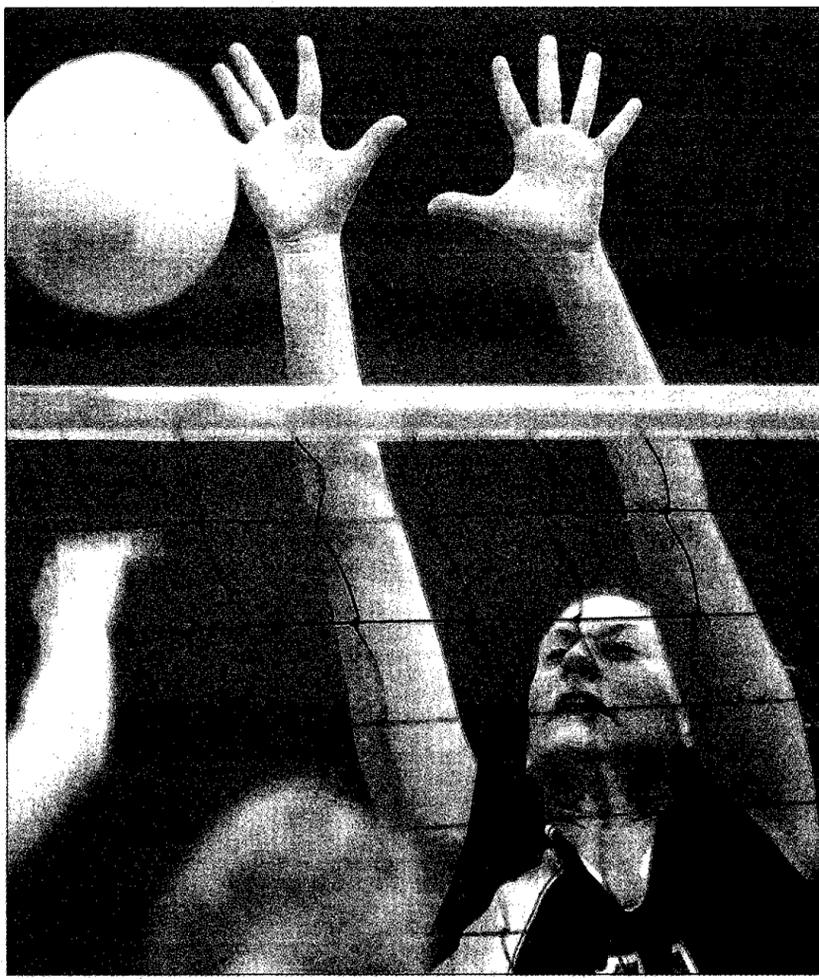
After the Chargers nearly squandered a 24-19 first-game lead, Yetts came through with her fifth kill, the game-winner, after the Lions closed the deficit to one.

In the second game, Nalez recorded seven kills and added one ace as Churchill held off the Lions, led by the twin tower duo of 6-2 Danielle Gotham (headed to Central Michigan) and 6-1 Kathleen Donehue (bound for Indiana).

"We talked a lot about matchups — where to put the ball over their big block — and I thought we did OK with our decision-making," Grenier said. "We just have to do a better job moving it from pin-to-pin."

Donehue finished with 11 kills and two solo blocks, while

Please see **CHARGERS, B2**



Churchill's Katie Matz gets her hands up to block a shot during Tuesday's Kensington Conference championship game against South Lyon.

TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Sidelines

Area Lakers excel

Grand Valley State captured the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference women's cross country title Saturday with a team-low 25 points in a meet held at Tanglewood Marsh Golf Course in Sault Ste. Marie.

Three area runners contributed to the Laker's team triumph including Megan Maceratini (Livonia Churchill), who took third with a 6-kilometer time of 21:42.9, followed by Sarah Kulczycki and Kelly Gibbons (both of Livonia Stevenson), sixth and 10th, respectively, in 22:12.2 and 22:24.1.

Wayne State's Rachel Malette was the individual winner in 21:24.8, while Northwood's Kylene Cieslak (Churchill) was runner-up in 21:38.9.

MU harrier report

Junior Sarah Sherwood (Salem) finished 14th with a school-record 5,000-meter time of 19 minutes, 4 seconds in Saturday's NAAI Great Lakes Invitational women's cross country meet held in Grand Rapids.

Other overall finishers for the Crusaders, who took 13th of 20 teams included Mallory Farnum, 78th (20:17); Kari Saarela (Livonia Franklin), 95th (20:55); Devan Walley (Franklin), 103rd (21:19); Emily Bambach (Livonia Ladywood), 113th (21:56); Emma Czapliski (Farmington), 115th (22:06); and Theresa Gase, 137th (27:15).

Cedarville, ranked No. 2 nationally, captured the team title with 43 points. Top-ranked Azusa Pacific (Calif.), led by first-placer finisher Jackie Kipwambok (16:57, was second.

Fourth-ranked Indiana Tech captured the men's team title with 58 points.

MU placed 21st with 580 points led by Livonia Churchill's Joe Horka, who finished 73rd in 27:07.15 for 8-kilometers.

Other MU finishers included Keith Hearn (Livonia Stevenson), 80th (27:20.85); Max Guy (Stevenson), 30:05.15; Bryant George, 145th (31:13.7); and Mitch Cieslak, 146th (31:17.25).

Churchill girls race to third straight regional crown

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Michigan International Speedway will get plenty of tread this weekend as boys and girls cross country teams from around the state vie for titles in four different divisions.

Leading the way is the Livonia Churchill girls squad, which captured its third consecutive Division 1 regional crown last Saturday at Willow Metropark in New Boston.

The Chargers were led once again by junior Sara Kroll, who ran away with individual honors, clocking a time of 17 minutes, 58.3 seconds for 5,000 meters.

Churchill won the automatic team spot with 48 points along with Ann Arbor Huron (86) and Ann Arbor Pioneer (99). Plymouth just missed out in



Livonia Churchill, coached by Sue Tatro (far left) celebrates after winning its third straight Division 1 regional girls cross country title Saturday at Willow Metropark in New Boston. Members of the squad include (remaining from left) Kayla Szado, Alyssa Mira, Emily Clairmont, individual champion Sara Kroll, Amanda Southwell, Jenna Szuba, Sarah Bauman and Bethany Pilat.

LESLEY CLAIRMONT

fourth with 103.

Kroll, the KLAAs-Kensington Conference and South Division champ, got

plenty of support from her teammates as junior Amanda Southwell placed fourth (19:09.8); senior Alyssa Mira,

seventh (19:30.9); freshman Bethany Pilat, 13th (19:45.8); and senior Emily Clairmont, 23rd (20:09.0).

Please see **CHURCHILL, B8**

Gainer leads Clarenceville resurgence

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

What a difference a year makes for Livonia Clarenceville's football program.

After going 1-8 during the 2007 season, the Trojans have made a dramatic turnaround, going 8-1 this fall and earning their eighth state playoff berth in school history.

It's also the first postseason berth for fourth-year coach Ryan Irish and the first for the Trojans since the 2004 season.

On Friday, Clarenceville will entertain Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard (6-3), which

has won four in a row, in a Division 5-Region 4-District 1 matchup. (Game time is at 7 p.m.)

A year ago, Clarenceville gave up a total of 244 points, which has been cut nearly in half this season at 120 (13.3 points per game).

The Trojans' undisputed leader of the defense is 6-foot-3, 215-pound senior linebacker Jeremy Gainer, rated one of the state's top players and a Division I recruit.

"We knew it was a big season for us. It started in two-a-days and we knew if kept working hard, we'd be in this situation now," Gainer said. "We've never given up.

And we've stuck together the whole time."

Gainer counts his favorite NFL players as Shawn Merriman and Ray Lewis.

"I love the enthusiasm and the way they play," he said.

Gainer, who has committed to Indiana, noticed a difference in this year's attitude.

"It starts in the weight room," he said. "I feel I've become a better leader. If they see me working hard, it brings up the rest of the team. Then you see others step up and play hard."

Please see **C'VILLE, B4**



Clarenceville's Jeremy Gainer has been stalwart on both sides of the ball.

TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



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Just in the Nick-erson of time: Stevenson grounds Pilots in OT

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Mike Nickerson was the unlikely hero in Livonia Stevenson's dramatic 1-0 overtime victory Saturday over Warren DeLaSalle in the Division I regional final held at Berkley's Hurley Field.

The lanky 6-foot-3 senior, who did not score a goal during the regular season, came off the bench to notch his third of the playoffs just 41 seconds into the first 15-minute sudden-death OT period to break the scoreless draw to propel the Spartans, now 19-1-3 overall, into Wednesday's state semifinal.

Nickerson, a senior who came on as a defensive replacement after sitting out the first half, took a free kick from Chris Long in the box and drilled a shot past a stunned DeLaSalle goalkeeper Sean Mukhtar for the victory.

"God Bless Mike Nickerson because he's completely about the team and it's nice to see him rewarded," Stevenson coach Lars Richters said. "With our backline we don't normally make changes, especially when things are going well."

"But with insertion of Mike he's very good in the air, has good skills, is able to settle things down and makes good decisions. And even though he plays defense, he has a knack for the goal."

It was Nickerson's biggest goal of his youth soccer career and it couldn't have come at a better time for the Spartans, who had to claw-and-scratch their way up-and-down the pitch against the determined Pilots, who bowed out at 19-3-2 overall.

"Coach (Richters) said stay warm (on the sidelines), and I did," Nickerson said. "My job is to go in on free kicks and get a piece of it. I saw the ball coming, I was able to chest it down, and I

was surprised to shoot it as hard as I did. It was a shock to have it wide open at the 6-yard line."

The dangerous chances throughout the 80 minutes of regulation were virtually even on both sides.

Stevenson's best opportunity came when midfielder Brian Klemczak's header clanged off the right post during the 14th minute of the opening half off a throw in from Kendal Snow. Klemczak also nearly scored with an acrobatic bicycle kick with six minutes remaining in regulation.

DeLaSalle, meanwhile, three good cracks at Stevenson goalkeeper Conner Burton in the first half, but the Pilots were limited in their chances during the second half as the Spartans' defense tightened.

But the big defensive play for the Spartans occurred in the 48th minute when Long made a key stop, clearing the ball off the line while backing up Burton on an attempt by DeLaSalle's Frankie Shellenbarger.

"It's very hard, it's painful," DeLaSalle coach Thayer Mukhtar said of the setback. "We're bummed because we feel we're as good as any team in the state, but we felt one shot short."

"We got caught up in the emotions of the game and didn't play our style. But they (Stevenson) had a lot to do with that."

Richters, meanwhile, had only a few instructions during the five-minute break before the first sudden death period.

"We had to slow down the momentum, go over the basics, play our system," he said. "We reminded them it was a 'golden goal' situation. There was a little rah-rah stuff - not so much from myself - it was more team-based."

"I also reminded them of the investment we had made with our seniors and the four years that they have put in."

Warriors bring home elusive Metro title

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

There would be no deja vu for Lutheran High Westland's varsity volleyball team.

The Warriors - not forgetting how they let the 2007 Metro Conference championship get away because of a so-so showing at the Metro tournament - came out at Saturday's Metro tourney and took care of business at Rochester Hills Lutheran Northwest.

A 3-1 win over Macomb Lutheran North in the tournament final gave Lutheran Westland the overall conference championship for the first time since 2005.

"This championship is very sweet considering how close we were last year and how we squandered our opportunity," said Warriors' coach Kevin Wade, whose team improved to 33-5-4 overall and 9-0 in the Metro. "We made sure this year that wasn't going to happen again."

A bye advanced the Warriors into the semifinals against Livonia Clarenceville, and they downed the Trojans by identical 25-13 scores.

That set up the final against the Mustangs.

"North definitely has improved since we played them last, but playing them ensured us of the (overall) title, win or lose," Wade emphasized. "They defeated Cranbrook in the semifinals which locked up first for us. So at that point we were playing for the tournament plaque, having already scored the championship trophy."

The North-Westland match went back and forth.

The Warriors took the opener, 25-21, before falling in 24-



Lutheran High Westland celebrates after winning Saturday's Metro Conference volleyball tournament at Rochester Hills Lutheran Northwest. The Warriors defeated Livonia Clarenceville in the semifinals before defeating Macomb Lutheran North in four games to claim their first outright Metro championship since 2005. Among the team members include (back row, from left): assistant coach Melissa Kratko, Becca Refenes, Katey Ramthun, Rachel Storck, Emilie Freeman, Allyson Yankee, Emily Wilson and head coach Kevin Wade; (front row, from left) Lauren Switzer, Nicole Zehel, Abi Gieschen, Lauren Gieschen and Cathy Haller.

26 in Game 2. The Warriors gained a 2-1 edge with a 25-13 triumph in the third game to set up the clincher, a 30-28 epic battle.

"We would get up and they would make a run to take the lead and then we would recapture the lead," Wade said. "Both teams had opportunities to seal the deal late in the game and neither did."

Finally, senior middle hitter Katey Ramthun (15 kills, eight digs, 20 serving points) hammered home a perfect set from senior setter Lauren Gieschen (41 assists, seven aces, 12 points) for the clinching point to spark plenty of celebration.

"This was just great for the kids," Wade said. "What a great experience, something they had never experienced before until now. I was just happy for them to see all their hard work and determination pay off."

There were plenty of players who made impressive contributions to the tournament victory.

Those included senior middle hitter Becca Refenes (38 kills, three blocks, nine aces, 24 points); senior outside hitter Allyson Yankee (11 kills, eight points, 20-of-22 serve-serve); junior defensive specialist Nicole Zehel (14 digs, 27-of-28 serve-serve, 15

points); senior defensive specialist Abi Gieschen (10 digs, four aces); senior setter Cathy Haller (14 assists); and junior middle hitter Rachel Storck (13 kills).

Chipping in with two solo blocks and keeping many rallies alive was junior outside hitter Emilie Freeman.

"We showed a lot of poise and composure in the fourth game, being down late with defeat staring us in the face," Wade continued. "We never seemed to panic and always seemed to be in control - hopefully, that pays off for us later down the road."

tsmith@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2106

CHARGERS

FROM PAGE B1

Gotham added seven kills and six solo blocks. But the dynamic duo was held pretty much in check by the Chargers' scrappy defense.

"Lindsey (Graciak) covers

so much that it allows us to do the things we do," Grenier said. "She took on the challenge of their two big swingers (Gotham and Donehue) and it was another good performance by her."

And I thought Taylor Kerr played out of her mind. There were a couple of big digs off their hits where she kept the ball in play."

The Lions, who captured the first-place tiebreaker in the KLAA-Central over Salem,

also got five kills from senior outside hitter Katie Biel.

"We should have beat them. We're stronger all the way around and we created our own errors," said South Lyon coach Susan Anderson, whose team slipped to 22-11-2 overall. "They (Churchill) are nothing special. We did it to ourselves. We just had to play our own game, not play down to the team we're playing. We have to play our own game and not allow another team to dic-

tate our play."

The two teams could possibly meet again in the regional final at Lakeland.

"I knew nothing about them and I'm sure they knew about us," Anderson said. "I did not think we played well offensively or defensively. We had some good blocking and picked up a lot of their balls, but we just did not transition well or read what they threw at us."

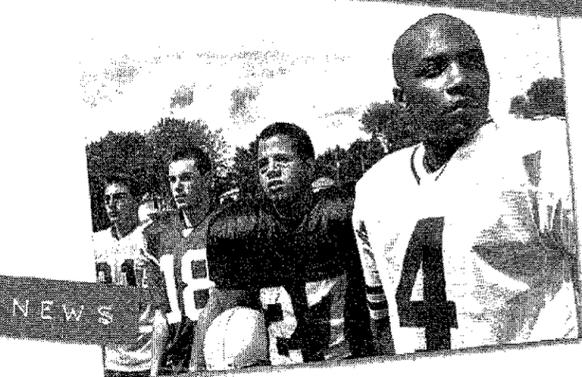
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- Rhonda Jackson - A108 - Toys, couch, 5 boxes
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THE WEEK AHEAD

PREP FOOTBALL PLAYOFFS

Friday, Oct. 30

(Division 1-Region 2-District 2)

W. Bloomfield at Stevenson, 7 p.m.

(Division 1-Region 4-District 1)

Franklin at Dbn. Fordson, 7 p.m.

(Division 5-Region 4, District 1)

A.A. Gabriel Richard at Clarenceville, 7 p.m.

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

Thursday, Oct. 30

Huron Valley at G.P. Univ.-Liggett, 6 p.m.

Thurston at Clarenceville, 7 p.m.

Waterford Mott at Franklin, 7 p.m.

Waterford Kettering at Wayne, 7 p.m.

Hartland at Stevenson, 7 p.m.

W.L. Western at John Glenn, 7 p.m.

(KLA Championship Final)

Pinkney or Lakeland at Churchill, 7 p.m.

