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AROUND TOWN

Free show

Westland's only live theater, Inspire Theatre, brings to the stage the film classic, *Father of the Bride*, the final show of the company's fourth season. But this show is different. One night will be free to the area's unemployed.

"We have a preview night before opening night to get the cast used to an audience. Contractually we can't charge for this and we wanted to offer the show to folks who would not normally be able to see the show," said Len Fisher, the company's founder and artistic director. "In searching for a group to offer the opportunity, it was actually my daughter Elizabeth, who plays Kay Banks in the play, who came up with the idea. I guess since she's unemployed, it made sense to her."

The play, well known for its two movie versions, is the story of a man trying to cope with all of the disasters that happen along the way from the time that his daughter announces that she's engaged until the wedding actually occurs.

Inspire Theatre got its start in 2005, when Fisher closed a church where he was employed and decided to launch his dream of live theater. The theater is located inside the Warren Road Light and Life Church at 33445 Warren Road at Farmington Road.

The preview will be at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, June 4. The theater only holds 95 and so seating will be on a first come-first serve basis. Doors open at 7 p.m. The other show dates are 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, June 5-6 and June 12-13. Tickets are \$12. Group rates are available.

For more information, call (734) 751-7057 or visit the theater's Web site at www.inspiretheatre.com.

Fill the boot

Members of Westland Firefighters Local 1279 will be taking to the streets Thursday-Saturday, June 11-13, to help raise money for "Jerry's Kids."

Westland firefighters will be at intersections throughout the city, seeking donations from motorists for the Muscular Dystrophy Association. Firefighters have done a Fill the Boot campaign for several years for "Jerry's Kids." Last year, they raised more than \$6,153 to benefit local families, and they are looking to double that total this year.

Fill-the-Boot funds support MDA's services locally and nationally, including medical clinics staffed with specialists in muscle disease and accessible summer camp for kids. Local clinics and camps benefiting from Fill-the-Boot funds include Children's Hospital in Detroit, the Michigan Institute for Neuromuscular Disorders in Farmington Hills and three weeklong sessions of summer camp at Camp Cavell in Lexington. Local research is being performed at Michigan State University, Wayne State University and the University of Michigan. There are more than 1,800 families affected within the metro Detroit area.

For more information about the MDA, contact Sarah Grutza, program coordinator, at (248) 474-0235 or visit the Web site at www.mda.org.

City lands energy efficiency grant

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The city of Westland will be able to do some "big ticket" energy efficiency improvement, thanks to a federal Department of Energy grant.

The city is in line to receive \$731,100 as part of the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant program. Administered by the DOE's Office

of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, the money goes to local governments, Native American tribes, and states to reduce energy use and fossil fuel emissions and for improvements in energy efficiency.

"I think it's exciting," said Mayor William Wild. "We've basically been working with no capital outlay in the past several budgets. This will allow us to focus on big ticket items that we haven't had the funding in

the past to furnish."

Announcement of Westland's receipt of the grant was made by state Sen. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland, who voted for the plan which will invest federal stimulus dollars in local communities and schools.

"Local communities have energy efficiency projects ready to go," said Anderson. "This funding will help get them off the ground resulting in

job creation in our cities and lowering energy use, reducing operational costs in our communities for years to come."

According to Wild, among the big ticket items being considered are the repair or replacement of the compressor at the Mike Modano Ice Arena and older HVAC systems at the Westland Police Station and

Please see **GRANT, A2**



PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Fifth-graders Jessica Boyce (left) and Brianna Kolenc paint a meteor they made to display in a universe that hangs in a hallway at Hamilton Elementary School.

Project turns students into space travelers

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

You can see Saturn's rings or reach out and almost touch the moon and you don't need the Hubble telescope or the space shuttle.

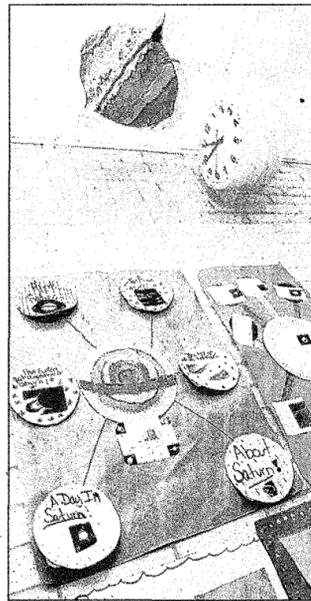
All it takes is a stroll through a hallway at Hamilton Elementary School, where Dana Chapman's fifth-grade students have re-created the solar system, complete with planets, comets, meteorites, the seasons and phases of the moon, a few famous astronomers and astronauts.

"I've done the solar systems before, but changed it up and made it more in-depth," said

Chapman. "The solar system isn't something kids read about and remember, they need to do something hands-on. They get tired of reading and imagining a scene."

Chapman, who team teaches, handling the mathematics and science for the fifth-graders, told the students what they needed to do and then left her classroom, leaving them to come up with their own ideas. They brainstormed and gathered information, then used it to create the solar system as well as posters explaining its different aspects. They even created astronauts, using pictures of themselves.

Please see **SPACE, A4**



The rings of Saturn are clearly visible to the naked eye in Hamilton Elementary's solar system.

Volunteers to 'rescue' Tonquish Creek

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Volunteers, lots of volunteers. That's what Robert Patterson needs on Saturday, June 6, when the City of Westland partners with the Holliday Nature Preserve Association to clean up Tonquish Creek.

The cleanup is one of 36 scheduled to take place as part of the 2009 Rouge Rescue. More than 3,000 volunteers turned out last year to clean up the Rouge River and its tributaries. Patterson is hoping for 100 volunteers to work from 8:30 a.m. to noon Saturday to help clean up and restore the creek, which is a tributary of the Middle Rouge River.

"We'll plant some trees and there's a lot of logjams, so we do need people with boots to get in the water," said Patterson, who works for the city's Community Development Department. "The work will be as easy as pulling weeds and picking up Styrofoam cups to chainsawing and getting nasty in the water."

The work will be along the creek at the rear property line of the Wilderness Park Apartments on Warren Road, between Central City Parkway and Newburgh. Volunteers should gather in the apartment complex's parking lot, where there will be a registration table.

Participants should wear long pants and long-sleeved shirts as well as shoes to prevent punctures. "Flip-flops would not be a good idea," he added.

Patterson is sharing site coordinator duties with Bill Craig of the Holliday Nature Association and Community

Please see **RESCUE, A2**

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Library's strategic plan: 'Visionary, realistic'

BY JULIE BROWN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Emily Hampton of Westland is a fan of her local library. She tries to visit it "at least once a week," more so for her children - son Cody, 10 months, and daughters Lily, 4, and Glory, 2 - than herself.

"I don't really have time to read for myself, so it's pretty much for them," she said. "I love the library."

Keeping patrons happy is the gist of the Westland library's strategic plan for 2009-13. It defines the library's mission as promoting education and lifelong learning; encouraging personal enrichment and supporting a vibrant quality of life within the community.

The strategic plan reveals some basic demographics of

Westland. Its 87,000-plus residents include 36 percent who live alone and 27 percent with kids under age 18. Average annual household income is \$45,000; 87 percent are high school graduates, with 17 percent have at least a bachelor's degree.

The information was compiled by a Community Steering Committee made up of Library Board members, staffers, city staffers and elected officials and community members. The group found that there were 260,000 library visits in 2006, up significantly from the year before, almost 60 percent of city residents have a library card and nearly half a million items circulate each year.

PLACE TO GATHER

The plan details a number

of goals, including making the library on Central City Parkway between Warren and Ford a social and cultural community gathering place. Hopes are to engage the community through outreach and targeted marketing, as well as supporting educational and economic development priorities of Westland.

Goals include improving service and library access, sustaining infrastructure and generating resources.

Cheryl Napsha, library director, cited a recent concert by musician Anne Feeney, as well as ongoing open mic nights, as cultural programming.

"We're doing a lot more programming particularly for

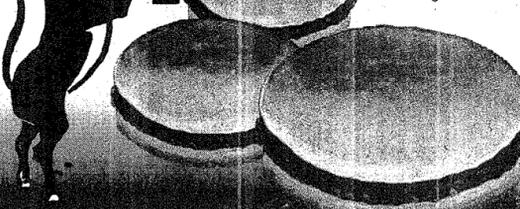
Please see **LIBRARY, A2**

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GRANT
FROM PAGE A1

Bailey Recreation Center. Lesser items on the list include energy-efficient lighting and water-efficient toilets.

"The compressor at the arena is 40 years old, this gives us the opportunity to make it more energy efficient," Wild said. "And we have to keep putting money into maintenance at the police station and Bailey Center every year."

The energy improvements were identified through state-conducted Rebuild Michigan Energy Services audit and were used in applying for the grant. The state surveyed the city's 10 largest buildings and provided information on what can be done to make city facilities more energy efficient.

Joanne Inglis, community development director, is the city's point person for the grant. She has attended meetings with the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments and Michigan Municipal League to get more information.

"We're still trying to get our arms around this," Wild said. "We haven't seen a check

yet, and with these programs you have to come back with a plan."

The city also has applied for other stimulus money, including money to help in the remediation of Central City Park which has been closed to the public since November 2007 because of lead contamination. The city has presented a plan to the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality to remediate 15 acres. A meeting is scheduled with the DEQ for Wednesday, June 3.

However, it appears that much of that money will now be used to prop up the state budget.

Wild credited Anderson with putting together a meeting with Michigan Economic Recovery Office Director Leslie Fritz.

"I think this is great news for the city of Westland and is evidence of the continual commitment on behalf of our community by Sen. Anderson and Rep. (Richard) LeBlanc in their work in Lansing," said Wild. "The meeting with Director Leslie Fritz was very helpful in our mutual efforts to ensure Westland is receiving the funds it deserves."

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Cell phone business broken into 2nd time

Vandalism
Police responded to an alarm call early May 26 at Metro PCS, 4683 S. Middlebelt, and found the front window had

CRIME WATCH

The officer noted nothing had been stolen due to a large glass barrier separating the showroom from the merchandise. Damage to the window was set at \$450.

The owner told police there had been another break-in less

than a week earlier.

Retail fraud

An employee at Kroger, 31300 Michigan Ave., told police that a woman left the store carrying a purse that appeared to be very heavy and which was suspected to contain stolen meat. A security guard told police the woman got into a car driven by a man and fled.

Fraud

A resident on an apartment in the 35000 block of Sims told police May 26 that he had

found someone had opened a DTE gas account in his name at a second apartment. He said he hadn't authorized the account which now had an outstanding balance of \$1,089.

Larceny

The manager of Chatters Bar, 7640 N. Wayne Road, told police that the Kenos scanner was missing when she opened the business May 25. The scanner had been cut off the wall at some point but the night staff hadn't noticed it

was missing.