BOYS & GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY

Saturday, Nov. 1

Temperance Bedford Tourney, 8:30 a.m.

GIRLS SWIMMING & DIVING

Tuesday, Oct. 28

Rocket Invitational at John Glenn, 3:30 p.m.

Ladywood at Grosse Ile, 6 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 30

Ladywood vs. Notre Dame Prep

at Livonia Comm. Rec. Center, 7 p.m.

GIRLS FIELD HOCKEY

Thursday, Oct. 30

State semifinals at Country Day, TBA.

WOMEN'S COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL

Thursday, Oct. 30

MU at Webber International (Fla.), 6 p.m.

Friday-Sunday, Oct. 31-Nov. 2

(NJCAA-Dist. E Tourney at Grand Rapids)

Schoolcraft vs. Columbus State (Ohio)

or St. Clair quarterfinal winner, noon.

Championship final, 4 & 6 p.m. (if nec.)

MEN'S COLLEGE SOCCER

Saturday, Nov. 1

Madonna vs. Cornerstone

at Livonia's Greenmead Field, 2:30 p.m.

(NJCAA-Region 12 Tourney at Delta CC)

Lakeland (Ohio) vs. Macomb, noon.

Schoolcraft vs. Cincinnati St., 2 p.m.

WOMEN'S COLLEGE SOCCER

Saturday, Nov. 1

Madonna vs. Cornerstone

at Livonia's Greenmead Field, noon.

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Saturday, Nov. 1

Schoolcraft at Alpena CC, 6 p.m.

WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Friday, Oct. 31

(Taylor University Tip-Off Inv.)

Madonna vs. Lindsey Wilson (Ky.), 6 p.m.

Taylor (Ind.) vs. Marygrove, 8 p.m.

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Saturday, Nov. 1

Schoolcraft at Alpena CC, 4 p.m.

(Taylor Univ. Tip-Off at Upland, Ind.)

Marygrove vs. Lindsey Wilson (Ky.), noon.

Madonna vs. Taylor (Ind.), 2 p.m.

TBA - time to be announced.

Back in business

Pats make playoffs again at 5-4, face 9-0 Fordson

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Livonia Franklin's 2008 football season has been resurrected from the dead once again.

The Patriots are returning to the Division 1 playoffs as a 5-4 at-large team for the second straight year.

Franklin garnered one of the 19 at-large spots in the 256-team field and made it as the fifth Class A-size school despite losing their season finale last Friday at home to 7-2 Hartland, 31-6.

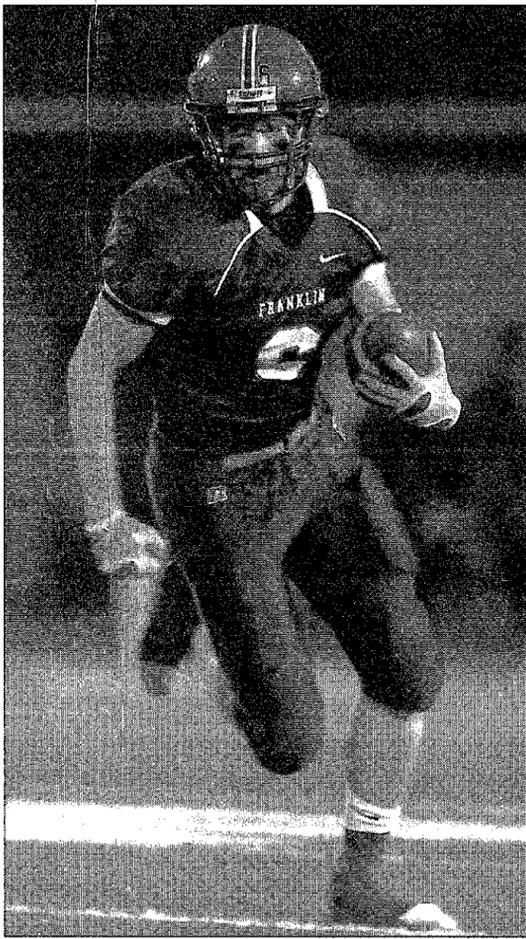
Franklin's task now is to go on the road this Friday and beat Mega-Red Division champion Dearborn Fordson (9-0), the same team the Patriots ousted in the second round of the playoffs a year ago, 20-8. (Game time is 7 p.m. for the Region 4-District 1 matchup.)

Coach Chris Kelbert admitted after Friday's loss that: "We're done." But after Friday's scores around the state began to trickle in, it was clearly apparent the Patriots were in the postseason tourney once again by early Saturday morning.

"We went into the (Hartland) game with the mindset that we had to win to get in," said Kelbert, referring to the MHSAA's six-win qualifying formula.

Nobody took Friday's setback harder, Kelbert said, than 5-foot-10, 180-pound senior linebacker Don Stratz, who leads the Patriots with 115 total tackles, including 43 solo.

"He took it the hardest," Kelbert said. "He did not play last year. He was on the scout team, but he's been the leader



TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Franklin's Michael Gadsby and his Patriot teammates hope to upend unbeaten Dearborn Fordson in Friday's playoff opener.

on our defense. He's been a constant all year and he was named a captain because of his work ethic. He's been non-stop energy."

Franklin's defense has a tough task against Tractors, who have outscored their opponents, 298-109.

Fordson relies once again on

a solid running game led by a trio of backs including Hassan Amen (89-for-889 yards), Ali Alaboody (76-for-642) and Abe Mroue (49-for-246). Alaboody, who also plays cornerback along with Amen, has committed to Bowling Green.

"They're run-oriented for sure, but they've been passing the ball very well of late," Kelbert said. "They'll go one-on-one in the box, make you go man-on-man with their top receiver (Baquer Sayed), who is making big plays."

Sayed has 21 catches for 548 yards. He is averaging 26.1 per grab to go along with nine touchdowns. Quarterback Ali Baidoun is 45-for-77 for 809 yards.

"Maybe they're not as big as last year, but they just as physical a team," Kelbert said of the Tractors. "Their backs are breakaway types. Once they've got you in the secondary, it's hard to catch them."

"We'll try and stop their running game and keep their offense off the field. We have to contain their running backs and we can't give up big plays."

Franklin, ironically, has won four of its five games this season on the road. The Patriots have lost to four playoff qualifiers and beaten one (Walled Lake Western).

Fordson, meanwhile, has signature wins against two playoff foes - city rival Dearborn (24-14) and 8-1 Southgate Anderson (36-21).

"Both of those games they got off to big leads and most everybody else has been playing catch-up against them," Kelbert said. "That's something we can't afford to let happen."

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Warriors end year on a positive note

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

It wasn't pretty, but Lutheran High Westland football coach Paul Guse' will take a win any way he can get it.

The host Warriors nipped winless Detroit Urban Lutheran, 7-6, on Saturday afternoon, wrapping up the season with a 4-5 record.

But it took a 40-yard interception return by junior Ethan Haller as well as Eric Shoats' extra-point kick to wipe out a six-point deficit late in the third quarter and put Lutheran Westland on top.

Otherwise, the season finale would have just been plain ugly for Guse' and the Warriors.

"I think we both played the game in about the same 40 yards of the gridiron," said Guse', noting that Lutheran Westland tallied 92 total offensive yards while the Vikings managed 85. "There wasn't much ball movement."

Sixty of Detroit Urban's offensive yards came on one play, a touchdown run early in the third quarter to break

a scoreless tie.

But Haller came to the rescue with his interception TD, that 4:23 left in the third, and neither team could muster anything the rest of the way.

Also picking off passes for the Warriors were David Moldenhauer and Garrett Wilson. Sean Rowe had two of the team's six quarterback sacks.

Haller also ran 20 times for 80 yards, but the Warriors merely spun their wheels on offense.

However it went, it was a victory and "ending the year on a two-game winning streak is always good," Guse' said.

What the future holds for Lutheran Westland remains to be seen, as discussions will continue about whether to leave the Metro Conference in 2009 for the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference or wait until the 2010 season to switch leagues.

Detroit Urban, meanwhile, finishes with an 0-9 record.

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FROM PAGE B1

Gainer also said the 2008 Trojans have bonded together. The whole team has become a brotherhood," he said. "Last year, things were a little segregated, but now it doesn't matter what color or grade."

Gainer gets advice from his older brother Jereme, a backup junior outside linebacker for 5-2 Southern Illinois University. "When he came home for the summer, I worked out with him," Gainer said. "He said don't take anything lightly, no matter how good or bad. I've taken it all to heart."

Clarenceville's task is to contain a potent Gabriel Richard offense, which is led by 6-3, 195-pound junior quarterback Josh Herbeck, who has returned from an injury to complete 50-of-103 passes for 1,018 yards and 13 touch-

downs.

Herbeck's favorite target is 5-9, 140-pound wide receiver Mike Yokum, who has 23 catches for 449 yards and four TDs. Jeff Lemanski (6-3, 160) has 18 grabs for 391 yards.

Houston Staub (5-10, 155) is the Fighting Irish's leading rushing with 540 yards on 104 carries and six TDs.

"They're a spread team that will run some split-back veer," Irish said. "They like to put the ball in (Yokum's) hands. He's a playmaker and will be a tough matchup."

If Trojans advance, they will host the winner of the Madison Heights Madison (5-4) at Almont (7-2) game.

"We don't want to be done," Irish told his team during a gathering Sunday night to watch the Fox Sports Selection Show. "We have a chance to decide how these seniors want to be remembered."

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Formidable West Bloomfield causes concern for Spartans

BY DAN O'MEARA
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

First-round playoff football games are sometimes one-sided non-contests resulting in a blowout.

By all indications, the matchup between top-seeded Livonia Stevenson and No. 4 West Bloomfield won't be one of them.

The Spartans (7-2), who were state runners-up last year, hope to begin another Division 1 playoff run Friday when they play host to the Lakers (6-3) in a 7 p.m. district game.

"I think it's going to be a very difficult game for us," Stevenson coach Tim Gabel said. "They're very talented and they have a lot of skill players."

"Defensively, they have a lot of athleticism and really hustle to the ball. They seem very sound in terms of their scheme and discipline; so I think they're going to be very formidable."

With a few breaks during the season, West Bloomfield, which lost to three playoff teams, might have been the top seed.

The Lakers could easily be 8-1 and maybe undefeated. They lost to Lake Orion by nine in the second week, and they had consecutive, double-overtime losses to Clarkston and Troy.

West Bloomfield is making only its second playoff appearance in school history. Stevenson is in the tournament for the fifth year in a row and 11th time overall.

"We know they have a good program," West Bloomfield coach Jim Thomas said. "There's some pride and tradition there. I just know it will be a good ballgame. Our kids are not going to go down there and lay down; our kids are committed to play well."

"People are not used to us being a team of this caliber, so a lot of times they're not going to know what we have. I'm glad of that. Hopefully, it will be a good game for both teams, and may the best team win that night."

The Lakers had to win their last four games to make the playoffs, and they did so by posting three shutouts and allowing only a safety in the other game.

West Bloomfield's defense will have to contain junior back Austin White, a Division 1 prospect who has rushed for



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Stevenson senior quarterback Jacob Gudeman hopes to lead the Spartans past West Bloomfield in Friday's state playoff opener.

1,320 yards and 23 touchdowns on 156 carries. He also has caught 14 passes for 211 yards and four scores.

"If our defense can hold him under a hundred yards, then we'll have a chance," Thomas said. "They've got a couple other key players. Everybody knows who the best player is, and they might do something just to throw you off."

"We're going to respect (White) and make sure we know where he's at. Hopefully, we're not going to let one player beat us. It hasn't happened this year, and we hope it doesn't happen."

Thomas added the Lakers have some good ones, too. They're led by quarterback Ryan Christensen, and they use a variety of backs led by Eric Ellis and Kevin Davis. The top receivers are Cameron Fields, Chris Hurst, Eric Wynns and Davis.

"The first thing that jumps out is they have a lot of different threats on offense," Gabel said. "They have a lot of kids who are very impressive. (The hard part was) trying to figure who their go-to guy was, and there were a lot of people making plays."

"The quarterback is a dual threat and seems to make a lot of good decisions. Defensively, they're quite sound in terms of fundamentals, the way they rotate in coverage and pursue to the ball."

Christensen, who played behind Drew Pyles last year and took only a dozen snaps, has been a pleasant surprise in directing the spread offense, according to Thomas.

Linebacker Justin Parker (6-2, 200) is the leading tackler on team. The Credit brothers, Tony and Antwaan, are booked defensive ends, and both are in the 6-5, 215-220 range. Cornerback A.J. Bolden is another key defender.

"I can name a lot of them, because all of them make big plays at certain times," Thomas said, adding the Lakers sometimes have a slow start and let teams drive on them.

"Once we get going, we mess up everybody's stuff. We haven't done well against running quarterbacks, but passing quarterbacks have to get out and scramble."

Slotback Wade Stahl, who has 1,500 all-purpose yards, is another key player for the Spartans. He's the leading receiver with 25 catches for 458 yards and three touchdowns. Stahl also has seven rushing TDs.

Jacob Gudeman has passed for 961 yards and eight touchdowns while completing 64 of 101 passes. Stephen Pollard has 17 receptions for 244 yards and two TDs. Stevenson's leading tackler is line-backers Wyatt Stahl and Kyle Hobbins and safety Zeb Bacigal.

"Whenever you play someone you're very unfamiliar with, it comes down to yourself and your own execution," Gabel said. "We know they're very good and their kids are going to play very hard, so we have to match that. We have to match that urgency."

Stevenson had only four starters back from last year's 13-1 team, but the current Spartans set high expectations for themselves, according to Gabel.

"The drive to be as good as we possibly can be is something these guys thought a lot about," he said. "There were a lot of kids who didn't get to play last year. We had outstanding seniors. These are good football players, and they weren't going to waste the opportunity."

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Churchill spikers bump Stevenson in U-M-Dearborn final

Two familiar foes squared off Saturday for the University of Michigan-Dearborn Invitational girls volleyball championship.

And it was state-ranked Livonia Churchill which improved to 41-3 overall with a 25-20, 25-18 triumph over rival Livonia Stevenson.

Churchill advanced in the elimination round with wins over Monroe-Jefferson (25-17, 25-9) and Plymouth Christian Academy (25-7, 25-18). In pool play, the Chargers downed Ferndale twice (25-12, 25-4 and 25-7, 25-10) and Romulus twice (25-17, 25-15 and 25-9, 25-17).

Kristen Nalez was the Chargers' top hitter on the day with 63 kills. She

PREP VOLLEYBALL

also added 17 digs. Sarah Suppelsa contributed 36 kills, while Jessica Stroud had 21 kills and three blocks.

Senior libero Lindsey Graciaci finished with team-high 70 digs. Setters Kristy DeClercq and Cory Urbats recorded 57 and 44 assist-to-kills, respectively. Urbats also served at 100 percent and had six aces, while DeClercq finished with 18 digs.

Katie Matz also had a big day with 40 assists, 17 digs and serve-received at 100 percent.

Stevenson, now 19-22 overall, posted wins over Dearborn Edsel Ford (25-20,

26-24), Bad Axe (25-20, 28-27), Taylor Truman (25-3, 25-13) and Madison Heights Lamphere (25-6, 25-8).

Top hitters for the Spartans included Brooke Knochel (49 total kills), Meg Iafrate (22 kills), Reina Tyl (19 kills) and Kaylee McGrath (18 kills).

Katie Vellucci and Claire LeBlanc set at 94 percent (98-of-104) and 92 percent (79-of-86), while Shelbie Wilson had 10 aces.

KLAA crossover wrap

Reina Tyl recorded seven kills, while Brooke Knochel and Kaylee McGrath added six apiece Tuesday as host Livonia Stevenson downed Livonia Franklin in a Kensington Conference

crossover, 25-11, 25-12, 25-10.

Setters Claire LeBlanc and Katie Vellucci contributed 13 and 12 assists, respectively, for the victorious Spartans, now 20-22 overall.

Christine Armstrong led the defense with 12 digs, while Meg Iafrate contributed five kills.

Franklin falls to 9-19-2 overall.

In a Kensington Conference crossover Tuesday, host Northville defeated Westland John Glenn in three straight, 25-22, 25-19, 25-11.

Brittany Holbrook had six kills, two blocks and 10 digs in a losing cause.

Other leaders for Glenn, which slips to 17-13-7 overall, included Halie Baker (six kills, three blocks);

Stacey Truskowski (six kills), Sarah Headrick (four aces) and Brooke Zywick (seven digs).

Northville improves to 19-15-2 overall.

Bianca Hayes and Catie Badrak had eight kills apiece Tuesday as Wayne Memorial won its KLAA crossover at South Lyon East, 18-25, 25-19, 19-25, 25-21, 15-8.

Badrak had five aces in seven service points, while Samantha Dye earned five points for the Zebras (7-30-2).

Other standouts for Wayne included Kristen Miller, three kills and 11 points (100 percent serving); Emily Rudy, two kills, a key block and two aces; Jessie Harris, three aces and a kill.

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Monday, November 3, 2008
Pittsburgh at Washington

Brown strikes it hot - young bowler rolls back-to-back 800 series

There are plenty of very good bowlers who have never achieved an 800 series. That translates into averaging 267 for three games. Now, along comes Jeff Brown II, a 21-year-old right-hander from Southfield who rolled an 864 on Oct. 12 and came back a week later with 826 on Oct. 19.



Ten Pin Alley

Al Harrison

His game scores were: 300-266-298 for the first series and 236-300-290 the following week.

Jeff had shot one 800 previously, and the second 800 game was his ninth perfect game. To take another perspective, almost every ball rolled must be a strike.

To make this feat all the more incredible, he did it while subbing in the West Chicago League at Woodland Lanes in Livonia.

This was no fluke, though, because Jeff is a very talented bowler who not only is very good, but had an unusual streak of "hot" shooting.

He had 33 strikes in the 864 set. Jeff started out quite young, in fact, he was a third-grader when they had an after-school bowling program

for the kids.

His Dad, Jeff Brown, Sr., gave him good coaching and later on he had advanced work with Michelle Mullen, Aleta Sill and Lisa Bishop from the pro shop at Country Lanes in Farmington Hills.

Asked about his equipment, Jeff said, "I use a 15-pound Ebonite - 'The One' - which I think is a terrific ball. They came out with it a couple of years ago, dropped it last year, and just started making them again."

Jeff is hoping his hot streak stays with him a while longer, as he has a shot at bowling with the pros starting Nov. 9 when they come to Taylor

Lanes, as he earned a spot to bowl in the qualifier, along with possible entry after winning the sweeper at Taylor.

Jeff says, "I'm not thinking about turning pro right now. My real job is with Wal-Mart."

Tail Waggers USA

Saturday, Nov. 8, is the time for one and all to come out to Woodland Lanes for the annual "Tail Waggers USA" fund-raising event for the prevention of cruelty to animals.

The registration fee is \$25 for adults and \$10 for youth bowlers 17-and-under.

This has been the "Pet" project for Laura Zain, who has been dedicated to the cause for

many years and has raised a lot of money for this worthy cause.

The squad times are: 9:30 a.m., 1 p.m., 4:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. with the special Pet Cadet squad for youngsters during the 9:30 a.m. time slot in which bumpers will be available for the little ones in which a parent must be present.

Registration forms are readily available at the Woodland Lanes counter or visit www.tailwaggersusa.org to get a form immediately.

For those who choose not to bowl, but just want to donate \$40 or more there are some very exciting prizes to be won.

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For more information, call Zain at (734) 560-4660 or Toby Robinson at (248) 353-7788. Woodland Lanes is located at 33775 Plymouth Road, just west of Farmington Road, in Livonia.

Al Harrison is a resident of Southfield, and a member of the Bowling Writers Association of America and the Detroit Bowling Hall of Fame. He can be reached by e-mail at tenpinalley710@yahoo.com.

MU continues WHAC dominance

The Madonna University women's volleyball squad chalked up another Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference win Tuesday with a 25-15, 25-20, 25-22 triumph at Cornerstone.

Lubovj Tihomirova and WHAC Player of the Week Whitney Fuelling led the way for the Crusaders, now 31-2 overall and 11-0 in the conference with 14 and 12 kills, respectively.

Mary McGinnis chipped in with nine kills for MU, which remains No. 7 in the latest NAIA national poll.

Also contributing prominently in the win was setter Inta Grinvalds, who finished with 36 assist-to-kills and a team-high 12 digs. Amanda Koszela added 11 digs.

Cornerstone (21-18, 6-5) was led by Holly Cousins' 14 kills and Marcie Blacquiere's 26 assists.

Crusaders win Classic

MU completed its four-game sweep with two more wins in Saturday's finale of the Crusader Classic.

McGinnis had 22 kills, while Tihomirova added 18 as host Madonna squeaked past No. 21-ranked Taylor

COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL

University (Ind.) in five games, 25-23, 20-25, 20-25, 25-18, 15-11.

Fuelling added 10 kills and 11 block-assists, while Grinvalds racked up 49 assist-to-kills as MU improved to 30-2 overall.

Brynn Kerr (Livonia Churchill/Schoolcraft College) led the Crusaders' defense with 18 digs, while Koszela and Abby Long added 10 each.

Jenny Peterson (17 kills), Kelsey Pritchard (13 kills) and Jackie Geile (12 kills) sparked the Taylor offense.

Betsy Brown added 48 assists, while Lindsey Bayle had a game-high 22 digs.

Earlier in the day, MU needed four games to beat Trinity International (Ill.), 25-20, 25-10, 23-25, 25-15, as Tihomirova had 20 kills.

McGinnis and Fuelling each added 14, while Grinvalds finished with 52 assists. Kerr also had 19 digs.

Carli Yattaw (13 kills), Cheri Stoddard (21 assists) and Allison Kingsbury (21 digs) paced Trinity, which slipped to 10-21 overall.

Graves bolsters Madonna University schedule to get prepared for January

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

To say Carl Graves has put together an ambitious non-conference schedule to get his Madonna University women's basketball team prepared for the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference season in January would be a huge understatement.

Included on the schedule is NCAA Division I Eastern Michigan and a pair of Division II schools, Wayne State and defending Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference champion Northwood University, along with NCAA Division III Calvin College.

And if that's not enough, the Crusaders will travel during the December holiday break to Las Vegas to play Vanguard (Calif.), the defending NAIA Division I champion. MU will also face formidable NAIA Division II Midwest foes Bethel (Ind.) and Indiana Wesleyan.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

"There are no slouches, but that's the plan to get ready for the conference," said Graves, who is coming off a 14-17 season where the Crusaders reached the WHAC playoff finals.

MU was picked fourth in the WHAC preseason coaches poll, but this could be a breakout season for the Crusaders' third year coach, who boast four returnees, a pair of key transfers and some promising freshman.

Among the returnees are 5-foot-8 senior forward Alysa Guerin (Salem), 6-1 sophomore guard-forward Tabatha Wydryck, 5-9 senior forward Christie Carrico and 6-0 sophomore forward Sheryl Jager.

Plymouth High's Kim Olech, a 6-foot junior forward, transferred in during the summer from Adrian College where she earned second-team All-MIAA honors averaging 9.7 points and 7.4 rebounds per game.

She is joined by 5-7 sophomore guard Katie Mount, who comes to MU via Ferris State.

"Kim was a late surprise, she enrolled here in the summer before we knew about her," Graves said. "She'll do well in our league. She's a strong girl, a big body, who watches what she eats. She's serious about everything."

With All-WHAC first-team pick Caryn Inman (13.3 points, 7.3 rebounds per game) graduating and point-guard Cali Crawford opting not to return for her final year to concentrate on her Sports Management studies, the Crusaders have a bit of a hole at point-guard.

Graves will start the season with three different candidates.

"That's the 1 million dollar question," he said of the point-guard slot. "Wydryck is one of our best ball han-

dlers, but actually she's better without the ball. We'll use (Katie) Mount and Erin (Bentley) there, too. All three will be responsible."

Bentley is a 5-4 freshman from Ida who could see significant minutes along with 6-foot freshman Vanessa LaMay (Taylor Truman). "We've got a lot of smart, talented freshman, but we don't know how they'll fit in just yet," Graves said.

Rounding out the squad is 5-7 freshman guard Kayla Spotts (Ida), 5-10 freshman center-forward Jennifer Redmond (Temperance Bedford), 5-2 freshman guard Katie Martin (Riverview Gabriel Richard), 5-4 sophomore guard Liz Buttery (Livonia Churchill) and 5-8 freshman forward Heather Goodwin (Bedford).

MU opens its season this Friday at the Taylor (Ind.) University Tip-Off Invitational to face Lindsey Wilson (Ky.).

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Highly-touted Calvin clips MU women, 2-1

The Madonna University women's soccer team battled fourth-ranked Calvin, an NCAA Division III foe, to a 2-1 loss Tuesday at Livonia's Greenmead Field.

With the loss the Crusaders fell to 13-3 overall and the Knights improved to 14-2-1.

MU would strike first in the match in the 18th minute when Ashley Stoychoff (Salem) beat Calvin keeper Alyssa Bergsma from the pass of Diana Brda (Livonia Franklin).

The Knights responded with a goal of their own in the 35th minute on a header by Natalie Veurink for the first of her two goals.

The two teams entered the half tied at 1-1.

Calvin took the lead for keeps in the 59th minute when

WOMEN'S SOCCER

Veurink scored for the second time giving the Knights a one-goal advantage that they held for the remainder of the match.

The NAIA released the national rankings Tuesday and Madonna climbed from No. 21 to No. 19.

The Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference regular season champions return to action beginning at noon Saturday at Greenmead Field for a conference match with Cornerstone.

The Crusaders will honor their senior class as they play the last home match of the season.

MADONNA 3, SIENA HEIGHTS 2: On cool, breezy Saturday afternoon on a wet field,

Madonna University (13-2, 11-0) remained perfect in WHAC action with a 3-2 win at Siena Heights (8-5-3, 5-2-3).

Ashley Stoychoff, (from Livonia Ladywood's Lauren Hess), Gina Leone (unassisted) and Livonia Franklin's Jessica Austin (from Kaila Moore) scored goals for the Crusaders, who carried a 3-1 lead into the 81st minute before the Saints' Ashley Wilmoth scored on a penalty kick in the 83rd minute.

Gem Cowperthwaite gave the Saints a 1-0 lead in the 16th minute from Allison Septer and Wilmoth before Stoychoff tied it in the 30th minute.

Saints goalkeeper Haley Mancini made eight saves, while MU's Brittany Warner (Plymouth) had to made only one in 90 minutes of action.

Cards fly in Madonna men's soccer win

In a match marred by 12 cards, Eric Kiebert's penalty kick in the 107th minute gave the Madonna University men's soccer team a 2-1 overtime win Saturday at Siena Heights.

The win keeps MU in a first-place tie with Aquinas in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference standings at 10-1 and 12-2 overall.

Siena Heights falls to 5-7-3 overall and 3-6-1 in the WHAC.

The Saints got on the board early in the match as Joel Parris finished off a Darrell Gudneau pass for a 1-0 Siena Heights lead in the fifth minute.

MEN'S SOCCER

MU could not crack the scoring column until the 62nd minute when Otieno Victor finished off passes from Kiebert and Daniel Amaya for the equalizer.

At that point the game became physical and the officials handed out 11 of the 12 cards from that point forward, including a red to MU coach Tino Scicluna and junior striker Emilio Giorgi, forcing MU to play a man down the remainder of the match.

With neither team getting a ball in the net the remaining

29 minutes, the game went to overtime. And after a scoreless first 10 minutes where Madonna peppered the Saints net with three shots - all on goal - the game went to a second extra period.

In the 107th minute, the Siena Heights keeper George Suidan took down a Crusader inside the penalty area, awarding MU a penalty kick.

Kiebert converted his opportunity, giving MU the hard-fought win.

MU's Anthony DeMarco made four saves on the afternoon, while Suidan made seven in a losing effort.

Check today's SPORTS

Got Game?
Yep, got scores, too.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

WYAA hoop signup

Registration for Westland Youth Athletic Association basketball is underway and will continue through Wednesday, Dec. 10 at the WYAA's Lange Compound Building, located at 6050 Farmington Road (north of Ford Road). The WYAA has openings for the following age groups: Right Start (7-8), Freshman (9-10), Junior Varsity (13-14-15) and Senior (16-19).

The cost for basketball is \$125. Right Start and Freshman level players have until Monday, Nov. 10 to register for \$125, while JV, Varsity and Senior players must sign up by Wednesday, Dec. 3 also for \$125.

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

Prep coaches wanted

Westland John Glenn High School has coaching openings for varsity girls soccer, boys diving and girls bowling. Those interested can apply online at www.wwcsd.net.

Livonia Ladywood is seeking a girls junior varsity golf coach for the 2009 fall season along with a girls junior varsity competitive cheer coach for the 2008-09 season.

Those interested should fax a resume to Ladywood High School at (734) 591-2386.

Livonia Turkey Trot

The City of Livonia Department of Parks and Recreation Turkey Trot 5-kilometer run-walk will start at 9:30 a.m., Saturday, Nov. 1, at Bicentennial Park, located at Seven Mile and Wayne roads.

Check-in begins at 9 a.m. All proceeds and canned-food donations will go to the Livonia Goodfellows to provide goods for needy families along with a Christmas dinner. Anyone that brings a non-perishable item will receive a ticket and will be entered in the raffle.

The entry fee is \$10 per adult and \$5 for children (ages 3-17). Included in the fee is T-shirt, drink and snack. Registration will be at the Livonia Community Recreation Center, located at

15100 Hubbard (at Five Mile Road).

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

Rosedale 5K run

The Rosedale Area Neighbors will stage the Red, White & Blue 5-kilometer run and 1-mile fitness walk to benefit the Livonia Community Foundation beginning at 10 a.m. and 10:30 a.m., respectively, Saturday, Nov. 8 at Mies (Whitman) Park Shelter, located on W. Chicago between Farmington and Merriman roads, in Livonia.

Check-in begins at 8 a.m. and closes at 9:30 a.m. on race day. Long-sleeve shirts will go to the first 150 registrants. Pizza, pasta and prizes follow at 11:15 a.m. at the finish line. Red, white and blue apparel and bring a canned good for the Boys Scouts annual Can-Do drive.

Pre-registration fees for the Veterans Day run are \$15 (adult), \$10 (high school or middle school), \$5 (elementary or younger) and \$43 (family). Race day registration is \$18 (adult), \$13 (high school or middle school), \$8 (elementary or younger) and \$50 (family).

For more information, call (734) 261-8218.

5K Trot for Mott

The Trot for Mott, a 5-kilometer run-walk will begin at 3 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 15 at Doc's Sports Retreat, located at Seven Mile and Victor Parkway, in Livonia.

The vent will benefit the Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Unit at the University of Michigan C.S. Mott Children's Hospital.

The early registration deadline (by Nov. 8) is \$25 (includes Mizuno technical running shirt, goodie bag and entry to a post run party at Doc's). Race day registration is \$30 per person. (Additional shirts will be available for \$15.) Checks should be made payable to Trot for Mott.

For more information, call (734) 642-6664.

Hoop managers meeting

The City of Livonia Department of Parks and Recreation 2009 men's basketball league will stage a

managers meeting for new and returning teams beginning at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 5, at the Livonia Community Recreation Center, 15100 Hubbard Road (at Five Mile Road).

The projected starting date for the league is Jan. 5. The cost is \$375 per team (plus non-resident and officials fee per game).

Returning teams must be registered by 4:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 24. The deadline for new teams will be announced at the meeting.

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

Girls volleyball tryouts

TCA, which stands for "Team Complete Athlete," has formed a new club for girls ages 12-18 in Oakland County.

Tryouts for the following age groups will be: noon to 2 p.m. (12-14); 2-4 p.m. (15-16); and 6-8 p.m. (17-18) - all on Sunday, Nov. 9, at West Hills Middle School, 2601 Lone Pine Road, West Bloomfield.

For more information, visit www.tcavolleyball.com; or call coach Sander Cohen at (248) 802-1148.

Franklin hoop fund-raiser

The Livonia Franklin boys basketball program will stage a fund-raiser from 4-10 p.m. Monday, Dec. 8 at Buffalo Wild Wings, located at 6677 N. Wayne Road, Westland.

Buffalo Wild Wings will donate 20 percent of each bill towards the program when you present a flyer, which can be downloaded on www.franklinbasketball.googlepages.com. Specials include 60 cent boneless wing night, lunch deals and Monday Night Football. Everybody is welcome.

Baseball Academy

The Pro Secrets Baseball Academy will be conducting showcase sessions for high school players as well as skill sessions in power pitching, hitting and fielding.

The latest pro pitch trainer will be used and former Phillies pitcher Mark Rutherford will be the featured instructor.

For more information, call (734) 421-4928.

Spitfires light up lamp in 9-4 win vs. Whalers

The Plymouth Whalers' final game Sunday afternoon at the venerable Windsor Arena was less than memorable.

The Spitfires doubled up the Whalers, 9-4, before a crowd of 3,598 in Windsor. The Spits will be moving into a new facility later this year.

The loss dropped Plymouth to 5-7-1-0 in the Ontario Hockey League, while Windsor improved to 15-1-0-0.

Windsor led 3-0 after one period and 6-1 after two.

Adam Henrique spearheaded the winners' offensive onslaught with a hat-trick and a pair of assists.

Chris Terry led Plymouth with a pair of lamp-lighters - his 10th and 11th of the season. Kaine Geldart and Tyler

J. Brown scored single goals for the Whalers while Tyler G. Brown, Myles McCauley, Terry and Tyler J. Brown notched assists.