Break-in

The owner of Accurate Precision Machinery, 1021 Manufacturers Dr., told police that over the Memorial Day holiday weekend someone had cut the locks off two storage pods at the rear of the building. The owner said nothing was taken since raw materials which had been stored in the pods were recently moved into the building.

By LeAnne Rogers

LIBRARY

FROM PAGE A1

adults," she said. "We're trying to have the library serve as a community and social destination."

Napsha said cost is a consideration for programs, but not the only factor.

"There are a lot of academics and experts in this area," she said. "We're able to take advantage of a lot of expertise in this area."

Recent grants have helped, too, including one from the Michigan Humanities Council for February's exhibit on the Idlewild resort in Michigan, part of Black History Month. A grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities will fund "Picturing America," a year-long display of American art

at the Westland library.

Napsha noted all library directors would like to see circulation climb. She's pleased with library use and the number of residents with library cards.

"It's an indicator that Westland is a vibrant community, and the library is well-loved, so yes, I'm thrilled," she said.

Some libraries like Redford have a small café, an interest cited in the Westland plan. That's not a short-term goal, Napsha said, but a possibility for down the road.

"I think it fits with the library as a destination. They come to stay," she said.

Staffers also would like to boost programming at the outdoor pavilion behind the library. There's a city-funded concert series now, which they'd like to piggyback on.

"It's such a great space," said

Napsha, adding that open mic nights could be moved outside in good weather.

She noted library use has increased dramatically, not just checking out of books. Internet computers are heavily used, and programs well attended. Many visitors bring laptops and books for study "and use us as sort of their living room. We're sort of the community's living room, or front porch."

The goal is to make the space inviting, she said, noting users often appreciate having more structure as it puts them in a studying frame of mind.

GETTING THE WORD OUT

The library uses the city newsletter to reach patrons with information. There's also a monthly library newsletter in print for adult subscribers. Library staffers would like to do more online in terms of

marketing and outreach.

The building has 34,000 square feet and opened in 1996. Expansion is possible down the road, and surrounding land is available.

"I think it is a real possibility particularly in partnership with the city," said Napsha, adding that the library needs more "people space," including meeting rooms for four-six people, "more quiet space but also more noisy space."

The action plan is designed to grow and meet community needs. It details the first phase of 18 months or so, and further plans will be developed beyond that for the second phase, Napsha said. The plan's available online at the library's Web site, www.westlandlibrary.org.

"I was really pleased with the plan," said Napsha. "We tried to make the plan both visionary and realistic."

RESCUE

FROM PAGE A1

Development Director Joanne Inglis.

The Rouge Rescue effort began in the mid-1980s, focusing primarily on trash removal and logjams, but has expanded to include the removal of invasive species, woody debris management, native plantings,

nature walks, bird box building and trail revitalization and similar activities.

Patterson has been involved with the Rouge Rescue for 17 years. Initially, the focus was on the Lower Rouge in the Venoy-Michigan Avenue area, but shifted to Tonquish Creek when the city partnered with the Holliday Nature Preserve Association.

Volunteers have taken out old tires and shopping carts,

in some instances filling the bed of a pickup truck with trash, and have cleared logjams preventing the creek from eroding its banks during heavy rains. The variety of work to be done Saturday makes the Rouge Rescue a family- or child-friendly activity. In the past, Cub Scout packs, families, and even students from Livonia Churchill High School have helped out,

And the work is paying off. "Tonquish Creek is getting cleaner and cleaner to where we're shopping around for locations," Patterson said.

People interested in helping with the Rouge Rescue can contact Patterson by e-mail at rpatterson@cityofwestland.com. Volunteers will receive T-shirts and refreshments will be provided.

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City gets ready for curbside recycling

BY JULIE BROWN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The last week of June will be an exciting time for Westland Mayor William Wild, as the city begins to implement its curbside recycling program.

That's the time line for the first pickup of recyclables from single-family homes, the first phase of the project in the works for about a year with a consultant's help. Rolling containers with a lid, in a distinctive blue, will go out to residents in the next couple weeks.

"Westland's going to be the leader in curbside recycling," the mayor told Westland Rotary members and guests May 28. He praised the "single stream recycling" in which residents will be asked to rinse food containers but won't need to sort them or peel labels off containers.

Residents will obtain the larger-size blue container at first, although a smaller one

will be available for those with special needs. Wild said the larger wheeled container can be moved easily by older people.

Great Lakes Recycling in New Boston will take the Westland recyclables, including ceramics, pots, dry cleaning bags and other items that are hard to recycle. Pickup from homes will be biweekly, although regular trash will still be collected weekly.

"We're going to reward folks for doing this," the mayor said of recycling. Residents will get a computer-coded card and Republic Waste Hauling will scan pickups for rewards from the RecycleBank business. Residents will earn rewards points for such businesses as Dick's Sporting Goods or Costco, which can be tracked online or via an 800 telephone number. The program with RecycleBank also allows donations to groups like the Salvation Army.

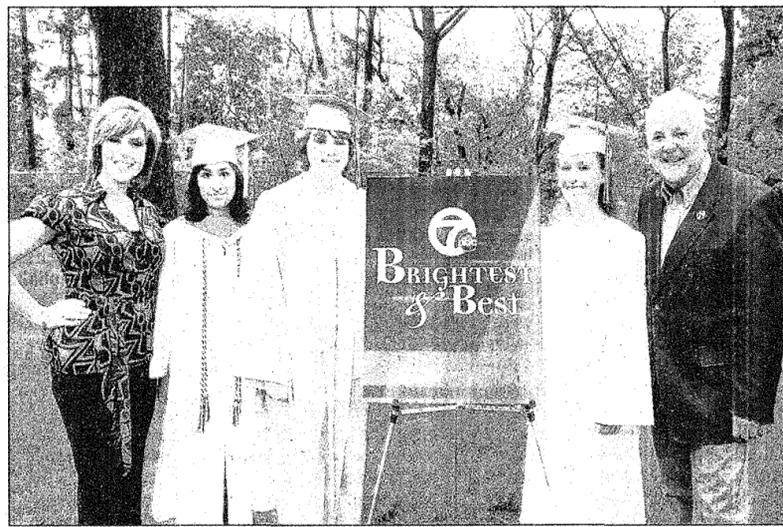
"Every business in the city of Westland has a chance to get involved," said Wild, noting that Westland Shopping Center was the first local business to sign up. The nationwide RecycleBank program does well on the West Coast, and Wild's heard compliments about it from other mayors he's talked with.

There will be no extra charge to residents, with costs covered by current sanitation funds.

Phase two will include multiple-family dwellings, including apartments and condos, with the third phase - businesses - to follow, most likely next year.

"We're getting good feedback from the community," said Wild, adding the average RecycleBank rewards are \$240 a year per home to be pumped back into the local economy.

The city will continue its Department of Public Services recycling yard for car batteries, motor oil, computer parts and old TVs.



Brightest & Best

Alicia Smith, anchor for Action News This Morning and reporter (from left), poses with WXYZ-TV Brightest & Best honorees Asra Najam of Westland, from John Glenn High School, Shawna Waiser of Garden City, from Garden City High School, and Kayla Stockdale of Westland, from Huron Valley Lutheran High School. Joining them is Erik Smith, anchor for Action News This Morning. The students were among 250 high school seniors honored by WXYZ-TV/Channel 7 for excellence in academic, extracurricular and community pursuits.

Recount complete, but challenge continues

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The Wayne County Board of Canvassers has completed a recount of election results for the Livonia Public Schools board election.

Challenger Roger Spence, who lost by 10 votes to incumbent Dan Lessard May 5 and petitioned for the recount, said the recount shows he actually lost by just six votes or possibly five, if the board approves his challenge on another vote for Lessard.

Only if the board recounts

a box of absentee ballots from Westland — which had a seal on the box but was not closed entirely, according to Spence — and those recount results changed the vote totals further would Spence have a shot at winning the election. The board decided not to recount those results.

The board will meet again to discuss the recount and hear any challenges from the candidates at 10 a.m. Tuesday in the fifth floor of Livonia City Hall.

Spence said there were two fewer Lessard votes in Precinct 4A and one less in Precinct 9A.

He also gained one vote.

Spence expects to challenge on Tuesday one absentee ballot that he thinks may have an erased vote that was counted, along with the board's decision not to recount the AV box.

Spence was told by someone assisting him in the challenge that that voter may have intended to erase a vote for Lessard, but Spence did not directly witness this at the recount.

On the ballot box in question, Spence said: "There was a seal on it that wasn't tightened and it could be opened in front. I immediately challenged that."

AROUND WESTLAND

Pool opens

The 2009 season has kicked off at the Bailey Recreation Center's outdoor pool. Pool hours now through June 12 will be 3-6 p.m. weekdays and noon to 3 p.m. and 4-7 p.m. weekends. The regular season starts June 13 and will feature an array of "theme" nights for the entire family, including "Two for Tuesday," "Wacky Wednesday," "Family Night Thursday" and "Flotation Friday." The Bailey Center is at 36651 Ford Road, behind Westland City Hall. For more information, call (734) 722-7620.

Closing celebration

St. Dunstan Catholic School is inviting all former school staff, students and families to attend the closing Liturgy at 2 p.m. Sunday, June 14. The school is closing after 45 years. People planning to attend should call (734) 425-4380 or send an e-mail to stdunstanschool-secretary@comcast.net by June 5. People who would like to contribute as a minister in the liturgy, singer or instrumentalist, should call the Parish Office at (734) 425-6720.

An open house and reception will follow.

Inspire Theatre

There's sure to be laughter as the wish for a simple wedding turns into a big affair when the Inspire Theatre presents *Father of the Bride* Friday-Saturday, June 5-6 and 12-13, inside The Warren Road Light and Life Church, 33445 Warren Road, west of Venoy, in Westland. Show time is 7:30 p.m., and tickets are \$12 each. For more information, call (734) 751-7057 or go online to www.inspiretheatre.com.

Be a star

The Westland Stars Cheerleading and Dance Team is offering a summer program. Children ages 10-14 years or in the fifth-eighth-grades from Westland and the surrounding area can join the team for the first summer practice 6-8:30 p.m. Thursday, June 18, in the multipurpose room of the Westland Bailey Center, 36651 Ford in the civic center complex. Dress to work out and bring a water bottle. This summer we will be working on dances, cheers and be attending camp. Join in the fun this summer. For more information, call the Bailey Center at (734) 722-7620.

Association meets

The Westland Condominium Association will host its next meeting 7-9 p.m. Monday, June 1, inside the clubhouse of Westland's Woodview Condominiums, located on the northwest block of Central City Parkway and Warren. The agenda includes Westland's recently-launched curbside recycling program, the association's annual vendor's fair and general updates. Coffee, juice, and cookies will be served.

Used book sale

The League of Women Voters of Northwest Wayne County will hold their used book sale Friday-Saturday, June 26-28, at the Westland Shopping Center Wayne and Warren roads, Westland. There will be a preview 6-8:30 p.m. Thursday, June 25, and cost \$3. Hours will be 10 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. June 26-27 and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. June 28. Most books and magazines will be priced at \$1 or less; videos, CDs and DVDs will be individually priced. To donate, call (734) 421-4420.

Preschool signups

Willow Creek Cooperative Preschool is currently accepting enrollment into its Parent/Tot, Young 3's, 3-year and 4-year programs. The preschool is located at 36660 Cherry Hill, west of Wayne Road, in Westland. For more information, call (734) 326-0078.

Glow Skate

Grab your skates and head for the Mike Modano Arena on Friday nights for Glow Skate. Cruise around the rink with blacklight illumination from 7:30-9 p.m. Admission is \$3.50 for adults and \$2.50 for children. Skate rentals are \$2.50. The arena is at 6210 Wildwood at Hunter, east of Wayne Road. For more information, call (734) 729-4560.

Friends of Eloise

The Friends of Eloise meets at 7 p.m. on the third Tuesday of the month (except July, August and December) at the Collins House in the Westland Historic Village Park, on Wayne Road between Marquette and Cherry Hill. For information, call Jo Johnson (734) 522-3918.

Prison families

Do you have a family member currently in prison? Do you feel alone? Do you wish you had a support group that you could turn to? If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, then this support group is for you. Contact Bonnie at (734) 646-2237 or by e-mail at hope4healing@rocketmail.com. This support group is to provide adult family members with support and a place to talk with others that have experienced similar pain. Meetings are free and held from 6:30-8:30 p.m. the second Monday of the month at the Kirk of Our Savior, 36660 Cherry Hill, west of Wayne Road, in Westland.

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EDUCATION

ACHIEVERS

Andrew Galuszka recently received a bachelor of arts degree in criminal justice and political science from the University of Michigan-



Galuszka

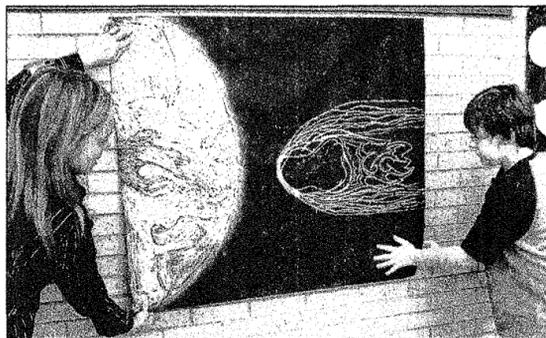
Dearborn, graduating with high distinction.

A graduate of John Glenn High School, he has been an intern at the Wayne County Prosecutor's

Office for almost a year and also served as a Westland Police Explorer for seven years, volunteering in the community and preparing for a career in local law enforcement.

Galuszka plans on attending a regional police academy this summer.

Lauren Perry received a bachelor's degree in English in creative writing and theatre with a minor in journalism Albion College on May 9, receiving a degree in English. She is the daughter of Leslie and Judith Perry of Westland and a graduate of John Glenn High School.



Fifth-grade teacher Dana Chapman and student Trent Best look over the drawing he did of a meteor heading towards the earth.

SPACE FROM PAGE A1

Trent Best worked with Luke Bellamy in creating a meteorite poster in just two days. The first day they gathered the information and the second day did their drawing.

"Luke did the meteorite, I did the flames," said Trent. "I did the land parts on the earth and we both did the water and the iceberg. I think I need to darken the flames."

Trent also offered an explanation of a meteorite. The 11-year-old pointed out that a meteor breaks off an asteroid in the solar system. Once it gets close to earth, it becomes a meteorite and "burns up because of the gases," he said.

In fact, being able to answer questions about the solar system, like what is a meteor, was part one of the requirements for the project.

"I wanted to make sure they could answer questions," said Chapman. "Those who couldn't had to look up the answer. This was their main grade for science. They were graded for presentation and

participation."

Chapman selected a hallway in the rear of the school that has no classroom to erect the solar system. Youngsters in the lower elementary who pass through it got their first glimpse of the universe.

"The little kids tell us they like our planets," she said. While Trent was working on the meteors, Kendra Pennington and Kendall Wegehaupt were turning a balloon covered in papier maché into the earth. Luckily, the balloon didn't blow up like some of the planets. She also worked on posters filled with earth facts. Her astronaut talks about how much water is on earth — two-thirds of the planet is covered with water — and who discovered it was round.

"The posters have everything, the earth has a moon, the earth's core, what's in it," she said. "It took about two days to research, writing it down took another day."

Kendra liked the project because she got to know more about the solar system than from just reading about it. "I also got to hold the earth



PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Making clay meteorites are fifth-graders Brandon Qualkenbush (from left), Brande' Towalski, Hope Grondy and Sarah Puckett.



Students "astronauts" offer facts about the solar system to anyone who walks through the display.

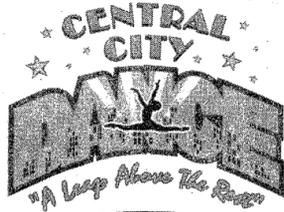
in my hands," she said. This was the first time Chapman used a hallway to

create the solar system and her students loved the idea. "With a project like this,

they get engaged, they get involved," she said. "They own it."

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NEW PATIENTS

Tiananmen Square: 20th anniversary

On June 4, 1989, hundreds of Chinese civilians were shot dead during demonstrations in Beijing's Tiananmen Square. Spurred by the death of pro-democracy leader Hu Yaobang on April 15, a few thousand demonstrators, mainly students, peacefully started gathering outside of Beijing. Eventually, millions of people throughout China joined in the call for economic change and democratic reform in their government. By April 21, more than 100,000 protesters gathered in Tiananmen Square and occupied it for several weeks. After several failed attempts at getting the people to leave, the Chinese government decided on a military offensive to control the masses. Martial law was officially declared on May 20, but the military could not enter Beijing because of the number of people blocking them. Disunity within the army added more difficulties.



Eventually, soldiers from the 27th and 28th divisions of the People's Liberation Army were sent to take control of Beijing. The PLA used tanks, bullets and tear gas to clear the streets. The actual assault on the square began the night of June 3. Throughout the day of June 4, tanks rolled over vehicles and people in the square while soldiers shot wildly into the crowds.

Some of the most famous footage from the event was taken on June 5 when a lone man stood defiantly in front of a line of tanks. After refusing to move from the tanks' path, the unidentified man was pulled away by police.

It is believed that he was executed as the Chinese government never could produce him after worldwide outrage was voiced.

After the crackdown on June 4 in Beijing, protests continued throughout mainland China until the government finally gained control, followed by troops beating and killing those suspected as coordinating the protests. Reports on number of deaths vary. The Chinese Red Cross estimates 5,000 killed and 30,000 injured. NATO

counts 7,000 deaths while Amnesty International counts 1,000. The Chinese government gives the official figure of 241 deaths and 7,000 injured.

To find out more about the Tiananmen Square massacre, the Public Library of Westland is a great place to start. "The Tank Man" is a DVD on the unarmed man who stood before the tanks on July 5, 1989, and attempts to discover his identity. "The Legacy of Tiananmen: China in Disarray" by James A.R. Miles and "China Since Tiananmen:

Political, Economic and Social Conflicts" will provide more information on the effects of this tragedy.

Stop by at the reference desk, call us at (734) 326-6123, or remotely search our catalog 24 hours a day at www.westlandlibrary.org.

Highlighted Activities
flickr: Storing and Sharing Your Pictures Online: 2 p.m. June 2.

Learn how to set up a flickr account at www.flickr.com and organize and

share all of your digital photos online. Bring digital photos you want to use on a flash drive or CD-ROM. Prerequisite is basic computer knowledge and Internet 101 or previous experience using the Internet. Seating limited, sign-up required.

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

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Police Officers Association honors McCotter

Rep. Thaddeus McCotter recently received the Police Officers Association of Michigan's (POAM) Congressional Achievement Award. The award is given to select members of the U.S. Congress who have portrayed exemplary leadership in support of the law enforcement community. 'Our law enforcement officers risk their lives to protect ours,' he said. 'I am honored and humbled by their recognition.' Pictured (from left) are Jim Tiganelli, president of the 14,000-member POAM; Kenneth E. Grabowski, legislative director of POAM; McCotter; and William Birdseye, business manager of POAM.

Listings for the Community Calendar can be submitted by e-mail at smaison@hometownlife.com. They also can be mailed to Sue Mason at 615 W. Lafayette - Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226, or faxed to her attention at fax at (313) 223-3318. For more information, call (313) 222-6751.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Closing celebration
St. Dunstan Catholic School is inviting all former school staff, students and families to attend the closing Liturgy at 2 p.m. Sunday, June 14. The school is closing after 45 years. People planning to attend should call (734) 425-4380 or send an e-mail to sdunstanschoolsecretary@comcast.net by June 5. People who would like to contribute as a minister in the liturgy, singer or instrumentalist, should call the Parish Office at (734) 425-6720.

Garden walk
The Wayne Garden Club Garden Walk will be held on Saturday, June 27, from 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m., rain or shine. Start at Goudy Park Gardens (behind Wayne City Hall) 3355 S. Wayne Road. For information contact Lynn at (734) 721-8232 or Mary Anne at (734) 728-2884.

Book signing
Award-winning author Cheryl A. Vatcher-Martín autographs copies of her latest children's book, "Haiku For You: With Some One Room School House History," at the Westland Borders Express 1-3 p.m. Sunday, May 31.

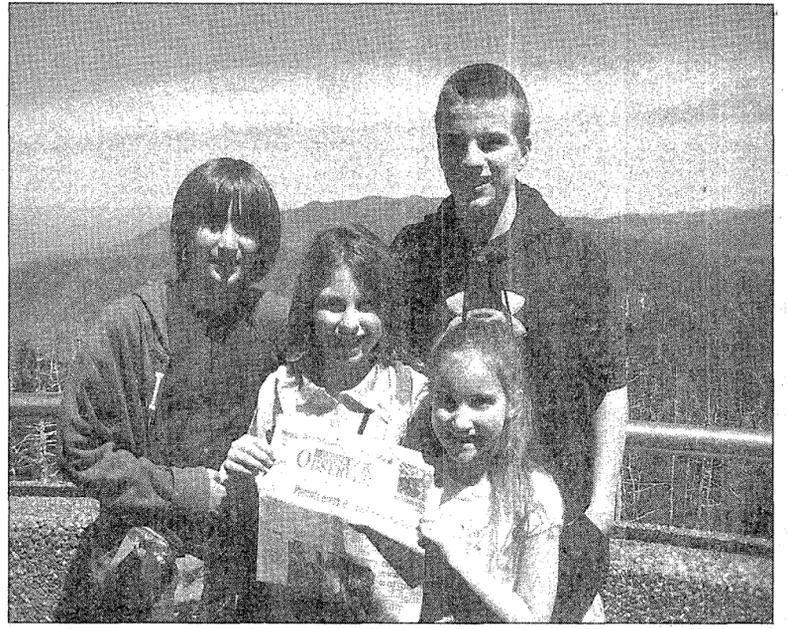
The event will provide Borders customers with the opportunity to purchase copies of her three published books, including "Cheryl's Musings: A Day In The Life Of An Award Winning Poet & Photographer" and "Woman Reclining." Vatcher is the owner of Pero Inc., a full service writing, tutoring, instructional design, consulting, photography, editing, and publishing company. For more information, call (734) 397-1626 or send an e-mail at peroinc5@comcast.net.