Andrew Engelage earned the victory between the pipes for Windsor, stopping 27-of-31 shots. Jeremy Smith took the loss despite making 32 saves.

Matt Hackett played the final 20 minutes in goal for Plymouth, yielding three goals while knocking away 14 Spitfire shots.

The Whalers are in store for a busy weekend as they travel Friday to London before returning Saturday to Compuware Arena to host Kitchener. They hit the road again Sunday to take on Sarnia.

Captain Terry selected

Plymouth captain Chris Terry has been selected to play in the 2008 ADT Canada Russia Challenge, a six-game series played throughout the Canadian Hockey League Nov. 17-27.

The 19-year-old Terry, a native of Brampton, Ontario, was selected by the Carolina Hurricanes in the fifth round of the 2007 National Hockey League Entry Draft. He currently leads the Whalers with 11 goals and four assists.

Terry is 11th on the Whalers' all-time career scoring list with 86 goals and 124 points.

Each league in the CHL will be supplying players for the games in their leagues' respective venue.



Rams roll to title

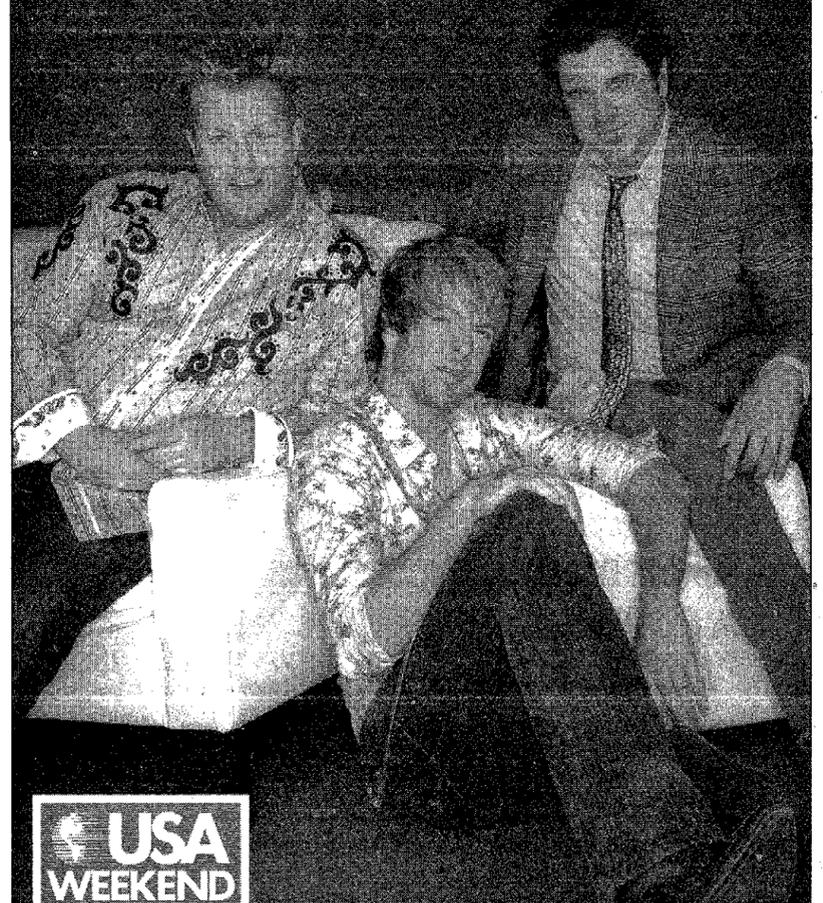
The Horny Rams adult coed soccer team won its league championship on Oct. 21 with a 13-7 victory over Recreational Hazard at Canton's High Velocity Sports. The Horny Rams finished the season 8-0-0, outscoring opponents 84-44, en route to a second consecutive title. The team includes the following: (back row, from left) Stacie Perkins, Wixom; Scott Cosnowski, Redford; Megan Kelley, Redford; Jim Michael, Livonia; Chris Jackett, Redford; Greg Michael, Livonia; (front row, from left) Pablo Benavidez, Livonia; Karen Jackett, Redford; Roger Sacks, Livonia. Not pictured are Dan Sporer of Redford, Sarah Plymale of Canton and Gina Vulaj of Livonia.

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No. 1 Rocks fall in OT at Saline

BY ED WRIGHT
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

BOYS SOCCER

Like a thief in the night, a perfectly executed corner kick robbed the No. 1-ranked Salem boys soccer team of an opportunity to move on in the state playoffs Saturday night in Saline.

With 11:08 remaining in the first 15-minute sudden-victory overtime period, Saline's Dan Kuehn roped a curving kick to the left post that Zach Walega rammed home to give the Hornets a 1-0 triumph on a windy, bone-chilling late-October night.

The Regional final setback proved to be the only blemish on Salem's 22-1-4 record.

The Rocks threatened to end the contest two minutes earlier when they lasered a shot that bounced firmly off what appeared at first glance to be the soccer goal's cross-bar and right to Lachlan Savage, who drilled the rebound into the lower right-hand corner of the net from 15 yards out.

The referee, however, ruled correctly that the initial shot hit the cross-bar on the football goal-post that was positioned just above the top of the soccer net, so the ball was ruled dead at that point.

"It's devastating for all the players to get this far only to lose in overtime in such dramatic fashion," said Salem

coach Ed McCarthy. "A lot of our guys were hoping for a goal kick on that play, but the linesman called it a corner and Saline executed it perfectly. It was very difficult to defend."

Both goal-keepers — Salem's Sasa Miskovic and Saline's Carter Beil — came up big when called upon during the game's first 83 minutes.

Of the many big saves Miskovic registered, one of the most impressive came with 33:04 left in regulation when he smothered a sizzling 15-yard rocket off the foot of Saline's Kyle Mattson.

Salem's best chance to score came in the game's seventh minute when Josh Pascarella lined a free kick into the box that Jace Bearden headed into the cross-bar.

Saline's Mitch McLean drilled the cross-bar from 35 yards out 10 minutes later.

McCarthy said the loss in no way diminishes the pride he felt in his highly accomplished squad.

"To be ranked No. 1 all season and to go through the entire season up to this point — playing a very difficult schedule — and not lose until tonight, I couldn't be happier with the way this team played all season," he said. "Even though we lost, I was proud

of the way the guys played tonight. They played hard from the opening minute."

McCarthy is convinced his team would still be alive if it would have had the services of senior captain Jeremy Stoychoff on Saturday.

The Rocks' three-year-starting mid-fielder, who will play collegiate soccer along with Bearden beginning next fall at the University of Detroit-Mercy, missed both Regional contests due to a leg injury suffered in the District final against Livonia Churchill.

"There is no doubt in my mind that if Jeremy plays tonight, the result would be different," McCarthy said.

The Rocks thrived this fall in the inaugural season of the Kensington Lakes Activities Association's Central Division — arguably the most competitive six-team division in the state.

Among Salem's most noteworthy victories were an early-season 1-0 triumph over Warren DeLaSalle, a pair of wins over Northville and two triumphs against cross-campus rival Canton.

The game marked the end of the career of 10 senior Rocks, including All-Stater Kevin Cope, who is headed to Michigan State University to play next fall.

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PREP CROSS COUNTRY RESULTS

REGIONAL CROSS COUNTRY RESULTS

DIVISION 1

Oct. 25 at Willow Metropark

BOYS TEAM STANDINGS (top 3 qualify for state finals)

1. Ann Arbor Pioneer, 23 points; 2. Ann Arbor Huron, 72; 3. Plymouth, 77; 4. Canton, 86; 5. South Lyon, 139; 6. Salem, 154; 7. Livonia Churchill, 183; 8. Livonia Franklin, 230; 9. Dearborn Heights Crestwood, 245; 10. Dearborn, 270; 11. Westland John Glenn, 341; 12. Wayne Memorial, 389; 13. Garden City 406.

Individual winner: Dan Culbertson (Pioneer), 15:48.3 (5,000 meters).

Plymouth finishers: 2. Elmar Engholm, 15:56.3; 11. Derek Lax, 16:31.4; 19. Warren Buzzard, 16:45.3; 20. Joe Porcari, 16:46.4; 25. Matt Neumann, 16:54.5; 44. Derek Gielarowski, 17:41.2; 59. Stephen Balaze, 18:03.6.

Canton finishers: 8. Duncan Spitz, 16:23.4; 13. Kyle Clinton, 16:37.0; 14. Miles Felton, 16:37.6; 23. Greg Reed, 16:51.2; 28. Paul Rakovitis, 17:03.7; 33. Mitch Clinton, 17:18.3; 37. Zach Spreitzer, 17:28.3.

Salem finishers: 10. Matt Devey, 16:31.1; 27. Mike Charara, 17:02.8; 30. Jason Smith, 17:11.7; 41. Alex Long, 17:35.5; 46. Neil Gerlach, 17:43.0; 61. Zach Waves, 18:15.6; 66. Jared Jones, 18:24.7.

Churchill finishers: 17. Mark Waterbury, 16:44.5; 24. Nathan Wise, 16:53.4; 42. Matt Szado, 17:37.6; 49. Mike Schmidt, 17:45.7; 51. Tom Windle, 17:49.6; 57. Quinn Osgood, 18:00.6; 61. Steve Zoski, 18:08.0.

Franklin finishers: 36. Austin Jones, 17:26.0; 40. Pete Walblay, 17:32.6; 43. Paul Hanni, 17:40.5; 53. Dylan Taylor, 17:52.7; 58. Nick Gherardini, 18:02.3; 60. Jason Riffel, 18:06.7; 68. Bobby Wilson, 18:32.2.

John Glenn finishers: 39. Tim Boes, 17:31.6; 75. Eric Mylar, 19:44.4; 76. Jeff Medel, 20:23.5; 77. Ruben Maya, 20:42.4; 78. Ryan Vichinsky, 20:51.3.

Wayne finishers: 71. Tyler Gendron, 19:18.4; 72. Darryl Ison, 19:26.7; 81. Brandon Tykoski, 21:37.7; 82. Jacob McClester, 21:40.7; 90. Darnell Givhan, 25:06.9.

Garden City finishers: 79. Andrew Chambo, 20:53.7; 83. Moises Cruz, 21:49.6; 84. Josh Avery, 22:20.5; 85. Mason Mitchell, 22:57.7; 87. Kyle Watts, 23:30.1; 88. William Whitaker, 23:30.6.

GIRLS TEAM STANDINGS (top 3 qualify for state finals)

1. Livonia Churchill 48 points; 2. Ann Arbor Huron, 86; 3. Ann Arbor Pioneer, 99; 4. Plymouth, 103; 5. Salem, 120; 6. Dearborn, 120; 7. Canton, 136; 8. Livonia Franklin, 154; 9.

South Lyon, 272; 10. Westland John Glenn, 334; 11. Garden City, 339.

Individual winner: Sara Kroll (Churchill), 17:58.3 (5,000 meters).

Other Churchill finishers: 4. Amanda Southwell, 19:09.8; 7. Alyssa Mira, 19:30.9; 13. Bethany Pilat, 19:45.8; 23. Emily Clairmont, 20:09.0; 25. Kayla Szado, 20:12.2; 50. Sarah Bauman, 21:43.3.

Plymouth finishers: 8. Molly Slavens, 19:38.5 (sq); 12. Nicole Trailles, 19:43.7 (sq); 18. Beth Heldmeyer, 19:58.8; 30. Kelly Hahn, 20:35.8; 35. Tricia Pniwski, 20:59.8; 36. Julie Forster, 21:01.7; 43. Adrienne White, 21:28.9.

Canton finishers: 6. Bianca Kubicki, 19:19.7 (sq); 16. Rachael Rohrbach, 19:56.3; 32. Abigail Gorzalski, 20:52.5; 40. Chelsea Smith, 21:13.6; 42. Cassie Kramer, 21:24.9; 48. Emily Southern, 21:42.3; 49. Katelyn David, 21:43.0.

Salem finishers: 10. Victoria Tripp, 19:40.6 (sq); 11. Jordyn Moore, 19:40.9 (sq); 28. Kelley Determan, 20:31.9; 33. Kelly Kerwin, 20:53.5; 38. Phoebe Vanhoof, 21:07.5; 47. Linda Ling, Salem, 21:40.5; 60. Kara Booms, Salem, 22:45.5.

Franklin finishers: 3. Megan McPherson, 18:58.3 (sq); 31. Tiffany Lambie, 20:44.5; 34. Brittany Dilley, 20:56.7; 41. Brittany Rouse, 21:19.3; 45. Kelly Walblay, 21:32.4; 53. Megan Wickens, 21:49.8; 57. Shannon Niznik, 22:28.1.

John Glenn finishers: 61. Ashley Bailey, 22:50.9; 64. Evi Jenomli, Westland John Glenn, 23:00.4; 70. Jamie Medel, 24:07.5; 73. Megan Nikula, 24:57.0; 77. Michelle Levy, 25:59.9; 78. Audra Flores, 26:21.1; 80. Molly Robinett, 27:29.0.

Garden City finishers: 63. Christina Milne, 22:54.3; 68. Rebecca Szczembara, 23:32.1; 72. Rachel Szczembara, 24:41.7; 74. Whitney Spencer, 25:15.9; 75. Brianna Chambo, 25:33.9; 76. Breanna Mize, 25:56.9; 79. Megan Pichla, 26:33.3.

Wayne finishers: 59. Holland Boertje, 22:37.0; 62. Jennifer McCaffery, 22:52.4; 71. Chelsea Gilbert, 24:23.1.

Oct. 24 at Huron Meadows

BOYS TEAM STANDINGS (top 3 qualify for state finals)

1. Novi-Detroit Catholic Central, 49; 2. Pinckney, 58; 3. Novi, 87; 4. Northville, 111; 5. Howell, 142; 6. Brighton, 155; 7. Walled Lake Western, 166; 8. University of Detroit-Jesuit, 195; 9. Detroit Mumford, 242; 10. Farmington, 273; 11. Livonia Stevenson, 303; 12. North Farmington, 363; 12. Redford Union 388; 13. Farmington Hills Harrison 395.

Individual winner: Matt Wines (Pinckney), 15:41.5 (5,000 meters).

Stevenson finishers: 54. Shawn House, 17:30.2; 55. Joe Urso, 17:31.7; 60. Andrew Longhi, 17:40.6; 62. Travis Gosselin, 17:45.7; 72. John Lynch, 18:05.2; 84. Adam Chludzinski, 18:46.2; 88. Matt Williams, 18:50.0.

DIVISION 2

Oct. 25 at Springfield Oaks

GIRLS TEAM STANDINGS (top 3 qualify for state finals)

1. Dexter, 59; 2. Dearborn Divine Child 59; 3. Birmingham Seaholm, 69; 4. Chelsea, 96; 5. Bloomfield Hills Lahser, 103; 7. Livonia Ladywood, 185 (14 schools).

Individual winner: Alex Mathews (Seaholm), 19:08 (5,000 meters).

Ladywood finishers: 7. Julia Kenney, 20:17 (sq); 38. Meredith Houska, 21:48; 39. Becky Babon, 21:50; 46. Morgan Zuziak, 22:00; 55. Cathy Wojtanowski, 22:25; 66. Shannon Scarlett, 23:00; 88. Laura Bou-Maroun, 25:20.

DIVISION 3

Oct. 25 at Springfield Oaks

GIRLS TEAM STANDINGS (top 3 qualify for state finals)

1. Macomb Lutheran North 25; 2. Almont, 57; 3. Lake Fenton 69; 7. Livonia Clearcreekville High School, 186 (7 schools).

Individual winner: Marie Burkland (Almont), 19:43.8.

Clearcreekville finishers: 30. Tara Hernes, 24:39.3; 42. Paige West, 26:48.5; 44. Elizabeth Murphy, 29:32.3; 46. Amber Moreland-Clark, 30:18.9; 48. Marguerite Fowler, 31:24.2.

DIVISION 4

Oct. 25 at Lake Erie Metropark

GIRLS TEAM STANDINGS (top 3 qualify for state finals)

1. Ann Arbor Greenhills, 51; 2. Waldron 67; 3. Sand Creek, 76; 4. Lutheran Westland, 149 (8 schools).

Individual winner: Wionah Krug (Newport Lutheran South), 20:19 (5,000 meters).

Lutheran Westland finishers: 4. Sarah Maynard, 21:32 (sq); 13. Miriam Pranschke, 22:33 (sq); 17. Erin Lyle, 22:55; 22. Brittany Maynard, 23:41; 28. Amber Pniwski, 24:10; 36. Jessica Rice, 24:35; 37. Beth LaRose, 24:37.

BOYS TEAM STANDINGS (top 3 qualify for state finals)

1. Adrian Lenawee Christian, 33; 2. Ann Arbor Greenhills, 72; 3. Sand Creek, 98; 6. Lutheran Westland, 149 (8 schools).

Individual winner: Will Brown (Lenawee Christian), 16:41 (5,000 meters).