Be a Star
The Westland Stars Cheerleading and Dance Team will begin their summer program. Children ages 10-14 or in the fifth-eighth-grade from Westland and the surrounding area can join the team for its first summer practice 6-8:30 p.m. Thursday, June 18, in the multipurpose room of the Westland Bailey Center in the Westland civic center complex on Ford west of Wayne Road. Dress to work out and bring a water bottle. This summer the team will work on its dances and cheers and will attend camp. For more information call the Bailey Center at (734) 722-7620.

3-Day fund-raiser
A Breast Cancer 3-Day spaghetti dinner benefiting Susan G. Komen for the Cure will be held 5-8 p.m. Friday, June 19, at the CrossPointe Community Church, formerly First Baptist of Wayne, 36125 Glenwood, east of Newburgh, Wayne. Minimum donation is \$7 for adults and \$4 children age 10 and under. The dinner includes spaghetti, salad, beverages and dessert. Breast Cancer jewelry, mugs and Wendy's discount books also will be for sale. For more information, call (734) 564-6437.

Class reunion
Garden City High School Class of 1989 will hold its 20th reunion 6 p.m. to midnight Aug. 29 at Joy Manor in Westland. Tickets are \$75 now

COMMUNITY CALENDAR



Wish You Were Here

Jake Nabozny, Hannah Smith, Tyler Smith and Nina Nabozny, all are from Garden City, pose with their Observer at the top of Clingman's Dome on the Appalachian Trail in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park where they vacation during spring break. Tyler and Hannah are the children of Joe and Julie Smith and attend Henry Ruff Elementary School. Jake and Nina attend Memorial Elementary School. If you go on vacation, be sure to take a picture with your Observer and send it to Sue Mason, 615 W. Lafayette, Second Level, Detroit, MI 48226. Be sure to include your name and information about your photo.

through 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 gchsl989reunion@hotmail.com.

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

Higher Rock Cafe
The Wayne-Westland Salvation Army presents the Higher Rock Cafe the second and fourth Fridays of the month at its facility at 2300 Venoy, south of Palmer, Westland. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. Live bands perform beginning at 8 p.m. Admission is free, however, a free will offering will be taken to support the bands. Check out Higher Rock on the Web at www.tsa.higherrockcafe.4t.com or call (734) 722-3660.

FOR YOUR HEALTH

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

Substance abuse support
A SAFE PLACE meets at 7 p.m. Thursdays in the Fellowship Hall at Merriman Road Baptist Church, 2055

Merriman, Garden City. A SAFE PLACE is based on the Alcoholics for Christ program. For more information, call Russ Weathers at (734) 422-1995.

Menopause & More
A Menopause & More support group for women meets 7-9 p.m. the first Wednesday of the month in Classroom 2 of the west addition of the Marian Women Center of St. Mary Mercy Hospital, 36475 Five Mile, Livonia. No registration is necessary, and the group is free of charge. Call (734) 655-1100.

Counterpoint
Counterpoint Shelter and Crisis Center offers free counseling and respite services for people ages 10-17 and their families. For more information, call (734) 563-5005.

Toughlove
A Toughlove support group meets 7:30-9:30 p.m. Tuesdays at Northwest Wayne Skill Center, Ann Arbor Trail between Merriman and Farmington roads. Newcomers welcome. Call (734) 261-7880 or (248) 380-7748.

EDUCATION

Willow Creek
Willow Creek Cooperative Preschool is currently accepting enrollment in its Parent/Tot, Young 3's, 3-year and 4-year programs. Willow Creek is located at 36660 Cherry Hill in Westland. For more information, call the preschool at (734) 326-0078.

St. Damian
St. Damian Catholic School at 29891 Joy, Westland, offers preschool for 3-4-year-olds and full day kindergarten through grade 8. For more information or to schedule a tour, call (734) 427-1680 or check out the school's Web site at www.stdamian.com.

Academic Pathways
Academic Pathways Cooperative Preschool, at 30330 Schoolcraft, Livonia, will host open houses 10 a.m. to noon Tuesday, July 14, 6-8 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 20, and Thursday, Sept. 3. The preschool has a three-year-old program that runs 9:30-11:30 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday and a four-year-old program that runs 9:30-11:30 a.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Potty training is not required. Low cost tuition available. For more information, visit the Web site at www.academicpathwayspreschool.com or call (734) 261-9540.

YWCA preschool
The YWCA of Western Wayne County's Education Department offers quality preschool programs to children aged 2+ to 5 years old at no cost to most families. There are many locations available throughout the community. Home-based programs are also available. For more information on these programs, or to enroll your child, call the YWCA's Education Department at (313) 561-4110, Ext. 10.

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.

NOTICE TO CUT NOXIOUS WEEDS

To the owner or occupant or any person or persons, firm or corporation having charge of any land in the City of Westland:

2009 PRIVATE WEEDS	2009 PRIVATE WEEDS	2009 PRIVATE WEEDS	2009 PRIVATE WEEDS
PAR. NUM	PAR. NUM	PAR. NUM	PAR. NUM
001 99 0003 000	026 99 0029 002	042 03 0885 313	061 01 0123 303
001 99 0004 000	026 99 0030 700	042 03 0890 004	061 01 0230 303
001 99 0005 000	027 03 0013 000	042 99 0005 000	061 01 0280 303
001 99 0006 000	027 03 0027 306	043 01 0063 300	061 01 0281 303
001 99 0007 000	027 04 0016 304	043 01 0118 000	061 01 0283 303
001 99 0020 000	028 04 0037 002	043 02 0277 000	061 01 0284 303
001 99 0021 000	028 99 0010 000	043 99 0002 000	061 01 0286 303
001 99 0022 000	028 99 0012 701	045 01 0298 000	061 01 0287 303
001 99 0023 000	028 99 0014 000	045 01 0304 303	061 01 0319 303
001 99 0024 000	028 99 0028 000	045 01 0309 000	061 01 0320 303
001 99 0025 000	029 99 0014 701	045 01 0314 000	061 01 0322 303
001 99 0026 000	030 99 0001 713	045 01 0318 000	061 01 0323 303
001 99 0027 000	030 99 0006 704	045 01 0319 000	061 01 0325 303
001 99 0028 000	030 99 0009 700	045 99 0005 001	061 01 0326 303
001 99 0030 000	031 02 0011 000	045 99 0009 001	061 01 0328 303
001 99 0031 000	031 02 0013 000	045 99 0014 001	061 01 0329 303
001 99 0034 000	031 02 0014 000	045 99 0018 002	062 01 0166 008
002 99 0079 000	031 02 0015 000	045 99 0024 708	062 02 0013 000
003 03 0001 000	032 01 0081 000	047 01 0001 304	066 01 0543 301
003 03 0014 000	032 01 0098 000	047 99 0001 001	067 99 0020 003
004 01 0084 000	032 01 0101 000	047 99 0002 001	067 99 0020 003
005 02 0023 000	032 02 0598 303	048 01 0100 000	067 99 0022 002
005 02 0024 000	032 02 0581 000	048 01 0102 002	068 03 0014 000
005 02 0025 000	032 03 0809 000	048 01 0103 002	068 03 0113 001
007 01 0581 002	032 03 0743 000	048 01 0123 001	070 01 0021 001
007 01 0581 005	032 03 0743 000	048 99 0031 000	070 01 0022 001
007 01 0602 008	032 03 0810 000	049 01 0006 301	070 01 0023 001
008 99 0004 000	032 99 0007 001	049 01 0007 301	070 01 0026 001
010 01 0586 001	034 01 0001 004	051 99 0058 000	070 01 0027 001
010 01 0571 001	034 01 0015 000	051 99 0058 000	070 01 0028 001
011 99 0003 000	034 01 0016 000	051 99 0060 000	070 01 0029 001
013 01 0557 000	034 01 0018 000	052 99 0004 002	070 01 0030 302
013 01 0558 000	034 99 0012 001	052 99 0019 708	070 01 0031 001
015 02 0018 000	034 99 0021 001	052 99 0019 709	070 01 0036 005
015 02 0019 000	035 01 0043 000	053 99 0009 001	072 99 0003 705
015 03 0004 001	035 01 0044 002	054 99 0009 001	072 99 0004 700
015 06 0001 000	035 04 0001 012	054 99 0011 003	073 01 0001 000
015 99 0008 004	035 99 0002 000	054 99 0012 002	073 03 0384 000
015 99 0008 000	036 99 0001 002	057 03 0273 004	073 03 0385 000
016 99 0007 003	036 99 0004 001	057 99 0029 000	073 03 0388 000
016 99 0009 002	038 01 0001 000	058 01 0024 002	073 03 0396 000
016 99 0014 000	038 01 0023 008	060 02 0025 000	074 06 1153 000
018 99 0015 703	042 02 0444 000	060 05 0458 000	074 06 1154 000
019 99 0004 702	042 02 0445 000	061 01 0116 303	074 06 1155 000
020 99 0007 007	042 02 0446 301	061 01 0119 303	
021 99 0001 711	042 02 0447 300		