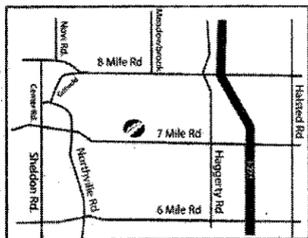
Lutheran Westland finishers: 2. Spencer Lyle, 16:58; 27. Alex Kemp, 19:38; 34. Jeremy Kohzt, 20:14; 41. Joshua Kirk, 20:52; 47. Zechariah Robinson, 21:46.

(sq): additional individual state qualifier.

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CHURCHILL

FROM PAGE B1

Livonia Franklin sophomore Megan McPherson is also headed to the state meet as an individual qualifier after placing third with her second-best time ever in 18:58.3 (also a new Patriot course record).

"Megan gives us a representative at the state meet once again after a one-year hiatus," Franklin coach Dave Bjorklund said. "Megan ran a

great race and was very close to (Annie-Norah) Beveridge from (Ann Arbor) Huron most of the way, only missing second place by three seconds."

Another individual state qualifier is Livonia Ladywood senior Julia Kenney, who finished seventh at the Division 2 girls regional Saturday at Springfield Oaks with a time of 20:17.

In Division 4, Lutheran Westland took fourth in the team standings at Lake Erie Metropark, but qualified both Sarah Maynard (fourth) and Miriam Pranschke (13th).

On the boys side, Lutheran Westland senior captain Spencer Lyle took runner-up honors in 16:58.27 to qualify again. He was regional champion a year ago.

Girls races begin as follows: Division 4 (11 a.m.); Division 3 (11:30 a.m.); Division 2 (2:30 p.m.); Division 1 (3 p.m.).

Boys races will be at 10 a.m. (Division 1); 10:30 a.m. (Division 2); 1:30 p.m. (Division 3); and 3 p.m. (Division 4). Admission is \$7.

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GET OUT



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Boris Karloff is the creature in "Frankenstein."

Having fun doesn't have to empty your wallet

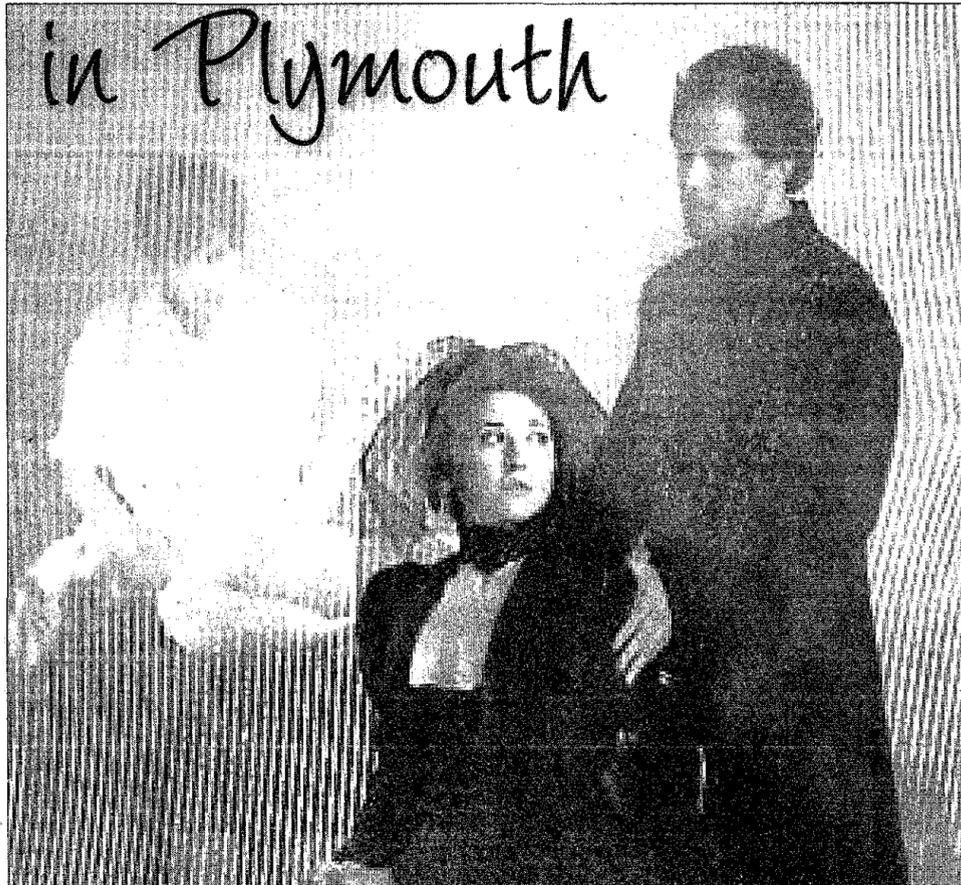
BY LANA MINI
STAFF WRITER

Several weeks ago, *Filter* focused on inexpensive entertainment in the city of Livonia. Today, we look at neighborhood fun in Plymouth.

Blazing in vivid colors of oranges and red, Plymouth's charm is arguably at its perfection during autumn.

Walking the winding streets with leaves crunching under your feet is entertainment for free.

Then during evenings things liven up inside the area's many



Plymouth's Barefoot Productions performs *Playing With Fire (After Frankenstein)*.

entertainment establishments.

With the holidays nearing and consumer confidence low, we're pinching pennies. Still, what's considered cheap for some is expensive to others. So, we are offering entertainment ideas in Plymouth with the price range from free to \$35.

Cut and save these suggestions:

■ **Cellar 849**, 849 Penniman Avenue. Event phone: (734) 637-2172, venue: (734) 264-0275, www.womenonwine.vpweb.com

The event is: *Women on Wine: Wine Tasting, Tapas and Discussion* from 7-9 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 13. The social club is open to everyone 21 and over. Register at: www.womenonwine.vpweb.com

vpweb.com

This is the most expensive ticket in our listing at \$25 for members, \$35 for non-members. It must be purchased in advance. The club is designed for the average wine lover, not the connoisseur.

At Cellar 849 you will taste

Please see **PLYMOUTH, D4**

Election seeps into entertainment world

BY LANA MINI
OGE STAFF WRITER

At 7-Eleven stores, Barack Obama is currently the top vote-getter. Not official votes, of course, but if you buy a cup of coffee you can choose between an Obama or John McCain cup.

Online at The Jones Soda pop company, www.campaincola.com, where political soda is sold, Obama's "Yes We Can Cola" was outselling McCain's "Pure McCain Cola" four times over at press time. Ron Paul's "Revolution Cola" came in second place.

But it's just beverages and is all in fun.

Every election, politics seep into entertainment whether it's on *Saturday Night Live*, through a coffee cup or at locally sponsored

events.

■ **The Bosco**, 22930 Woodward Ave. in Ferndale, (248) 541-8818, is continuing its push to engage young voters with an Election Night Party on Tuesday, Nov. 4.

Owner Dan Haberman previously launched a voter registration drive and hosts the event — rewarding those who voted with complimentary Svedka cocktails served from 9-10 p.m. (Prove that you voted with your "I voted" sticker that's distributed at the polls.)

"Unless our young people get out and cast an informed ballot, we lose our voice in the political process," Haberman said. "This is a divided nation, with a crumbling economy, mired in a war of debatable worth. Without taking part in the political process, how-



"Change" is created by Barbara Eko Murphy and is on exhibit in Northville with other election-related art pieces.

ever, we turn our backs to the sacrifices and struggles of those denied a vote before us. The power of the vote is too important to ignore — which is why the Bosco is excited to reward those who take the time to vote this Election Day."

The Bosco event is sponsored by Svedka Vodka and features DJ Brian Gillespie. Admission is free and elec-

tion results will be displayed throughout the night.

The art show *Vote 4 Me*, runs from 1-5 p.m., through Sunday, Nov. 2, at **Northville Art House**, 215 W. Cady, Northville, (248) 344-0497.

Artists were called upon by Art House this summer to put their election thoughts into visual media.

Please see **ELECTION, D4**



"Pure McCain" soda pop with pure sugar cane is available online.

ART
Scary Monsters: Tom Carey's *Scary Monsters* exhibit is open just in time for the spooky season, running through Nov. 8, at the Paint Creek Center for the Arts, at 407 Pine, Rochester. Call (248) 651-4110 or visit www.pccart.org.

Museum Mystery Tours: Hear creepy tales and secrets about artists on a tour of the American art galleries, 6-9 p.m. Friday, Oct. 31, Detroit Institute of Arts, 5200 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Admission \$4-\$8, call (313) 833-7900.

STAGE
"They're Coming to Get You Barbra": The Majestic Theatre presents a night of undead musical theater, with the production *Night of the Living Dead: The Musical*, Oct. 30, at 4140 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Call (313) 833-9700 for details.

Murder by Poe: Adult audiences can get in on the stage fright with the mysterious *Murder by Poe*, running through Nov. 3 at Meadow Brook Theatre, on the campus of Oakland University at Squirrel and Walton roads, Rochester Hills. Tickets \$30-\$39, at www.ticketmaster.com or call (248) 377-3300.

Blood Bath and Beyond: *Blood Bath and Beyond* is showing through Nov. 1, at Planet Ant Theatre, 2357 Caniff, Hamtramck. Call (313) 365-4948.

SCREEN
Penn Theatre: Brace yourselves, movie-lovers, for the Shocktober Classic Movie Series, wrapping up with *Frankenstein*, Oct. 30 at the Penn Theatre. All movies roll at 7 p.m. Tickets \$3. The theater is at 760 Penniman Ave., in Plymouth. Call (734) 453-0870.

The Horror: Rocky Horror Picture Show takes over the screen, with costume contests and shadow cast performers Oblivion Wife & Kids, 9 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 1, 318 W. Fourth Street, Royal Oak Music Theatre, Royal Oak. Tickets \$8 for this rated R film. Call (248) 399-2980.

TRICK OR TREAT

7th Annual Trick or Treat Parade: Princesses, pirates, ghosts, goblins, bees and bunnies are invited to Canton's Summit on the Park, 3:30-6 p.m. Oct. 30. The parade kicks off at the recreation entrance and moves through the building with surprises filling every room — including appearances by Hannah Montana and Strawberry Shortcake. Children 10 and under: \$5 per family/\$10 per non-resident family. Call (734) 394-5460.

Spooktacular Costume Party & Parade: Costumed children are invited to enjoy ghostly games, eat snacks,

Please see **HALLOWEEN, D3**

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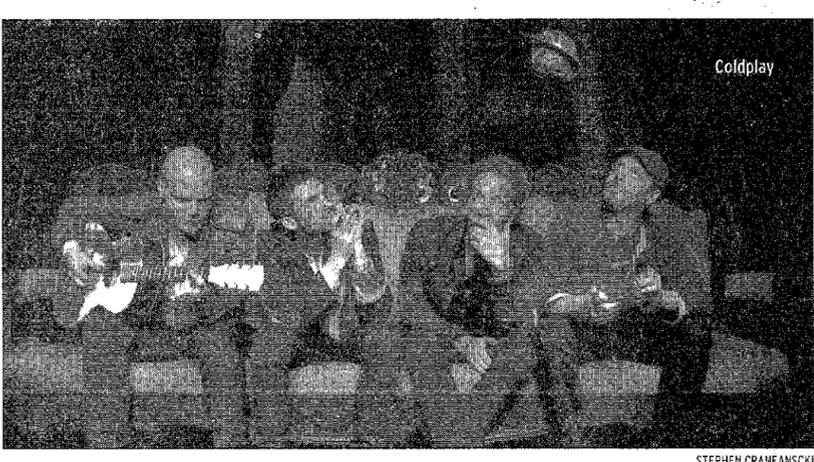
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Coldplay

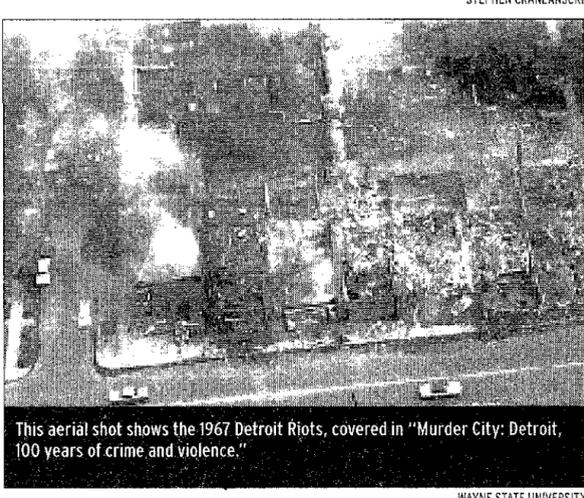
STEPHEN CRANEANSKI

Pure Picks

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA
O&E STAFF WRITER

Filtering your entertainment best bets for the weekend beginning Oct. 30, 2008:

- 30** Explore Detroit's dangerous roots, from race riots to gang violence, in the locally-produced documentary **Murder City: Detroit, 100 Years of Crime and Violence**, showing 8 p.m. at Museum of Contemporary Art-Detroit, 4454 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Call (313) 832-6622.
- 31** Looking to scare up some post-Trick-or-Treat fun? Check out Barbara Field's **Playing With Fire (After Frankenstein)**, showing at 7 and 11 p.m. courtesy of Barefoot Productions, inside the Walker-Buzenberg Building, 240 N. Main Street, Plymouth. Tickets \$10-\$15, call (734) 560-1493.
- 1** Don't count your Halloween finished yet. Grab tickets to WRIF's Trick or Freak concert featuring Saliva and Drowning Pool.



This aerial shot shows the 1967 Detroit Riots, covered in "Murder City: Detroit, 100 years of crime and violence."

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY



Focht Band, when he hits up the Royal Oak Music Theatre tonight. Doors open at 7 p.m. at 318 W. Fourth Street, Royal Oak. Tickets \$22.50 or \$25 on the day of the show, visit www.royaloakmusictheatre.com.

Drowning Pool
Doors open at 6:30 tonight at The Fillmore, 2115 Woodward, Detroit. Call (248) 645-6666 or visit www.livenation.com.

3 Coldplay ascends its **Violet Hill** and brings the songs of **Viva La Vida** tour tonight to The Palace of Auburn Hills. The show begins at 7:30 p.m. and tickets are \$49.50 to \$97.50, at 1 Championship Drive, Auburn Hills, Call (248) 645-6666 or Palacenet.com.

2 You may know him best under the moniker Bright Eyes, but **Conor Oberst** will be joined by his **Mystic Valley Band**, as well as guests All Smiles and Matt

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Feast on these Halloween turkeys

Saw sucks. The first one wasn't bad, but do we need an endless series of sequels?

Frankly, I am sick of the mindless torture films that are so popular now. It makes me wonder just what is wrong with our world. And they make me long for the days when really rotten movies could warm you heart.

So this Halloween I'm not going to the video store for my favorite film fare. I'm going to the dollar store. That's where I found a copy of *Horror Express*.

Horror Express is one of my all-time favorite films. The action takes places on a train in Siberia during tsarist times in Russia.

Peter Cushing and Christopher Lee are scientists battling an ancient alien who invades people's bodies, causing their eyes to leak blood.

And Telly Savalas plays a crazy Cossack officer. How can you possibly top that combination? *Horror Express* is great fun, and not too obscure to find.

Here are some other Halloween favorites I'll pop into the DVD and creaking VHS players:

They Saved Hitler's Brain. You thought he died in Berlin. Nay, nay. Some of his fans picked his head with the thought of bringing him back into action again in South America. This is known as one of the worst movies ever made. It is. Seek it out.

The Giant Spider Invasion. It's a cardboard big bug strapped to the top of a Volkswagen. Alan Hale Jr. (the captain on *Gilligan's Island*) plays the local sheriff. You will laugh until your sides ache.

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HALLOWEEN

FROM PAGE D1

win prizes and of course, get some candy, at the parks at The Village of Rochester Hills, 5-6:30 p.m. Oct. 31. Visit www.villageof-rochesterhills.com.

The Great Pumpkin Caper: From 5:30-7 p.m. on Oct. 30, ghosts and goblins will wander the streets of downtown Plymouth, loading their trick or treat bags to the brim.

Click or Treat: LeeperPhoto will celebrate its 10th anniversary by hosting cider, doughnuts and Halloween treats 10 a.m.-noon and 4-6 p.m. Oct. 31, 18280 Devonshire, Beverly Hills. Bring two non-perishable food items for donation to Lighthouse of Oakland County, and get a free 4x6 photo of your children or pets in costume. Call (248) 819-6822.

HAUNTED HOUSES

Pumpkin Fest Haunted Barn: Kids ages 12 and under will love this spooky barn as the horse stalls there are taken over by friendly monsters 5:30-8 p.m. Oct. 30, at The Wilson Barn, 29350 W. Chicago, Livonia. Tickets 50 cents, call (734) 466-2410.