2009 PRIVATE WEEDS	2009 PRIVATE WEEDS	2009 PRIVATE WEEDS
PAR. NUM	PAR. NUM	PAR. NUM
074 06 1171 000	083 05 0308 335	ESTATE
074 06 1212 000	083 05 0316 332	NEWBERRY
074 06 1213 002	083 99 0022 000	ESTATE
074 08 1213 003	083 99 0025 701	NEWBERRY
074 06 1213 004	083 99 0028 000	ESTATE
075 02 0024 000	084 01 0008 000	VALLEY VIEW
075 03 0003 001	084 01 0009 000	
075 03 0028 000	084 01 0011 000	
075 07 0007 001	084 01 0012 000	
075 07 0008 001	084 01 0013 000	
075 10 0529 001	084 01 0019 301	
075 13 0001 000	084 01 0021 000	
075 99 0009 700	084 01 0024 000	
078 01 0032 001	084 01 0029 301	
078 01 0032 002	084 01 0039 000	
078 01 0033 002	084 01 0042 000	
078 01 0034 003	084 01 0046 000	
078 01 0035 002	084 01 0059 000	
078 01 0052 001	084 01 0116 000	
078 01 0056 001	084 01 0133 000	
079 02 0004 000	084 01 0134 000	
079 02 0010 000	084 01 0136 004	
079 02 0032 000	084 01 0136 303	
080 99 0001 703	084 01 0140 303	
081 99 0011 000	084 02 0691 000	
081 99 0012 000	084 02 0712 000	
081 99 0021 705	084 02 0727 302	
081 99 0043 000	084 02 0730 000	
082 04 0126 000	084 02 0753 001	
082 04 0128 000	084 02 0768 301	
082 04 0130 000	084 02 0786 001	
083 01 0802 000	BROOKFIELD	
083 01 0803 000	BROOKFIELD	
083 02 0007 302	BROOKFIELD	
083 02 0033 303	CHERRY HILL	
083 02 0057 303	PLA	
083 02 0058 303	COVINGTON	
083 02 0060 303	ESTAT	
083 02 0061 303	COVINGTON	
083 02 0066 301	WEST	
083 02 0092 000	COVINGTON	
083 02 0112 000	WEST	
083 02 0113 000	COVINGTON	
083 03 0168 000	WEST	
083 03 0191 000	MARLEE	
083 05 0281 318	WOODS	
	NEWBERRY	

Notice is hereby given that all noxious weeds growing on any land in the City of Westland, Wayne County, Michigan, must be destroyed on or before the 15th and 30th days throughout the months of May, June, July, August, September and October of 2009. Any person failing to comply with this notice on or before the dates mentioned shall be liable to the imposition of penalties set forth in Section 106-97 of the Westland Code of Ordinance and shall be liable for all expenses incurred by the City in destroying said noxious weeds, which expenses, if unpaid by the owner, occupant, or agent, shall be spread against the property on the next County and School tax roll or the next general City tax roll.

Kevin L. Buford
Director, Department of Public Service
City of Westland
www.kbuford@cityofwestland.com

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May 31st - June 3rd

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Dinner benefit aids cancer patient

A Westland baker is selling tickets for a benefit to help a preschool teacher who is battling a rare form of cancer. Mary Denning, owner of Mary Denning's Cake Shoppe, has tickets on sale for a Saturday, July 18, dinner to help Kate Still, a 30-year-old teacher. Still is battling synovial sarcoma, a soft tissue cancer which usually occurs near the joints of the arm or leg. Still is unable to work and her insurance only covers 70 percent of treatment costs. "The treatment alone was \$20 grand," said Denning. Still is Denning's son-in-law's sister "so she's family." Chemotherapy, radiation and hospital stays are adding up for Still, who can't get Medicaid because she has health insurance. The benefit for her will be held 6-10 p.m. Saturday, July 18, at the Dearborn Heights Moose Lodge on Warren Road. Tickets are \$10 and the dinner includes spaghetti, salad, rolls and dessert. Music and karaoke will be provided by Music Unlimited. Still was born and raised in the Dearborn Heights area, and is a graduate of Henry Ford Community College and the University of Michigan-Dearborn. Her work focuses on mentoring at-risk children at Thorne Elementary School in Dearborn Heights. Doctors don't want Still, who is single, around children, but "hopefully, by September she'll be back to work," Denning said. "She's a really nice gal," said Denning. For information about the benefit, call (734) 261-3680. -By Julie Brown

Buying a home: Check details on credit, deduction

Q: Dear Rick: I'm in the process of buying my first house and my Realtor mentioned one of the advantages of buying a house now is a substantial write-off on taxes this year. My sister bought a house last year and told me the problem with the extra deduction is you have to pay it back. Can you help me sort this out?



Money Matters
Rick Bloom

A: Both your sister and your Realtor are correct. The important thing to keep in mind is that we are talking about two different tax years.

Last year, if you were a first-time homebuyer and you purchased a home between April 9, 2008, and Dec. 31, 2008, you were eligible to take a credit up to \$7,500 on your 2008 tax return.

A credit is worth more than a deduction. A credit is a dollar-for-dollar reduction off your taxes while a deduction reduces your taxable income. For example, let's assume that before taking advantage of the credit your tax liability was \$10,000. If you had a \$7,500 tax credit, your new liability would only be \$2,500. On the other hand, the tax savings would be substantially lower with a deduction. If your tax bracket was 33 percent, the direct reduction in taxes would be \$2,500 and you would still have a \$7,500 liability (\$10,000 x 33 percent = \$2,500; \$10,000 - \$2,500 = \$7,500 in tax liability).

In 2008, the tax law was different for first-time homebuyers. The credit received in 2008 eventually must be paid back. Beginning in 2010, the tax credit must be paid back in 15 equal yearly installments. Therefore, your sister is correct. In her situation, because she is required to pay back the credit, it is not worth as much.

However, your situation is different because 2009 is a different tax year and tax laws constantly change. In 2009, first-time homeowners are eligible for a 10 percent of the home purchase price with a maximum of \$8,000. Therefore, if you purchase an \$80,000 home (\$80,000 x 10 percent = \$8,000) you can, dollar-for-dollar, reduce your taxes by \$8,000.

Unlike the 2008 first-time homeowner credit, the 2009

credit does not have to be repaid as long as you live in the home for at least three years. It is important to understand that not all taxpayers are eligible for the 2009 credit. There are income limitations. The 10 percent credit phases out as income rises.

In 2009, if you are single, the first-time homeowner tax credit begins to phase out at \$75,000 while for a married couple, the

phase out does not begin until \$150,000.

What is interesting about the new first-time homeowner tax credit is that you can actually claim the credit on your 2008 tax return. As long as you purchased the home between Jan. 1, 2009, and Nov. 30, 2009, you have the option to claim the credit on either your 2008 or 2009 tax return. If you have already filed your 2008 tax

return, you can actually file an amendment to that return.

The advantage of claiming the credit on your 2008 vs. your 2009 tax return is you get your money sooner than waiting to file your 2009 tax return.

The 2009 first-time homebuyer tax credit is a real savings and something that homeowners should factor into the equation. However, don't make the mistake of overextending. Even

though the tax credit is a real savings, don't factor that savings into the equation when deciding how much you can afford for a new home. Look at the tax credit as a one-time bonus to be used for unexpected costs as opposed to purchasing a more expensive home.

This is an excellent opportunity for all first-time homebuyers to achieve part of the American dream — homeown-

ership. Don't make the mistake many Americans frequently make and that is to end up not owning their house but rather, allowing their house to own them.

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.

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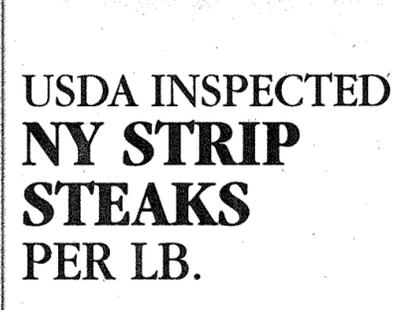
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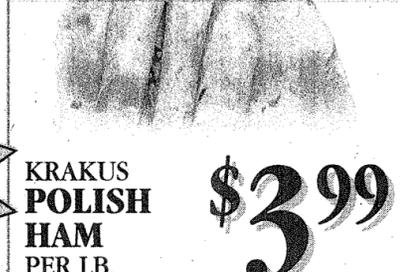


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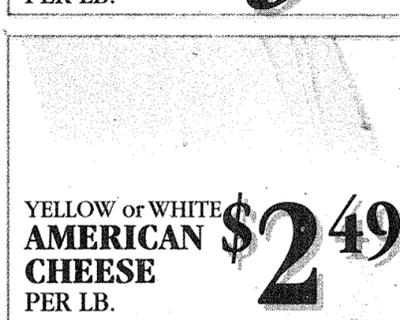
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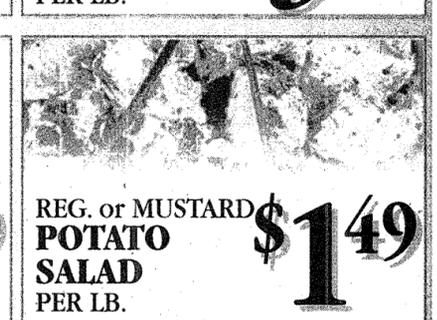
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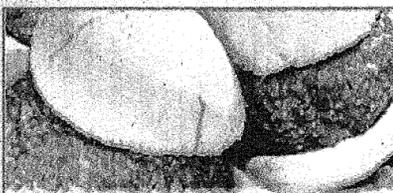
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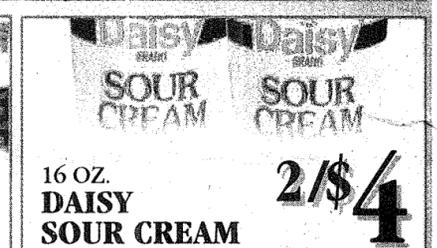


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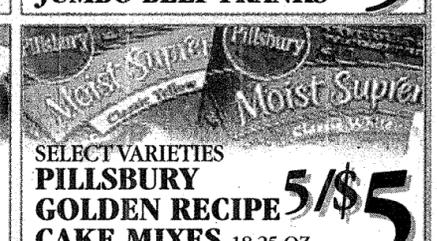
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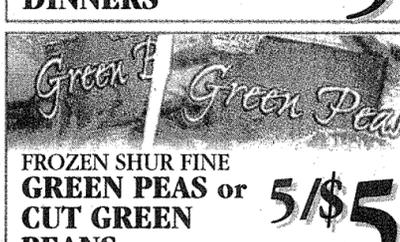
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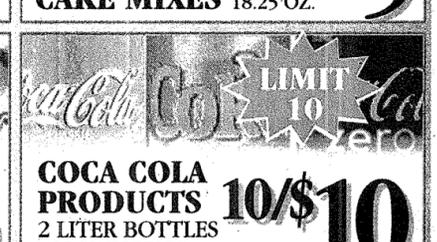
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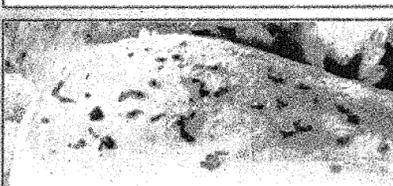
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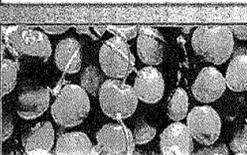
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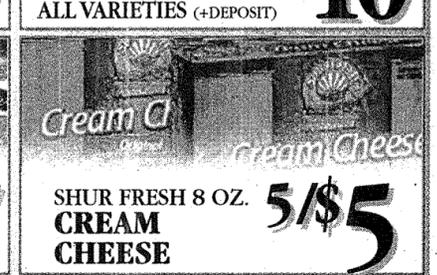
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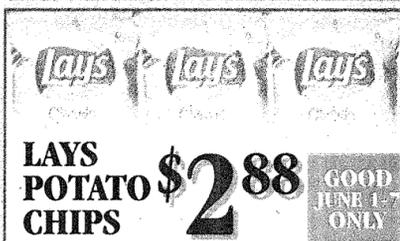
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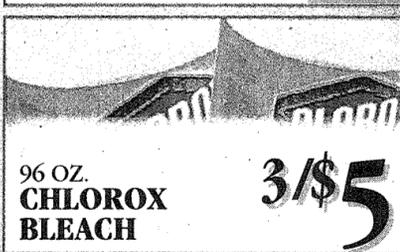
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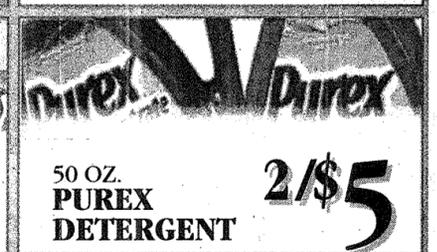
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SPORTS, HEALTH & FITNESS, NEIGHBORS