Haunted Hallows: Presented by the VFW Post 988, acres of spooky stuff are open dusk through midnight Oct. 31 and Nov. 1; and dusk until 11 p.m. on Oct. 30 and Nov. 2, at 6440 Hix Road, Westland, between Ford and Warren roads. Tickets \$15, and it's not for the meek. Visit www.haunted-hallows.com or call (734) 751-4312.

The Haunted Winery: Get a scare at 31505 Grand River Avenue, Farmington. Tickets are \$10 for adults. Children 52 inches and under admitted for \$5. Look for the smokestacks. Call (248) 477-8833 or visit www.thehaunt-

edwinery.com/7.html

Tunnel of Terror: This Haunted House, operated by the Rochester Area Jaycees, is open from 7:30-10:30 p.m., Friday, Oct. 31. Tickets from \$10 per person. Located at Rochester Municipal Park at Pine Street west of Main and north of University Drive. Visit www.rochesterareajaycees.org.

- By Stephanie Angelyn Casola, Lana Mini and Wensdy Von Buskirk

KNOW THE SCORE
check out the numbers in today's **SPORTS** section

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GET OUT

Send items for consideration in Get Out! at least two weeks in advance to Lana Mini, Observer & Eccentric and Mirror Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009, or e-mail lminih@hometownlife.com.

ART

Arnold Klein Gallery: 32782 Woodward Ave., Royal Oak, (248) 647-7709.
Art Leaders Gallery: Henry Asencio One Man Show, through Nov. 15, 33030 Northwestern Hwy., West Bloomfield, (248) 539-0262, www.artleaders.com.
Art-Rageous Gallery: 35 N. Main, Mt. Clemens, (586) 307-3604.
Biddle Gallery: Ryan Weiss and Jason Rohler AKA the A/V Kids: A Duo of Unordinary Proportions, through Oct. 31, 2840 Biddle, Wyandotte, (734) 281-4779, www.biddlelegalery.com.
Cafe 84: "The Green Show" featuring Detroit Up & Coming Artists Guild, 14084 Lakeside Blvd., Shelby Twp., (586) 913-3773.
Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center: 1516 Cranbrook (between 14 and 15 Mile roads), Birmingham, www.BBArtCenter.org, (248) 644-0866.
Birmingham Conference Center: 31301 Evergreen, Birmingham.
Birmingham Unitarian Church: Winter Wonders Glass Show and Holiday Sale, Nov. 1, 38651 Woodward, Bloomfield Hills, (248) 647-2380.
Bohemian National Home Gallery: 2009 Tillman, Detroit, (313) 525-5253, www.jeromium.com/bohouse.htm.
Cary Gallery: Photographs by Nancy Stocking and by Ron Teachworth, Nov. 15 to Dec. 13, 226 Walnut, Rochester, (248) 651-3656.
CPDP: 4160 Woodward, Detroit, (313) 833-9901, www.cpop.com.
BEM Art Studio: Bob Ross-style painting classes, 1-5 p.m. one Sunday per month; free fine art portfolio assessments for college-bound students, 28691 N. Lilley, Canton, (734) 453-3710, www.dmartstudio.com.
Farmington City Gallery: Costick Center, 28600 11 Mile, (248) 473-1856.
Farmington Community Library: 23500 Liberty, (248) 553-6261, www.suzannebaumann.com.
First United Methodist Church: 1569 W. Maple, Birmingham
Gallery@VT: Village Theatre at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill Road, Canton, (734) 394-5300, www.canton-mi.org/villageattheater.

www.wsg-art.com.
Habatat Galleries: "Four Seasons" through Nov. 1, 4400 Fernlee, Royal Oak, (248) 554-0590, www.habatat.com.
Janice Charach Gallery: Jewish Community Center of Metropolitan Detroit, 6600 W. Maple, West Bloomfield, (238) 432-5448.
Lawrence Street Gallery: Alice Frank: Frame of Mind, Nov. 5-29, reception, 6-9 p.m. Nov. 7; Little Things Mean A Lot! Competition, Dec. 3-24; reception, 6-9 p.m. Dec. 5, 22620 Woodward, Ferndale (248) 544-0394, www.lawrencestreetgallery.com.
Lemberg Gallery: Jane Hammond "People, Places and Things," through Nov. 2008, 23241 Woodward, Ferndale (248) 591-6623, www.lemborgallery.com.
Livonia Arts Commission: Fine Arts Gallery, second floor, Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile, (734) 466-2490; Livonia Arts Commissioners, Livonia City Hall, 33000 Civic Center Drive, (734) 466-2540.
Lotus Arts Gallery: Artists Charles H. Pabst, Thomas Arvid and Sergio Furnari (a life-sized version of the Lunchtime on a Skyscraper sculpture), now showing, 995 West Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth (888) 889-4ART, www.lotusartsgallery.com.
Next Step Studios & Gallery: Featuring glass works by Kaiser Suidan, Craig Paul Nowak, John Gargano, Susan Beiner and many others, 530 Hilton, Ferndale (248) 342-5074, www.nextstepstudio.com.
Northville Art House: 215 W. Cady, (248) 344-0497, www.northvillearts.org.
Oakland University Art Gallery: "Domesticated Angst: Second Reading, new projects by Chido Johnson," through Nov. 23, opening reception Nov. 8, at 208 Wilson Hall, Oakland University, Rochester, (248) 370-3005.
Orchard Lake Framing & Gallery: Works in Oil & Pastel by Sharon Will, October, 4301 Orchard Lake Road, West Bloomfield, (248) 538-9021, www.orchardlakeframing.com.
Paint Creek Center for the Arts: Amanda Thatch and Andrew Thompson, through Nov. 8; Tom Carey's Scary Monsters, through Nov. 8; Holiday Objects Up and Down, Nov. 22-Jan. 3, shoppers preview, 9 a.m.-noon Nov. 22, reception and silent auction, 7-10 p.m. Nov. 22, 407 Pine, Rochester, (248) 651-4110, www.pccart.org.

PLYMOUTH

FROM PAGE D1

wines while founders of Women on Wine assist. Mary Lehnert, of Canton, is W.O.W.'s co-founder, and said the group is just as much about socializing as it is about wine. "We want women to be educated so if you go to the grocery store you can pick out a bottle of wine up to \$30 and know what to buy and what it will taste like," Lehnert said. "But it's also a social group, it's a place where women can feel comfortable with their girlfriends to talk about whatever they want to talk about." And, don't forget the tapas. **Sean O' Callaghan's**, 821 Penniman Avenue, (734) 459-6666. Admission is free to the annual costume party on Halloween. The band The Three of Us, will perform

popular cover songs for sing along and dance. Prizes awarded for best costume. More free entertainment is Thursday, Oct. 30, when John & Mike Bugar, an acoustic rock act from Northville, perform. On Saturday, Nov. 1, Dan Runey and the Strangers, of Troy, perform original and cover rock and alternative rock. This is a traditional Irish pub with a friendly staff, a big on-tap selection and menu with traditional Irish fare plus a great potato-leek soup for \$3. **The Penn Theatre**, 760 Penniman, (734) 453-0870, Shocktober Classic Movie Series includes *Frankenstein* (1931) featuring Boris Karloff, 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 30. Running time is 71 minutes. All seats are \$3. **Walker/Buzenberg Building**, 240 N. Main Street, (734) 560-1493. Plymouth's Barefoot Productions performs

Playing With Fire (After Frankenstein), at 7 p.m. and 11 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 30; 8 p.m., Friday, Oct. 31 and Saturday, Nov. 1; and 2 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 2. The creature and scientist Frankenstein confront each other in the Arctic in this adaptation of Mary Shelley's gothic classic General admission \$15, seniors/students \$10. Admission is \$5 for the 11 p.m. Halloween performance. **336 Main**, (734) 454-6500. The last Sunday of every month is dueling pianos beginning at 7 p.m. The nightly live music ranges from jazz to blues to classic rock to sing-a-long favorites. Admission: \$10 **Station 885**, 885 Starkweather, offers "Wine Down Wednesdays." All bottles of wine are half-off and there's live entertainment. Get the quesadillas, served with a fresh black bean and roasted corn salsa, \$6.95 or a pizza for

\$8. **Atlantis Restaurant**, 39500 Ann Arbor Road, (734) 453-5047. Enjoy a night out with friends with all-you-can-eat pasta from 3-10 p.m., every Thursday for \$9.95. Choices include linguini and fettuccine with sauces including marinara, alfredo, vodka, bolognese and more served with garlic bread and soup or salad. **Hermann's Town Grille**, 195 W Liberty St., (734) 451-1213. Its free Halloween party attracts a robust crowd every year. The grille supports Michigan businesses by offering three Michigan beers on tap, plus more in bottles, and food ingredients from local vendors. Hermann's is striving to reduce its carbon footprint by using air hand dryers, greenware and light timers. No trans-fats here and the menu includes low-carb and vegetarian meals and soups, along with its regular items.

ELECTION

FROM PAGE D1

Metro Detroit artists Sharon Bida, Candice Brancik, Michael Evangelista, Veronica Heide, Peggy Kerwan, Christine Laginess, Linda Larson, Linda Logan, Rob McCausland, Eric Mesko, Barbara Eko Murphy, Victor Pytko, Joan Potter Thomas, Dennis Thom, Mary Williams, Michele Kelly, Hugh Wilbert, Marga Ziegler, Nicholas Koenig, and Marilyn Zimmerman created mixed media works of watercolor,

acrylic, pen and ink, and stoneworks and more. Admission is free. At **Tangent Gallery, 715 E Milwaukee in Detroit** is an exhibit *The Last Days of Plan 9 from Washington* with artwork by Eric Mesko. During the opening reception on election night — 6 p.m. to midnight, Nov. 4 — the public is invited to watch the election results on multiple television screens and hear Mesko's comedic yet political "rants" at 9 p.m., plus political music by singer Greg Sumner.

Plan 9 runs through Saturday, Nov. 15. Free admission. Last, The Second City group is chiming in. *DeFace The Nation* is The Second City's all-political revue with customized comedy for this election year. Featuring scenes and songs that poke fun at both political parties and a variety of pun-dits, it runs through Sunday, Nov. 23. Directed by Andy Miara, the cast of *DeFace The Nation* includes Rob Belushi, Nancy Hayden, Quintin Hicks,

Kevin McGeehan, Marke Sobolewski, and Natalie Sullivan. Jason Grimm is the musical director and Jennifer Ruffner is the stage manager. Tickets for *DeFace The Nation* are available at the **The Second City Theatre, 42705 Grand River Ave. in Novi**; by phone at (248) 348-4448, or online at www.secondcity.com and www.ticketmaster.com. Showtimes and ticket prices are: 8 p.m. Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Sundays, \$15; 8 p.m. and 10 p.m. Fridays, \$20; 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. Saturdays, \$20.

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Plymouth's Red Dragon: new owners, new menu, new prices

BY LANA MINI
STAFF WRITER

The new Red Dragon in Plymouth has had new owners for just two months, but already offers an expansive menu and will soon obtain a liquor license.

Candice Ngai, owns the restaurant with her family. She hopes the friendly, warm atmosphere her family creates at Red Dragon will attract local, friendly families as customers.

"All of the staff tries to make everyone feel at home. The restaurant is bright and we have items with a Chinese and an American flare to them," Ngai said.

Realize here that if you're hard to please, the Ngais will do what they can to make you a dish you love.

"If we don't have something on the menu for people we will try to make it for them," Ngai said.

"Originally we didn't put Cashew Chicken or Curry Chicken on the menu, but because everyone requested it so much we added it."

The Red Dragon opened August 20 and what makes it different from other Asian restaurants is its massive combination menu, plus low prices. Chinese vegetable soup is \$1.50; tofu vegetable soup is \$4.50; and mushroom rice soup is \$2.

There are 32 single combination plates, with prices beginning at \$6.

The double combo plate, \$8.50, is fried rice and an egg roll with 13 entree choices (choose two) such as spicy stir fry potato,

RED DRAGON RESTAURANT

Where: 44515 W. Ann Arbor Road, (734) 354-7576, www.red-dragonplymouth.com

Price: Lunches start at \$4.50, dinner at \$6

Cuisine: Chinese, Cantonese, and Spicy Szechuan Styles

Hours: 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Mondays-Thursday; 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Friday; noon-11 p.m. Saturday; noon-10 p.m. Sunday. Open holidays

Capacity: 80 Seats

Dress code: Casual

Atmosphere: Relaxed

shrimp toast, sesame chicken and stir fry vegetables.

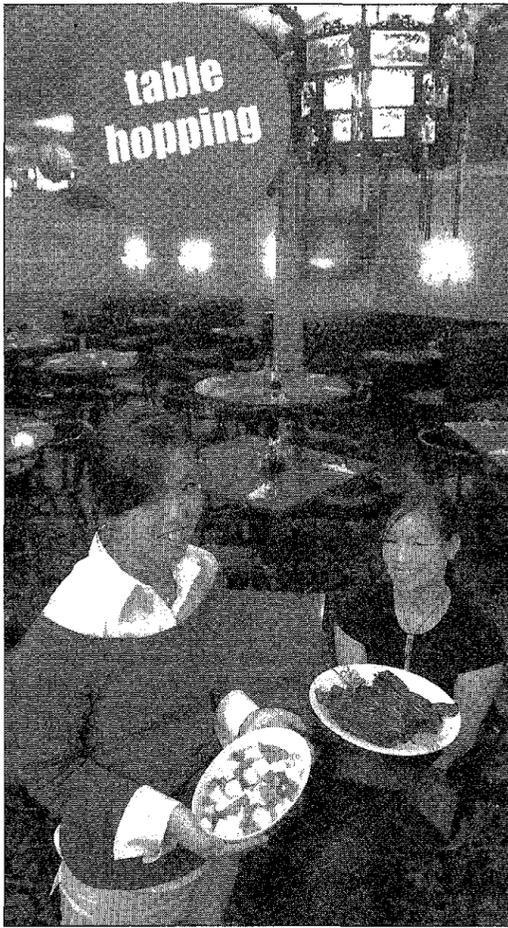
"We have a lot of choices that most restaurants do not. To name a few unique dishes we have awesome fried dumplings, beef rib, sizzling rice soup and chicken over soft noodles. These are my personal favorites," Ngai said.

The freeze fruits beverages include both real fruit and juice such as strawberry, watermelon, coconut, honeydew, pineapple, mango and more.

The restaurant offers delivery to local residents within a two-mile range, but orders must be more than \$25. Red Dragon mainly delivers to business customers or large parties.

"We are trying our best to fit in this community and cater to our customers needs," Ngai said. "We are always opened to suggestions on how we can improve or change to make our establishment better."

The new Red Dragon has no connection with the



PHOTOS BY TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Owner Candice Ngai, left, and her friend and server Lisa Nguyen present a dish of Velvet Tofu and Beef Rib respectively in the newly opened Red Dragon in Plymouth.

former owners.

"I am 23 years old. I have my family to support me with my first restaurant," Ngai said. "Even though this is my first ven-

ture on my own, I have my entire family behind me all the way. They were in the restaurant business for over 40 years. I couldn't do this without them."

Gobble: Send us your Thanksgiving recipes

BY LANA MINI
STAFF WRITER

Do you have a Thanksgiving side dish to share with readers?

Perhaps it's your grandmother's great stuffing recipe, or a berry pie you found online that the family now craves every year.

I could live all month on side dishes like stuffing, cranberry sauce, mashed potatoes with mushroom gravy, pumpkin pie and one of my favorite things in the world: my aunt's pumpkin bread.

I love it so much I want to share it with you. Try it and let me know if you like it. Mark Strausberg, Chef Partner of Fleming's Restaurant in Livonia, also shares his Fall Harvest Medley dish.

"One of my favorite recipes this time of the year is also one of the simplest to execute," Strausberg said. "Every major grocery store has a huge variety of winter squashes available now including Ambercup, Carnival, Delicata, Golden Nugget, Kabocha, Sweet Dumpling, and Turbans. These are just a sampling of what I pick up at Kroger's and Hiller's once a week for home."

His recipe and the pumpkin bread are listed below.

Send your recipe and include your name, the city where you reside and your phone number in case we have any questions.

We will print them in upcoming issues before the holidays.

E-mail: Lmini@hometownlife.com Subject line: Thanksgiving Side Dish

FALL HARVEST MEDLEY BY FLEMING'S LIVONIA CHEF MARK STRAUSBERG

6 pounds various squash varieties
3-4 tbsp. vegetable oil
Salt and pepper to taste
Whole butter as needed
Optional: cinnamon or nutmeg

Remove the outer rind of the squash, then cut in half. Using a spoon, remove the seeds and membrane. Cut squash into 1/2-inch to 3/4-inch pieces, then toss in a large bowl with a few tablespoons of oil.

Once coated in oil, place squash pieces in a glass baking dish, sprinkle with salt and pepper and dot with a few small pieces of whole butter. If you prefer a sweeter taste, use cinnamon or nutmeg instead of salt and pepper. Bake uncovered in a 375 degree oven for about 45 minutes, until tender.

PUMPKIN BREAD BY LANA MINI

1 & 1/2 cup flour
1/2 tsp. baking powder
1 tsp. baking soda
1/2 tsp. salt
1/2 tsp. cinnamon
1/2 tsp. nutmeg
1 & 1/2 cup sugar
1/2 cup shortening (soy margarine)
1/2 tsp. vanilla
1/2 cup walnuts
2 eggs (*see note below for vegan substitute)

1 cup canned organic pumpkin
1/2 cup water
Optional: raisins or cranberries - I think it needs raisins, always

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. In a separate bowl sift together all the dry ingredients. In a large bowl cream together the shortening, sugar, vanilla and egg - one egg at a time. Fold in the pumpkin. Stir in dry ingredients and the water into the large bowl. Stir until smooth. Fold in nuts, raisins or cranberries. Pour into bread pan. Bake at 350.

Here is the tricky part: The original recipe says for 45-55 minutes but some people bake longer, depending on your oven and pans. For my dark pans, I bake for 60 minutes. However for lighter steel pans, if you use make a loaf wider than a standard bread pan, the bread may have to bake for 75 minutes. Start testing it with a toothpick at 45 minutes.

*For a vegan recipe, replace the eggs with Ener-G egg replacer, a boxed dry substance found at natural food stores and mainstream grocery stores. Or remember this rule for baking: One tbsp. milled flax seed and three tbsp. water equals one egg for fluffy cake results. Or, one tbsp. soy milk powder, one tbsp. cornstarch and two tbsp water equals one egg.

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Nun uses parade of saints to teach religion lesson

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
O & E STAFF WRITER

Sister Gemma Legel was waiting for the angels to arrive at Divine Savior Catholic Church in Westland late Monday afternoon when she stopped to talk about the Parade of Saints. The nun came up with the idea to bring the revered religious figures to life by having the first to eighth grade students dress up as saints for the event which was held in place of their regular catechism class. Shortly after everyone had taken their seats, including St. Gabriel and St. Michael the Archangel, she gave a short presentation.

In the chapel Sister Legel had assembled a display of relics including a piece of clothing worn by Fr. Solanus Casey, the priest who began the tradition of feeding the poor at the Capuchin Soup Kitchen in Detroit during The Great Depression. While Casey is not recognized as a saint, the Catholic Church is in the process of beatification or declaring the deceased priest as a subject of religious veneration. To become a saint, people either had to live as models of holiness or be martyred for their faith.

"We're here to honor saints and God and celebrating All Saints," said Sister Legel. She went on to explain the Feast of All Saints is usually observed on Nov. 1, but is not a holy day of obligation this year because it falls a day before Sunday. Instead Catholics celebrate All Souls Day Nov. 1-2, to remember the dead.

"How do you become a saint?" asked Sister Legel. "Most were ordinary people. They loved God and showed that love by loving their neighbor. We're saints in the making."



Seven-year-old Emily Gaffka, right, shows off her St. Joan of Ark costume to Brendan Weick who is dressed as St. Joseph, during the Parade of Saints night at Divine Savior in Westland.

MEMORABLE LESSON

One by one the children came to the front of the room to tell about their saint. Kyle Broffitt, 9, of Plymouth, was St. Martin of Tours, the patron of soldiers.

"He gave it up (being a soldier)," Kyle said. "He didn't want to do violent acts."

Later, Kyle said he learned to honor saints and that saints can be pretty cool.

Karen Hobyak, 11, wasn't sure at first which saint she was going to be.

The Garden City girl was dressed in a green robe so it seemed only natural she would portray St. Patrick, her favorite. Nevertheless she was excited about the event, the first ever of its kind at Divine Savior.

"It's interesting how we're going to learn about saints,"

she said.

Christopher Pernak knew exactly who he was as the boy cradled a stuffed lamb. The 7-year-old borrowed the toy from his cousin to dress as St. Francis of Assisi in brown robes.

"He liked helping animals and people," said Christopher of Canton. "God created all kinds of creatures and they're my brothers and sisters."

His parents, Mary Pat and Larry Pernak, believe the parade was a great opportunity to introduce the saints to children.

"Chris has really had to read about the different saints," said Mary Pat Pernak.

"It's a good experience," added her husband, Larry. "It's educational."

Emily Gaffka of Westland was one of several Joan of Arcs

in attendance. The 7-year-old was dressed in cardboard armor, spray painted gold.

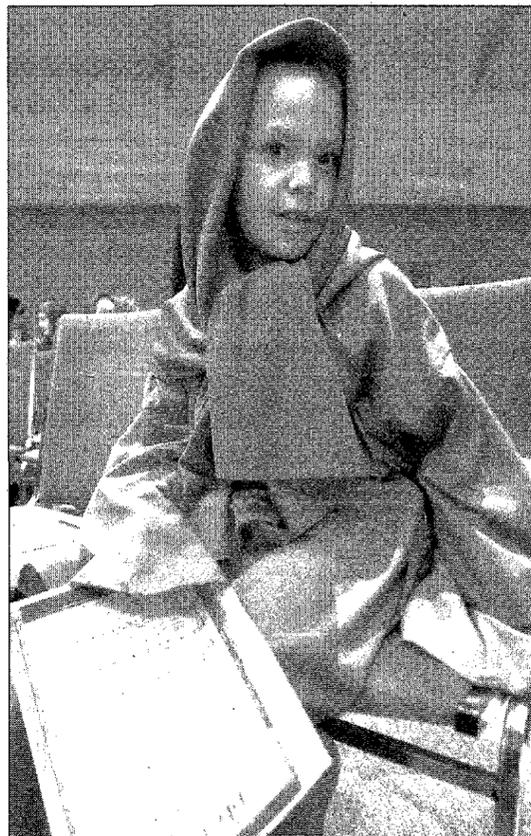
"She was a warrior and she loved poor people," Emily said.

HONORING SAINTS, SOULS

Sister Legel and a number of staff had worked on the lesson for weeks. After the children had finished telling about their saints she had them parade around the church before heading off to their classrooms to make flags with the names of their patrons. Jeff Vernon was presiding over his third grade catechism students.

"There's the fun of Halloween, dressing up as and learning about saints and Hallows Eve which was a time to honor souls of people who had passed away," said Vernon of Canton.

Robbie Graham of Westland



Chris Pernak, 7, of Canton wears a St. Francis of Assisi costume for the Parade of Saints at Divine Savior in Westland.

said it did help her children learn more about the saints. Logan, a first grade student, was Juan Diego, a Mexican peasant who was visited by the Blessed Mother (Jesus's mother).

Owen, a fourth grader, was Pope John XXIII.

"They were excited about dressing up and putting a costume together," Graham said.

Jodi Engler thinks the process will help her children retain their lesson on the

saints longer. Katie, 9, was St. Margaret of Scotland, the queen who fed orphans and the poor before she would eat. Jenny, 7, was dressed as the North American Indian, Kateri Tekakwitha, patroness of ecology and the environment.

"I liked how it brought the saints to life, put a face with the name," Engler said.

lchomin@hometownlife.com
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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.

OCTOBER

Trunk 'n treat
6-8 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 30, at Faith Community Church, 14560 Merriman, Livonia. Children will enjoy a safe, fun night. Cider and donuts will be served.

Hallelujah Festival
Presented by Canton Christian Fellowship 6:30-9 p.m. Friday, Oct. 31, at the church, 8775 Ronda Drive, south of Joy between Haggerty and Lilley. Celebrate at this alternative to Halloween with food, fun and fellowship. For information, call (734) 404-2480, e-mail info@CantonCF.org or visit www.CantonCF.org.

Pumpkin patch
Continues to Oct. 31, with pumpkins of all sizes and fall decoration for sale, at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 W. Six Mile, Livonia. Hours are noon-7 p.m. Monday-Friday, and 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Saturday-Sunday. The church women's group holds a bake sale on Saturday and Sunday. Proceeds from all sales go to various missions and the church's general fund. For information, call (734) 422-6038.

Special needs class
Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Livonia is looking for special needs teens and young adults (up to age 25) interested in participating in a course designed to help them learn about the basics of the Christian faith. The day and time of the course will depend on those interested. To get the most out of the course, students should possess basic communications skills (listening and speaking). Call Judy Cook at (248) 442-8822 or e-mail at elc-ed@around-detroit.biz.

Parenting class
Parenting Families DVD-based classes help address issues in a positive way that will enhance your family life, continuing from 6:30-8 p.m., Mondays, to Nov. 3, at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, 14175 Farmington Road, north of I-96, Livonia. Call (734) 522-6830, or register at www.christsaviorsavior.org under Adult Fall Classes.

Volunteers needed
The Salvation Army invites the community to partner with it this holiday season. Opportunities range from adopting a family or child to bell ringing, Christmas in-take assistance, and many others. Sign up by calling volunteer coordinator Sandy Kollinger at (734) 722-3660 or online at www.ringbell.org and choosing Wayne/

Westland. The Salvation Army is at 2300 S. Venoy, between Michigan Ave. and Palmer.

Grief workshop
Presented by Karen Jinnett from New Hope Center for Grief Support, began 7-8:45 p.m., Monday, Oct. 27, for eight consecutive weeks at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church, 47650 N. Territorial, Plymouth. No charge. To register, call (734) 453-0326, Ext. 221.

UPCOMING

Holy Cross pilgrimage
Prayer Service and Wypominki (naming) 1 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 1, at Holy Cross Cemetery Chapel, 8850 Dix, Detroit. Includes short history of cemetery and All Souls customs in Poland, procession to the grave markers of Redemptorist priests, and demonstration of grave cleaning in Poland with individual procession to family graves until cemetery closing at 5 p.m. Attendees are asked to bring names of those they wish remembered in prayer service. RSVP to (248) 477-8518 or ipalazzolo@detroitpolonia.org. Optional dinner afterwards by advance pre-paid reservation.

Craft show
Annual Catholic Central Craft Show and Marketplace, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 1, at 27225 Wixom Road, Novi. Admission is \$3/free raffle ticket. A reputable jeweler will be there to buy gold. Questions and information, call (734) 459-6625 or (734) 459-3857.

Christmas bazaar
10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 1, at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 26701 Joy, Dearborn Heights. No charge. Call (313) 274-3820.

Global gifts
Opens daily beginning Nov. 1, at First Baptist Church of Birmingham, 300 Willits and Bates, north of Maple and west of Old Woodward, in downtown Birmingham. The Fair Trade resource offers foods such as rice, chocolates, coffee, and soup mixes that promote economic justice around the globe. Also offering textiles, jewelry and handmade artisan crafts from around the world. (248) 644-0550

Election vigil
St. Michael the Archangel Parish will host a 24-hour Election Vigil of Eucharistic Adoration beginning with a 7 p.m. Mass on Monday, Nov. 3, until a 7 p.m. Benediction and closing service on Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 4. To register to attend at a specific time of your choosing, call the parish office (734) 261-1455, ext. 200.

Prayer hour
Cherry Hill United Methodist Church holds an hour of prayer and inspiration at 7:30 p.m., every Thursday with Rev. Merlin Pratt, at the church, 321 S. Ridge Road, Canton. Call Pat Beggs at (734) 453-3287 for more information.

Caregiver's support group
St. John's Support Group for the Caregiver's of Alzheimer's patients or patients with other forms of dementia meets at 10 a.m., the first and third Friday of each month at St. John's Episcopal Church, 574 South Sheldon, Plymouth. Respite care for your loved one will be provided. Call Connie McNutt at (734) 895-1426 for more information. This group is authorized by the Alzheimer's Association.

Scrapbook fund-raiser
All day scrapbook event, 9 a.m.-9 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 8, is a fund-raiser for Tiny Tots Preschool located in Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 39020 Five Mile, Livonia. Full day registration is \$35 which includes a 6-foot or 8-foot table, continental breakfast, lunch and dinner. Half day options and scrap booking class also available. Call the school at (734) 464-0211 ext. 208 for information.

Church fair
Christmas shop boutique, home made candy, attic treasures, hand made goods, book store 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday-Friday, Nov. 13-14, at First Congregational Church, 2 Towne Square at Wayne Rd. and Michigan Ave. For details, call (734) 729-7550.

St. Andrew's Day
Sunday, Nov. 16, begins with 10 a.m. worship service followed by dinner/entertainment downstairs in Calvin Hall, at St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford. Advance tickets \$10 adults, \$5 ages 4-11, free for age 3 and under. At the door \$12 adults, \$6 for children. For reservations, call (313) 534-7730.

All-you-can-eat pancakes
The Ushers' Club of St. Michael the Archangel Parish in Livonia continues its more than 30-year tradition of all-you-can-eat pancake breakfasts 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. on the third Sunday of each month in the school cafeteria at 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth Rd., with an expanded menu that features pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, bacon, hashbrowns, and assorted breakfast beverages. Meals are served buffet-style at family friendly prices: \$5, adults, \$3 children ages 4-11, free for children under age 3, \$15 a family (2 adults and all children). Everyone is welcome.

Evenings of Evangelization
With Rev. Alex Kratz, 7 p.m., Friday Nov. 21, and Dec. 12, at St. Michael the Archangel Church, 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth Road, Livonia. The evening begins with a Holy Hour followed by small-group discussions, teaching and fellowship. All interested Catholics welcome. Call (734) 261-

Please see CALENDAR, D7

Passages
Obituaries, Memorials, Remembrances
1-800-579-7355 ♦ fax: 734-953-2232
e-mail: oeobits@hometownlife.com
View Obits On-line @ www.hometownlife.com

DEWEY JOHNSON, Jr.
Age 78, of Indigo Drive, Richmond, Kentucky, passed away Monday, October 27, 2008, at his home. He was born on April 27, 1930, in Heidelberg, Kentucky, to the late Dewey Johnson Sr. and Julie Johnson. Mr. Johnson was an Army veteran of the Korean War. He was an owner and operator of several auto repair shops and gas stations in Michigan. He is survived by his loving wife, Hedy Wybranec Johnson of Richmond, Kentucky; one son, Michael K. Johnson of Redford, Michigan; two daughters, Marsha K. Waldron (Col. Stephen Waldron) of Overland Park, Kansas, and Erika Johnson (Paul Perricone) of Durham, Connecticut; one step-daughter, Yvonne F. Tessier (Tim) of Marinette, Wisconsin; two grandsons, Danny and Cameron Waldron; and three brothers and four sisters of Kentucky, Michigan, and Arizona. Mr. Johnson was preceded in death by one son, Mark K. Johnson, four brothers, and one sister. Memorial services will be held at 3:00 p.m. Thursday, October 30, 2008, at Oldham, Roberts & Powell Funeral Home. To express condolences, visit our website at: www.orpfh.com.

JOHN "JAC" AUSTIN
Age 60, of Plymouth, passed away October 16, 2008. Beloved father of John. Loving son of John. Dearest brother of Charlotte, Gary, Karen (Steve) Frazer, Sharon (Nick) Scoffins, Eileen Fagan, and Suzie (Michael) Crawford. A time of gathering will be held Saturday Nov. 8 from 11am-1pm with a Memorial Service at 1pm Casterline Funeral Home, Inc. 122 W. Dunlap, Northville. In lieu of flowers donations to the VFW Post 4012, 438 S. Main, Northville, MI 48167 or Arbor Hospice, 2366 Oak Valley Dr., Ann Arbor, MI 48103.

IRIS M. HALLAUER
Age 81, of Presque Isle formerly of Rochester, died October 25, 2008 at home. The Hallauer's made their home in Rochester until moving to Presque Isle in 1990. She is survived by; husband, Jim, 3 children, Rick, Jane, and Bob & Cora, 5 grandchildren, 1 great granddaughter. A memorial service will take place at the Beck Funeral Home on Saturday, November 8th at 1:00pm. www.beckfuneralhome.org

RICHARD S. SZPYRKA
Age 62 of Bloomfield Twp. passed away October 22, 2008. Arrangements by Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington.

MAXINE L. WOODISON
October 28, 2008. Wife of the late Charles. Dear Mother of Scott (Karyn), Jane Clinton (the late Joe) and Lynne (Larry). Also survived by seven grandchildren, one great-grandchild, one niece and two nephews. Family will receive friends at A. J. Desmond & Sons Funeral Home, 2600 Crooks Road (between Maple and Big Beaver) Thursday 2-8 p.m. Funeral Service Friday 11 a.m. at First Presbyterian Church of Birmingham, 1669 W. Maple Road. Visitation begins at 10:30 a.m. Memorial Tributes to Stand Up To Cancer, 1801 W. Olympic Blvd., Pasadena, CA 91199. View obituary and share memories at: www.DesmondFuneralHome.com

WINSTON W. MILLER
Age 89 of Farmington, passed away October 22, 2008. Arrangements by Thayer-Rock Funeral Home.