SECTION B
(LW)

HOMETOWN LIFE

Brad Emons, editor (313) 222-6851
bemons@hometownlife.com

Going to the well

Spartans dig deep, clip Rocks on PKs

BY ED WRIGHT
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

That "ding, ding, ding" sound that could be heard echoing across the Northville High School soccer field early Thursday evening wasn't cell phones going off.

It was the Salem girls soccer team blasting shots off the goal posts during its Division 1 District semifinal match against KLA Central Division rival Livonia Stevenson.

The series of near-misses eventually came back to haunt the Rocks, who fell 1-0 to the Spartans in a thrilling double-overtime shootout that was short on goals, but long on tension.

"We played a lot of top-10 teams this year - in fact, I'd put our schedule up against

any other team's - and that's what helps you get prepared for games like tonight's," said Stevenson coach Chris Pinta, whose squad took a 9-10 mark into Saturday's district final against Canton. "After they hit the post a couple of times, I told my girls that it's just not their night tonight and we have to take advantage of it."

The Spartans ultimately capitalized on the Rocks' misfortune and a stellar defensive effort when they outscored the Rocks 4-3 in the five-player shootout. Joelle Williamson, Krista Kane, Alexandria Harbowy and Taleen Mergian converted shootout kicks for the winners while Lauren Booth, Katelyn Krause and Mackenzie Rogers found the back of the net for Salem.

"The other day at practice, I

asked the team who *didn't* want to take PK's if it came down to a shootout," Pinta said. "Only two girls raised their hands. Tonight when I asked them, only eight wanted to take the shots. That's a pressure-packed situation and it's not for everybody. The girls who took the shots tonight did a great job."

Salem's Emily Lundh nearly scored twice in regulation. The first time - eight minutes into the second half - she controlled a pass from Lindsey Newton before firing a shot from point-blank range that Stevenson goalkeeper Tara Johnston squeezed on the door-step of the goal.

With 13 minutes to play, Lundh's hard shot from 15 yards away rolled just wide left.

Please see **DISTRICT, B3**



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Stevenson's Ashley Welch (7) met Salem's Jill Behrman on the soccer field once again in Thursday's Division 1 district semifinal.

SIDELINES

Graciak signs

Wayne State University head volleyball coach Phil Nickel announced that Livonia Churchill's Lindsey Graciak, a two-time All-Observer first-team selection, has signed an NCAA letter-of-intent and will play this fall for the Warriors.

The Westland native was a two-year volleyball letter winner at Churchill where she helped lead the Chargers to a 49-4 record in 2008, a Kensington Lakes Activities Association champion and berth in the state Class A semifinals.

Graciak totaled 749 digs, an average of 5.7 per set which broke the school record. As a junior, she collected 579 digs (4.5 digs/set) as the Chargers captured the Western Lakes Activities Association championship.

Graciak also earned All-State and All-Conference honors both seasons in volleyball.

Graciak also lettered for Churchill in basketball and track and field.

"Lindsey is a winner," Nickel said. "She played for one of the top high school volleyball programs in the state and we expect her to bring that experience, tenacity, and winning attitude with her to Wayne State. I look for her to compete for playing time this fall."

Graciak joins winter signees Cydney Biessel, Karlene Poisy, Madie Kent, and Kate Sak as the Warriors open the 2009 season in late August.

JUCO golf wrap

Oakland Community College finished 13th in the team standings as Livonia Churchill grad Tommy Lucko tied for 58th individual at the National Junior College Athletic Association's Division II men's golf championships held May 19-22 at Goose Pond Colony in Scottboro, Ala.

Lucko shot a four-round total of 19-over 307 after back-to-back 80s followed by 74-73.

Schoolcraft College's Andrew Rousos (South Lyon) shot a 22-over 310, tied for 72 overall, on rounds of 79-78-81-72. Teammate Josh Proben (Churchill), another individual qualifier, shot a 25-over 33 on rounds of 75-76-78-84.

Rockets into orbit as Williams bags 4

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

GIRLS SOCCER

Thanks to a four-goal outpour by Jenna Williams, this Westland John Glenn girls soccer team has gone where no other has gone before.

On the heels of their first-ever Division 1 district victory on Tuesday, a 7-0 triumph over Detroit Western International, the Rockets did it again Wednesday with a 4-2 semifinal win over Dearborn Fordson at Livonia Churchill.

Glenn, which improved to 5-12 overall, will face the state-ranked Chargers in the district championship final beginning at 1 p.m. Saturday at Churchill.

"We've never been past the first round," Glenn first-year coach Jimmy Mortada said. "The girls feel good about themselves and I can't tell you how proud and happy I am."

Mortada made a strategic move as the Rockets raced out to a 3-1 halftime lead.

Williams, a sophomore, was bumped from the middle of the field to generate more offense up-top.

"Fordson started strong, they have three good players in the midfield and we took away their game," Mortada said.

Ashley Bailey assisted on two of Williams' goals, while Megan Nikula and Ali Zarate added one each.

"They fed her and she shoots it," Mortada said. "I am proud of the way that we've been able to score in the tournament."

Meanwhile, Eva Mogica and Robyn Amr tallied goals for the Tractors.

Andee Samborski was in goal for Glenn, which will be a huge underdog Saturday against Churchill. The Chargers (15-2-3) have already beaten Glenn twice.

Please see **SOCCER, B3**



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Pivot play

Garden City's Tyler Twigg goes in hard on the force to break up an attempted double play by Livonia Churchill's Jimmy Szymanski during Wednesday's non-conference baseball game. Churchill won the regular season finale, 8-5, in a tune-up for Saturday's Division 1 district tournament. See baseball roundup on page B2.

Area teams find going rough at Division 1 regional

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Friday's Division 1 boys golf regional at Lakes of Taylor proved to be as challenging and nerve-wracking as The National Spelling Bee.

Twelve teams started the morning on a course that was nearly 7,000 yards in length and by the early afternoon only three teams survived the cut and will be moving on to the state finals scheduled for next Friday and Saturday at Michigan State University's Forest Akers (West Course).

Temperance Bedford, sporting a four-player total of 312, captured the team title on a fifth-man tiebreaker

to beat runner-up Ann Arbor Pioneer (led by individual medalist Davis Ransdell's 71).

Northville, the state's No. 1-ranked team, garnered the final spot with a 314. Canton and Saline were not far behind tied for fourth with 319 each.

"It was a tough day, tough conditions," Northville coach Matt Stetson said. "And at this level there's the added pressure to get to the next step. It was set up 400 yards longer than normal, and with the wind, it was extremely tough for everybody. But it was mission accomplished to get to 'states' and now we're all equal when we get there."

Please see **GOLF, B3**

BOYS GOLF RESULTS

MHSAA DIVISION 1-REGION 5 BOYS GOLF TOURNAMENT RESULTS

May 29 at Lakes of Taylor

TEAM STANDINGS (top 3 advance to state finals): 1. Temperance Bedford, 312 strokes (won tiebreaker); 2. Ann Arbor Pioneer, 312; 3. Northville, 314; 4. (tie) Canton and Saline, 319 each; 6. Plymouth, 325; 7. Ann Arbor Huron, 330; 8. Dearborn, 332; 9. Livonia Stevenson, 337; 10. Livonia Churchill, 355; 11. Wyandotte Roosevelt, 357; 12. Southgate Anderson, 363.

Individual medalist: Davis Ransdell (Pioneer), 71.

TEAM-BY-TEAM SCORING

Bedford (312): David Genaw, 74; Nate Gorrning, 77; Luke Berger, 80; Justin Gross, 81; Jordan Joersz, 85.

Pioneer (312): Davis Ransdell, 71; Taylor Margolis, 77; Quinn Mackenzie, 80; Nolan Maezes, 84; Zach Averill, 86.

Northville (314): Wes Gates and Trevor Grigg, 74 each; Steve Brown, 82; Erik Goebel, 84; Alex Bernstein, 86.

Canton (319): Zach Conrad and Brendan Muir, 78 each; Andrew Rickertman, 81; Jeremy Lindbauer, 82; Dominic Bonelli, 93.

Saline (319): Phil Gieseker, 74 (sq); Nick Arredy, 76 (sq); Keith Long, 83; Peter Spittler, 86; Eric Brooks, 93.

Plymouth (325): Justin Bauer, 76 (sq); Ryan Bauer, 82; Andrew Overmeyer, 83; James Bryans, 84; Trevor Birdwell, 91.

A.A. Huron (330): Max Ammerman, Gunner Bruce and Rob Aldrich, 82 each; Alex Wunderlich, 84; Scott Wilson, 90.

Dearborn (332): Kosta Ramirez, 80; Evan Bowser, 82; Daniel Dent, 83; Patrick O'Brien, 87; Phil Hespene, 106.

Stevenson (337): Drew Mossolan, 80; Christian Debay, 84; Adam Giordano, 85; Dan Dufour, 88; Tom Cullum, 89.

Churchill (355): Dan Bostick, 87; Adam Yarber, 88; Matt Chamley and Kevin Robinson, 90 each; Erik Newman, 94.

Wyandotte (357): Scott Smiddy, 86; Andrew Vandierend, 87; Erik Taurence, 90; Jordan Rutkowski and Brian Arnoldy, 94 each.

Southgate (363): Thomas Maley, 82; Jacob Lemay, 84; Jeremy Roth, 98; Chris Buljak, 99; Rob Campau, 104.