RAYMOND JACK GREEN
88 of Livonia, MI passed away Thursday, October 23, 2008 at home surrounded by family. He was born to the late Arthur and Mildred (Pitman) Green in Grand Haven, MI on August 9, 1920. Raymond graduated from the University of Michigan, College of Engineering in 1942. He was a renowned innovator in the aircraft and automobile industry as a mechanical engineer for over 30 years. He retired from Chrysler Motors in 1996. He was a dedicated and loving family man, and a talented and knowledgeable career professional. He enjoyed traveling, spending time with his family, friends, volunteering for his community and continuously learning new things. He was an inspiration to all. Raymond is survived by his wife of 35 years, Patricia (Weston) Green. He was a father to 7 children: Roy E. Green, Shirley Hill, Alan J. Green, Robert D. Green, Patricia Bihler, David Green and Matthew C. Green; 22 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren. He is also survived by two sisters: Dorothea Shaver and Loretta (Jack) Hoebeke of Grand Haven. Funeral Services were held Monday at the First United Methodist Church of Plymouth.

DONNA LEE COX
Age 75, Oct. 25, 2008. Beloved wife of the late Herald W. Loving mother of Alan (Cynthia) Cox, William (Eileen) Cox and Cindy (Kevin) Duncan. Cherished grandmother of Bradley, Matthew, Benjamin, Thomas, Daniel, Alexander and Erin. Great-grandmother of Nora. Dear sister of James Fahner. Also survived by many extended family members and friends. Funeral Thursday 10AM at THAYER-ROCK FUNERAL HOME, 33603 Grand River Ave., downtown Farmington (1 blk W of Farmington Rd). Interment in Caseville Cemetery, Caseville, Michigan. Memorial Contributions may be made to Angela Hospice. www.thayer-rock.com

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

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

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

e-mail your obit to oeobits@hometownlife.com or fax to:
Attn: Obits c/o Jennifer Musztuk 586-826-7318

For more information call:
Jennifer Musztuk 586-826-7115
or Charlotte Wilson 586-826-7082

or toll free 800-579-7355

ask for Jennifer or Charlotte

QED8571123

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE D6

1455, Ext. 200.

Clothing bank
Free clothing (men, women and children) for those in need 10 a.m.-noon on the fourth Saturday of each month (Nov. 22, Dec. 27), at Canton Christian Fellowship Clothing Bank, 8775 Ronda Drive, south of Joy between Haggerty and Lilley. For information, call (734) 404-2480, visit www.CantonCF.org or send e-mail to info@cantoncf.org.

Thanksgiving Day dinner
Don't be alone for the holiday. Come to Our Lady of Loretto Family Center 2-5 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 27, at Six Mile and Beech Daly. For reservations, call (313) 534-9000 on or before Monday, Nov. 24.

Music at St. John's
A Festival of Lessons and Carols, 7 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 7, with the parish's music groups; Collegium Musicum performs cantatas and instrumental works, 6 p.m. Sunday, March 29, 2009, and The Saline Fiddlers, 6 p.m., Sunday, May 17, 2009, at St. John's Episcopal Church, 574 S. Sheldon, Plymouth. All concerts are free except The Saline Fiddlers (\$7 and available in advance or at door). Call (734) 453-0190.

ONGOING

ENDOW
St. Michael the Archangel Parish is hosting two different courses of the Archdiocese of Detroit's ENDOW program, a continuing women's study group focused on the dignity of women of all ages and faiths. Based on Pope John Paul II's "Letter

to Women", the Course I groups meet 9:30-11 a.m. Mondays, and 7-8:30 p.m. Thursdays. Course V, called "Aquinas for Beginners", is a new addition to the ENDOW curriculum and available locally only at St. Michael's 9:30-11:15 a.m. Tuesdays. All meet in the convent basement meeting room. Women of all ages and faiths welcome. \$60 charge for materials, but no woman will be turned away because of inability to pay. Register by calling (734) 261-1455, Ext. 207, or online at www.endowonline.com. St. Michael's is at 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth Road, Livonia.

Choral rehearsals
Oakland Choral Society has begun Tuesday evening rehearsals for its Christmas concerts with professional soloists and orchestra. On Dec. 6 the group performs Benjamin Britten's "St. Nicolas," and J.S. Bach's "Cantata Wacht auf," and on Dec. 14 Handel's "Messiah." Registration begins at 7:00 p.m., with rehearsal 7:30-9 p.m., at Birmingham Unitarian Church, 38651 Woodward, Bloomfield Hills. All singers who can read music are welcome. Membership dues \$55 for fall season (\$30 for students age 30 and under). Music cost additional. For information, call (248) 391-0184.

New worship schedule
Worship 8 a.m. Sunday, Faith Forum & Other Options at 9 a.m., and Worship and Sunday school at 10 a.m. Wednesday Worship at 7:30 p.m. in the chapel at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA), 30650 Six Mile, Livonia. Visitors welcome. For information, call (734) 427-1414 or visit www.holycrosslivonia.org.

Bible study
St. Michael the Archangel Church,

located at the southwest corner of Plymouth and Hubbard Roads, continues its regular evening Bible Study program with an in-depth study of The Gospel of Luke 7 p.m. on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month in the rectory. The informal classes are open to all interested persons regardless of religious affiliation. To register, call (734) 261-1445, Ext. 200.

Time change
Faith Lutheran Church, 30000 Five Mile, west of Middlebelt, Livonia, returned to its fall-spring worship schedule. Services are at 8:15 a.m. and 10:45 a.m., with Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. for all ages. For information, visit www.livonfaith.org.

Wednesday activities
Have resumed at 7 p.m. at Grace Christian Fellowship, on the west side of Middlebelt, one block south of Six Mile. The special four week study focuses on the Hebraic Roots of Our Christian Faith, taught by Yvonne Moore. For information, visit www.gcfellowship.org or call (734) 525-6019.

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 is open for prayer and private worship from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Benediction service in the evening. 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 Venoy, Westland. Wednesday prayer and Bible study is 7 p.m. Youth fellowship every other Friday at 7 p.m.

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. The Web site is www.hischurch.us.

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/rsiworship/detroit.html.

Sanskrit chanting
An ongoing, weekly class taught by Ania Kocpzyński, 7-8:30 p.m. Thursdays, at Renaissance Unity, 11200 E. 11 Mile, Warren. No pre-registration required. A free-will collection 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. Call Martha Paul at (248) 682-9362 or e-mail her at marthapaul@sbcglobal.net.

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. Drop-ins 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.

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. **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.

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.

Your Invitation to Worship

<p>CATHOLIC</p>	<p>EVANGELICAL COVENANT</p>	<p>UNITED METHODIST</p>	<p>LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD</p>
<p>ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH Immemorial Latin Mass Approved by Pope St. Pius V in 1570 St. Anne's Academy - Grades K-8 28310 Joy Road • Redford, Michigan 6 Blocks E. of Telegraph • (313) 534-2121 Mass Schedule: First Fri. 7:00 p.m. Sat. 11:00 a.m. Sun. Masses 7:30 & 10:00 a.m. Confessions Heard Prior to Each Mass Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M.</p>	<p>FAITH COVENANT CHURCH 14 Mile Road and Drake, Farmington Hills (248) 661-9191 Sunday Worship and Children's Church 9:15 a.m. Contemporary 11:00 a.m. Traditional Child Care provided for all services Youth Groups • Adult Small Groups</p>	<p>Clarenceville United Methodist 20300 Middlebelt Kt. • Livonia 248-474-3444 Pastor Beth Librande Worship Service 9:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Nursery Provided</p>	<p>Redford Aldersgate 2 blocks South of Plymouth 10000 Beech Daly Rd. 913-937-9170 9:30 - Trad. Worship & Sun. Sch. 11:00 - Contemp. Family Worship www.redfordaldersgate.org</p>
<p>St Genevieve Roman Catholic Church St. Genevieve School - PreK-8 29015 Jamison • Livonia • 734-427-5220 (East of Middlebelt, between 5 Mile & Jeffries) MASS: Tues. 7 p., Wed., Thurs. 9 a., Sat. 4 p., Sun 11a</p> <p>St. Maurice Roman Catholic Church 32765 Lyndon • Livonia • 734-522-1616 (between Merriman & Farmington Roads) MASS: Mon. 8:30 a., Fri. 8:30 a., Sat. 6 p., Sun 9a</p>	<p>SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST</p> <p>Cherry Hill Seventh-day Adventist Church 33144 Cherry Hill, Garden City, MI 48135 (1 block west of Venoy) Phone: 734-524-0880 Pastor: Eddie Petrecca Meetings on Saturdays for: Early Morning Bible & Health Class-8 a.m. Worship Service-English-9:30 a.m. Bible Studies English & Spanish (All Ages) 11:00 a.m. Wednesdays: Prayer Meeting-7 p.m.</p>	<p>"More than Sunday Services" Worship Services 9:00 a.m. & 11:30 AM Sunday School & Nursery 9:00, 10:30 & 11:30 AM Pastor: Dr. John Grenfell III Associate Pastor: Rev. David Wichert</p>	<p>NEWBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH "Open Hearts, Minds & Doors" 36500 Ann Arbor Trail between Wayne & Newburgh Rds. 734-422-0149 Worship Service and Sunday School 9:15 & 11:00 a.m. Rev. Marsha M. Woolley Visit our website: www.newburgumc.org</p>
<p>CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE</p>	<p>EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA</p>	<p>NON DENOMINATIONAL</p>	<p>PRESBYTERIAN (U.S.A.)</p>
<p>PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 48601 W. Ann Arbor Road • (734) 453-1626 Sunday School - 9:45 A.M. Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M. Sunday Evening - 8:00 P.M. Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M. NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN LEARNING CENTER (734) 455-3196</p>	<p>Timothy Lutheran Church A Reconciling In Christ Congregation 8820 Wayne Rd. (Between Ann Arbor Trail & Joy Road) Livonia • 427-2290 Jill Hegdal, Pastor 10:00 a.m. Family Worship (Nursery Available)</p>	<p>BELL CREEK COMMUNITY CHURCH in alliance for inclusion Casual, Contemporary, Excellent Children's Program Meets at Franklin H.S. in Livonia on Joy Road (Between Merriman and Middlebelt Roads) at 10:00 a.m. 734-425-1174 Join us for coffee, bagels and donuts after the service!</p>	<p>ROSEDALE GARDENS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA) 9801 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, MI (between Merriman & Farmington Rds.) (734) 422-0494 www.rosedalegardens.org Chapel Worship Service 9:00 am Traditional Service 10:30 am WE WELCOME YOU TO A FULL SERVICE CHURCH</p>
<p>PRESBYTERIAN</p>	<p>Fellowship Presbyterian Church Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. • Worship: 10:30 a.m. Pastor: Dr. Jimmy McGuire Services held at: Madonna University's Kresge Hall 36600 Schoolcraft Road • Livonia Parking lot is on N.W. corner of Levan & Schoolcraft • Nursery provided www.fellowship-presbyterian.org</p>	<p>CHRISTIAN SCIENCE</p>	<p>St. James Presbyterian Church, USA 25350 West Six Mile Rd. Redford (313) 534-7730 Sunday Worship Service - 10:00 A.M., Sunday School - 10:15 A.M., Thursday Dinners - 8:00 P.M., Trinit Store every Sat. 10am-2am Nursery Care Provided • Handicapped Accessible Rev. Paul S. Bousquette</p>
<p>First Church of Christ, Scientist, Plymouth 1160 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, MI 734-453-0970 Sunday Service 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Wed. Evening Testimony Meeting 7:30 p.m. Reading Room located at church Saturday 12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m. 734-453-0970</p>	<p>St. Paul's Ev. LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL 17810 FARMINGTON ROAD, LIVONIA (734) 261-1360 WORSHIP SERVICES SUNDAY: 8:30 A.M. & 11:00 A.M. THURSDAY: 6:30 P.M. website: www.stpaulslivonia.org</p>	<p>Immanuel Lutheran Church Pastor Milton Schenn 27035 Ann Arbor Trail, Dearborn Heights (just East of Inkerster Road) (313) 278-5755 Worship Service & Sunday School 10:30 a.m. http://www.immanuelchurch.org The Friendly Church on the Trail</p>	<p>WARD Evangelical Presbyterian Church 40000 Six Mile Road "just west of I-275" Northville, MI 248-374-7400 Traditional Worship 8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 A.M. Contemporary Worship 9:30 A.M. Nursery & Sunday School During the 9:30 & 11:00 Hours Evening Service • 7:00 p.m. Service Broadcast 11:00 A.M. Sunday WRD-AM 560 The WMUZ Word Station For additional information visit www.wardchurch.org</p>

For Information regarding this Directory, please call Donna Hart at 734-582-8342 or e-mail: dhart@dnp.com



Unmask your inner beauty in time for Halloween

This time of year - just before a gaggle of costumed kiddies ring your doorbell - it's best to fill your own goodie bag with plenty of sweet treats to suit all your skincare needs. Don't mask skin problems with makeup. Add a new treatment to your regimen - one that will soothe the problem skin or quench dry patches on the spot.



Dollface
Stephanie Casola

Papaya power: *Kate Somerville's Enzyme Scrub & Mask* is sure to purify skin as its fruit enzymes delve deep into pores while antioxidants promote cellular turnover for a youthful glow. Cost is \$65 for 2 ounces.

Warming trends: *Biore Purify Self-Heating Mask* is the original one-minute deep cleansing facial. It's activated by water and perfect for any PINK girl on the go. This thermal mask washes away excess oil and dead skin cells. Rinse it when it turns blue for a smooth, refreshed look. Cost is \$7.49 for 2.08 ounces.

Back in black: *Fresh* has introduced its *Black Tea Instant Perfecting Mask* to combat dry skin. This is the one to try for moisture and firming abilities, meant to last up to 6 hours after you've used it. Cost is \$85 for 3.4 ounces.

Seeing red: *Plantidote Mega-Mushroom Skin-Calming Face Mask*, new to Origins, is proven to reduce redness caused by daily stresses, sun, wind or dehydration. Its creamy consistency replenishes moisture, thanks to a blend of mushrooms, ginger and Chinese Black Bamboo extract. Cost is \$35 for 3.4 ounces.

Muddle through: *Murad's Clarifying Mask* uses tried-and-true natural clay to draw out impurities and oil, reducing breakouts and promoting healthier skin. Cost is \$36 for 2.65 ounces.

Go nuts: *Ole Henriksen's Walnut Complexion Scrub* is meant to smooth and energize skin when activated with a little water. Wash away impurities with this mild miracle, made of walnut powder, chamomile and comfrey extract.

Cost is \$24 for 1.7 ounces.

Purify with pumpkin: Halloween wouldn't feel complete without a pumpkin-scented treat. *Peter Thomas Roth's Pumpkin Enzyme Peel* is just the trick any beauty buff should have up her tailored sleeve. It dissolves dead skin cells, revealing fresh younger-looking skin that's fully protected by antioxidants and vitamin A. You'll find these and more at shops like Nordstrom, Saks Fifth Avenue, Origins, Walgreens and Sephora.

Stephanie Angelyn Casola has been known to wander around her apartment in a spa daydream while coated in Lush's Cupcake, a thick chocolatey-mint mud face mask that smells good enough to eat. She writes about 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.

Pink Picks

The PINK staff would like to congratulate the winner of this year's PINK Picks contest, **Deborah Keller** of Rochester Hills. Keller's eye for fashion proved spot-on earning her our grand prize - a Parisian gift basket valued at \$200 by Coty Prestige containing fragrances and products by Vera Wang and Harajuku. This marked the first year she entered and Keller said she gets ideas by reading publications, including the *Rochester Eccentric*, and from seeing the fashionable women in her hometown. Keller just celebrated her 20th anniversary with husband Mike Keller and they have four children: Rachel, 19; Jordan, 17; David, 15; and Mary Grace, 9. And here are her winning picks:



Deborah Keller of Rochester Hills is all smiles as she poses with her prize from Parisian after winning first place for her Pink Picks.

- See It**
Fireproof
- DVD It**
The Visitor
- TV It**
Extreme Makeovers: Home Edition
- Take It**
Hot mulled apple cider
- Experience It**
Leonardo Da Vinci exhibit at
- Accessories It**
Pandora charm bracelet
- Note It!**
North Face Women's Pandora backpack
- Face It!**
JK Jemma Kidd cosmetics at Target
- Make It!**
Garnier Fructis Bold Shine products
- Smell It!**
The crisp "autumn in Michigan" air

- Detroit Science Center
- Read It!**
Bringing Up Geeks, by Michigan mom Marybeth Hicks
- Use It**
Your public library
- Go It**
Get informed and vote!
The picks of our second place winner, Cassandra Smith of Livonia, will be featured in next week's PINK.

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- Class Rings
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