INDIVIDUAL QUALIFIERS

John Glenn: Andy Myers, 78; **Taylor Kennedy:** Dalton Rickard, 80; **Wayne Memorial:** Kevin Sample, 83; **Salem:** Josh Perrin, 85; **Garden City:** Nick Walker, 86; **Ron Pummill:** 87; **Woodhaven:** Alec Grant, 91; **Alex Ochman:** 86; **Jim Breslin:** 99; **Livonia Franklin:** Chris Grund, 95; **Mohroe:** Nate Miller, 97; Cole Johnson, 99.

(sq) additional state qualifier.

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MU baseball signs recruit

Madonna University head baseball coach Greg Haeger announced Thursday that left-handed pitcher Brett Gossett of Farmington Hills has signed an NAIA letter-of-intent and will join the Crusaders this fall.

Gossett, who plays for Novi-Detroit Catholic Central, joins Plymouth High's Brad Lineberry, Tom Atkinson, Alex Charles, Donny Holland, Steve Pelletier and Tyler Schofield as players who had already committed to MU.

"You can never have enough good left-handers and our staff thinks we have found one in Brett," said Haeger, a CC graduate himself. "He possesses a good fastball with plus movement and a sharp breaking ball. He also has an

COLLEGE BASEBALL

outstanding presence on the mound and will only get better. Brett adds to our stable of young and talented pitchers and we are excited to begin working with him this fall."

Gossett earned All-Catholic League honors this spring with 58 strikeouts in 40 innings while posting an earned run average of 2.70. He fanned a season-high 14 in a shutout earlier this season against Dearborn Divine Child.

The Crusaders (39-12) earned their third Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference title in the last four seasons in 2009 and advanced to the NAIA National Tournament for the first time in program history this season.

Tournament tune-up: Warriors stave off Greenhills in thriller

Lutheran High Westland withstood a late rally Thursday to beat visiting Ann Arbor Greenhills, 4-3, in a non-conference baseball game.

The Warriors, who improved to 17-3 overall, built a 4-1 advantage through four innings before the Gryphons (8-11) struck for two runs in the top of the seventh inning.

Winning pitcher Gage Flanery worked the first 6.2 innings, allowing two earned runs on eight hits and four walks. He struck out five.

Jake Andrezejewski, earning the save, came on and threw just one pitch to get the final batter with a force out at second base against the Gryphons' clean-up hitter, who had gone 3-for-3.

"It got a little interesting in the seventh - that is for sure," Lutheran Westland coach Kevin Wade said. "With two outs and a chance to close

PREP BASEBALL

out the game, we walked a batter and the next hitter doubled despite the effort of Andrezejewski laying out for the ball and just missing, scoring the run.

"When the next hitter singled, cutting the score to 4-3, I brought in Andrezejewski to close it out - and he did in a hurry."

Micah Hausch homered for the victorious Warriors, while Andrezejewski and Steve Sheel each knocked in runs. Ryan Rakovalis went 2-for-3 with a run scored.

"We are definitely happy with the end to our season, beating a Division 1, 2 and 3 team in our last three games, but we also know and understand that means nothing," said Wade, who guided the Warriors to a Division 4 state runner-up finish

last June. "Everyone is 0-0 now and one loss ends the season. We know we need to play well and take nothing for granted. If we can just come out and play hard and do the little things, we will be OK."

CHURCHILL 8, GARDEN CITY 5: On Wednesday, Livonia Churchill (16-15-1) jumped out to a 6-0 lead after three innings before holding off the host Cougars (12-12) in a non-league game.

Devin Moynihan paced the Chargers' 11-hit attack going 3-for-4 with a run scored, while Tyler Bledsoe went 2-for-4, including a two-run double in the top of the first inning.

Brent Mishowski also chipped in with two hits and an RBI. Churchill coach Ron Targosz used four pitchers with starter Jimmy Tyler pitching three scoreless innings, striking out four and not allowing a hit or walk.

Tad Evans, Steve Hovermale and Troy Bogenschutz finished up. GC starter Tyler Steele took the loss.

The Cougars' David Ciciora went 3-for-4 with two runs scored. **LUTH. WESTLAND 9, N.B. HURON 5:** Sam

Ahlersmeyer continued to swing a hot bat as Lutheran High Westland (16-3) mounted a 14-hit attack en route to a non-conference baseball win Wednesday at New Boston Huron.

Ahlersmeyer went 3-for-4 with a double, four runs scored and one RBI.

Other top hitters for the Warriors included Austin Baglow (2-for-2, double, two RBI); Ryan Rakovalis (2-for-4, three RBI); Tony Cipolla (2-for-4, RBI); Eric Shoats (2-for-3, double, RBI); Micah Hausch (2-for-4, two runs); Chris Barnaby (RBI).

Baglow, the winning pitcher, went the first five innings, allowing four earned runs on eight hits and a pair of walks. He struck out three before giving way to Hausch, who pitched two scoreless innings allowing three hits and a walk.

"I was happy with our team's ability to bounce back after giving up the lead in the bottom of the fourth," said Lutheran Westland coach Kevin Wade, whose team overcame a 4-3 deficit. "It shows what kind of team we are capable of being. Hopefully this adversity and the way we dealt with it is something we can build off of as we enter the state tournament."

Churchill golf outing

The annual Livonia Churchill High golf outing will be at 1:30 p.m. (shotgun start) Friday, June 12 at Fox Creek Golf Course in Livonia.

The cost is \$100.

For more information, call Churchill athletic director Marc Hage at (734) 744-2650, Ext. 56117.

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'09 SUMMER CAMPS



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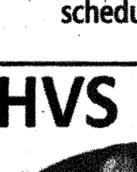
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New MU hoop coach snags Toledo guard

New Madonna University men's basketball coach Noel Emehiser announced the signing on an NAIA letter-of-intent by Jarrod Horton, a 5-foot-11 guard from Toledo (Ohio) St. Francis de Sales.

Horton is Emehiser's third signee joining 6-5 Dragan Bijelic (Utica Eisenhower) and 6-6 Fred Williams (Berkley), both whom committed earlier in the spring to the Crusaders.

"Jarrod is a powerful player who has excellent fundamentals on both sides of the ball," Emehiser said. "Coach (Nick)

Lowe at St. Francis has done an incredible job of teaching Jarrod the game and that will translate to the college level."

Horton earned two letters in basketball and football at St. Francis and teamed with current Crusader Kevin Henry at de Sales his junior year.

The Crusaders return 12 lettermen from a 2008-09 squad that finished 12-19 overall.

Graves adds 5th recruit

Macomb Dakota's Shantelle Herring, who ranks 25th in Michigan prep history in

career steals (401), is the latest recruit to sign an NAIA letter-of-intent with Madonna University women's basketball coach Carl Graves.

Herring, who earned All-Macomb Area Conference and Basketball Coaches Association of Michigan Class A All-State honors, will join the Crusaders' class of 2013 which also includes Livonia Stevenson's Kaylee McGrath, Kristie Porada (Rockwood), Heather Pratt (Flushing) and Kayleigh Burden (Romulus).

Herring also holds Dakota

career records for assists and three-point shooting.

"Shantelle is a very important catch for our program," Graves said. "We have been in contact with her since early in her junior year. She does so many wonderful things with a basketball that my staff and I are eager to see how she fits with the other players that are here."

MU finished 15-17 overall and 9-5 in the WHAC while advancing to the conference playoff semifinals.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

James bolsters Titans

The University of Detroit Mercy women's track and field team recently ended the 2009 Outdoor Horizon League Championships on a good

note as the Titans collected 52 points en route to a fifth-place finish as well as breaking their second school record on the weekend.

The 4 x 400-meter relay squad of senior Tiffany James

(Wayne Memorial), Terricita Thomas (Maple Heights, Ohio), Megan Miller (Zanesville, Ohio) and Sequoia Calhoun (Belleville) broke the school record in the event taking third in 3:51.33. The same relay team also placed fifth in the 4 x 100 in 49.06.

James also scored in two sprint events placing fourth in

the 100 dash (12.6) and fifth in the 200 (25.23).

Hole-in-one club

On May 23, Milan Saveski, of Livonia, used a 6-iron to ace the 144-yard No. 17 hole at Whispering Willows.

It was his first hole-in-one in 10 years for Saveski, who shot a 95.

GC upends Chargers, 12-5

Katelyn Shattlerroe and Amanda Quartz each collected two hits and scored twice Wednesday to propel host Garden City to a 12-5 non-league girls softball triumph over Livonia Churchill.

The Cougars broke a 4-4 deadlock in the bottom of the

fifth inning with seven runs. GC out-hit Churchill, 10-8, and took advantage of seven walks to improve its record to 13-14 overall.

Katie Stodulski and losing pitcher Abby Jewell contributed two hits apiece for the Chargers (15-15).



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Clarenceville School District

Invitation to Bid Computer Systems

The Clarenceville School District is accepting sealed bids for 217 computer systems. The sealed bid should be submitted to Dave Bergeron, Clarenceville School District 20210 Middlebelt Rd., Livonia, MI 48152, by 10:00 a.m., E.S.T., Thursday, June 4, 2009. Late bids will not be considered. The bids will be publicly opened at this time. Proposals must contain the wording "Proposal: Computer Systems" on the envelope/package. A copy of the Request for Proposal can be found at www.clarenceville.k12.mi.us or by contacting the Technology Director at (248) 919-0240. Clarenceville School District reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, waive irregularities and to accept a bid which, in the owner's opinion is in the district's best interest.

Publish: May 28 & 31, 2009



LOU MACERATINI

NCAA All-Americans

Livonia Churchill High grads Kylan Cieslak (4) of Northwood University and Megan Maceratini (17) of Grand Valley State University both earned All-America honors (top eight) competing recently at the NCAA Division II National Track and Field Championships in San Angelo, Texas. Cieslak (class of 2006) placed eighth in the 10,000-meter run with a time of 36 minutes, 19.47 seconds, while Maceratini (class of 2007) also took an eighth in the 5,000 (17:07.31).

GIRLS SOCCER

KLAA KENSINGTON CONFERENCE 2009 GIRLS SOCCER TEAMS ALL-SOUTH DIVISION

Canton: Lisa Pierce, Leslie Weisz, Tracy Rymph, Megan Staub, Lauren Peeler, Melanie Pickert; **Livonia Churchill:** Bailey Brandon, Stefanie Turner, Alyssa Mira, Darcy DeRoo, Kelsey Rothermel; **Plymouth:** Kelly Dobbs, Meaghan Hughes, McKenzie Hengesh, Jessica Heck; **Franklin:** Courtney Smith, Lexi Smith, Brooke Killen; **Westland John Glenn:** Megan Nikula, Melissa Mezaros; **Wayne:** Samantha Dye.

ALL-CENTRAL DIVISION
Northville: Nicole Miller, Kelsey Baskins,

Jeanette Dolmetsch, Caroline Castelli, Kelsey Fiscus, Camille Junca; **Novi:** Erin Zerio, Megan Burns, Chelsea Budlong, Morgan Haffey, Nikki Greenhalgh, Tavor Hoover; **Stevenson:** Taleen Mergian, Kayla Kimble, Alexandria Harbowy, Renee Bourdreaux; **Salem:** Lauren Booth, Lindsey Roy, Kristina Klusek; **South Lyon:** Amanda Thomas, Megan Morad; **South Lyon East:** Katie Walker.

FINAL STANDINGS
KENSINGTON CONFERENCE
South Division: 1. Canton, 9-0-1; 2. Churchill, 7-1-2; 3. Plymouth, 6-3-1; 4. Franklin, 2-7-1; 5. John Glenn, 2-8-6; Wayne, 1-8-1.
Central Division: 1. (tie) Northville and

Novi, 8-1-1 each; 3. Stevenson, 6-4-4; 4. Salem, 4-4-2; 5. South Lyon, 2-8-6; S.L. East, 0-10-0.
Conference champion: Northville.

LAKES CONFERENCE
West Division: 1. Walled Lake Northern, 7-0-3; 2. Walled Lake Western, 7-1-2; 3. (tie) White Lake Lakeland and Waterford Mott, 4-5-1 each; 6. Waterford Kettering, 2-8-0.
North Division: 1. Brighton, 8-0-2; (tie) Hartland and Pinckney, 4-2-2 each; 4. Highland Milford and Howell, 1-7 each.
Conference champion: Brighton.
OVERALL ASSOCIATION CHAMPION
Brighton 3, Northville 0

SOCCER

FROM PAGE B1

"We're going in there to make sure they have to earn it," Mortada said of the upcoming district final matchup. "This is our chance, we've never been here before and we have high expectations going into next year."

CHURCHILL 8, WAYNE 0: In a Division 1 district semifinal Wednesday, host Livonia Churchill (15-2-3) overcame a slow start to oust Wayne Memorial (3-13-2). Churchill led 1-0 at halftime on the first of two Callie Mack goals before exploding for seven second-half goals to invoke the mercy rule. Adding second-half goals were Bailey Brandon (2), Alyssa Mira,

Shari Zakalowski, Hannah Otto and Sarah Bauman. Kayla Johnston collected three assists, while Mira added two. Recent JV call-up Lauren Favazza also drew an assist. Avalon Felan, who faced a constant barrage of Churchill shots, stood out in goal for the Zebras. Churchill has now outscored its opponents 86-10 on the season.

DISTRICT

FROM PAGE B1

"I thought Stevenson played well tonight, but I thought we took it to them," said Salem coach Joe Nora, whose team finished 9-6-3 overall. "When you hit the post three times like we did tonight, you're getting good shots. Things just didn't go our way."

Both teams' keepers sparred, as the scored indicated. Johnston went high to deny Lundh with 3:23 left in the first OT.

Salem keeper Tracey Whalen's biggest stop came with 28:39 left in regulation

when she tipped a Spartan penalty kick just above the crossbar. "I thought Renee Boudreau worked hard up top," said Pinta, when asked who stood out for his team. "She's a hard worker and she tackles hard." Ashley Welch and Taleen Mergian - our two center backs - played really well, too. And Tara Johnston deserves a lot of credit, too. She saved the game with the save in the first overtime." **MARIAN 4, LADYWOOD 0:** Goals by Danielle Mazur, Sara Zawacki, Caroline Bodiya and Elizabeth Tresnak carried top-ranked Birmingham Marian (16-2-1) to the Division 2 district semifinal victory at Livonia Ladywood (8-7-4). Goalkeeper Whitney Sarkis

posted the shutout as the Mustangs moved into Saturday's district championship game to face Berkley at Farmington Hills Harrison. **PCA 5, LUTH. WESTLAND 1:** Four first-half goals were more than enough Friday as No. 3-ranked Plymouth Christian Academy (13-0-3) captured the Division 4 district title with a win over Lutheran High Westland (7-7-1) at Grosse Pointe Woods University-Liggett. The game was delayed early in the second half for 30 minutes by a thunderstorm. Allyson Yankee scored the lone goal for the Warriors off an assist from Sarah Frusti. "It's the first time we've made it to a district final in six years and that's something that can be said for the girls," Lutheran Westland first-year coach Sara Schafter said. "We played hard the second half. It was way better than the first half."

GOLF

FROM PAGE B1

Northville boasted two players in the top five as senior Wes Gates and junior Trevor Grigg both tied for second place with identical 74s. Steve Brown added an 82, while Erik Goebel shot 84.

"Both Wes (Gates) and Trevor (Grigg) are both returning first-team All-Staters," Stetson said. "We've really been able to ride them this year and they came through in a big way."

"This is the first time we've seen Bedford. They won their district and obviously they're playing well. Saline is a perennial powerhouse. And Ann Arbor Pioneer played well. When their fifth man shoots a 71 and the fourth man shoots 77, that's tough to beat."

Saline's Phil Gieseker, who shot a 74, and teammate Nick Areddy, who carded a 76, each earned individual qualifying berths. They will be joined in East Lansing by Plymouth's Justin Bauer, a sophomore, who became the Wildcats' first individual state qualifier since Matt Talbot did it during the 2006 fall season.

"It feels good," said Bauer, who plays on the Top 50 Junior Tour during the summer. "I wanted to have a good round - kept it low. I hit a lot of greens and made some putts. I had a birdie on No. 1 and a double bogey on No. 17. I didn't think I'd be low enough. But I've been playing good of late. This is my best score so far."

Despite his 5-foot-8, 140-pound frame, Bauer gets every ounce out of his driver. "What stands out is his distance, he hits it a long ways," Plymouth coach Chris Moore said. "He's also a very consistent. He plays smart as a sophomore. There were no bad holes." "He's peaked at the end of the year. His scores have gone down progressively except for one blow-up (round). It's good to see."

Just missing the cut for an individual berth were Canton's Zach Conrad, the district medalist, and Brendan Muir. Both shot 78 along with Westland John Glenn's Andy Myers, who is bound for Siena Heights University. "To shot 78 on the Blues (tees) when they're actually are at the Blacks (tees) is a good score," Glenn coach Steve Pilon said.

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CITY OF LIVONIA PUBLIC NOTICE

AGENDA Zoning Board of Appeals

June 16, 2009 - 7:00 p.m.
Livonia City Hall - Gallery (5th Floor)
33000 Civic Center Drive
Livonia, MI
(734) 466-2259

APPEAL CASE NO. 2009-05-15 (Tabled on May 12, 2009): Robert Jacobs, Buddy's Livonia, Inc. 31800 Northwestern Highway, Suite, #206, Farmington Hills, MI 48334, seeking to construct an area dedicated for outdoor covered seating located on the south side of Plymouth Road (33805) between Farmington and Stark, resulting in deficient front yard setback.

APPEAL CASE NO. 2009-06-18: Soave Building Company, Inc., 20592 Chestnut Circle, Livonia, MI 48152, seeking to construct a single-family dwelling located on the west side of Taylor (14935) between Five Mile Road and south end, resulting in deficient front, rear and north side yard setbacks, excess lot coverage and deficient lot area.

APPEAL CASE NO. 2009-06-19: Michael Ramsden, west side of Gill (18219) between Curtis and Seven Mile Road, seeking to construct an addition to an attached garage resulting in excess garage area.

Public Comments may be sent to the Zoning Board of Appeals Office at 33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia, MI 48154 - all comments must include name, address and signature.

Publish: May 31, 2009

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SUMMER CAMPS/CLINICS

Madonna cage camps

Madonna University men's basketball is offering four weeks of summer camps in 2009 including two camps designed for high school-age player to improve position specific skills.

The Perimeter camp will be from 5:30-9 p.m., Monday through Friday, June 1-5 followed by the Big Man camp June 8-12. The cost is \$125. MU will also be staging its 35th annual All-Star camp from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. for boys ages 8-15 from June 15-19 and July 27-31. The cost is \$175 per player.

For more information, visit madonnacrusaders.com.

Stevenson hoop camp

The Stevenson Basketball Camp for girls will be from 9 a.m. to noon (grades 5-7) and 1-4 p.m. (grades 8-9), June 22-25. The cost for each sessions is \$67.

For more information, call Paul Tripp at (248) 563-0858; or e-mail trippa@northville.12.mi.us.

Girls hoop academy

A girls basketball academy will be offered from 9 a.m. until noon (grades 6-8) and 1-4 p.m. (grades 3-5), Monday through Thursday, June 15-18, at Our Lady of Victory in Northville. The cost is \$70.

Enrollment is limited. Register before June 8 to receive a camp T-shirt.

For more information, call Livonia Stevenson girls varsity basketball coach Paul Tripp at (248) 563-0858; or e-mail trippa@northville.12.mi.us.

Ladywood cage camp

The Livonia Ladywood summer basketball camp will be from 9 a.m. until noon (grades 3-6) and 1-4 p.m. (grades 7-9), Tuesday through Friday, June 16-19, at the high school, located at 18600 Haggerty Road (between Five Mile and Schoolcraft roads). The camp is limited to the first 60 applicants. The cost is \$95 (if registered by June 1) or \$105 (after June 1).

Applications can be found on www.ladywood.org (visit athletic and click on camps).

Future Stars baseball

For more information, call Pat Cannon at (313) 779-8506.

Blazer field hockey

The Livonia Franklin Future Stars summer baseball camp for boys and girls grades 2-7 will be from 9 a.m. until noon, Monday through Thursday, June 22-25. The cost is \$60 (includes camp T-shirt). The registration deadline is June 19.

For more information, call Franklin coach Matt Fournier at (734) 968-0499; or e-mail mfournie2@livonia.12.mi.us.

Popps QB-WR camps

The 2009 Blazer Field Hockey day camp for incoming grades 6 through freshman will be from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. Saturday, June 20 at Ladywood High School, located at 18600 Newburgh Road, Livonia (between I-96 and Five Mile Road). The cost is \$50 (if registered by June 5) or \$60 (postmarked after June 5).

For more information, visit www.ladywood.org.

Girls hoop academy

The Pops QB Tutor summer camps will be making stops in the area including: Next Level QB-WR Camp - 5-7 p.m. June 2-4, at Westland John Glenn High School (grades 9-12); Farmington Area QB - 1:30-3:30 p.m., June 22-25, at Shiawasse Park (grades 3-12); Livonia Area QB Camp - 3-4:30 p.m., July 6-9, at Rotary Park (grades 3-12); Plymouth/Canton Area QB-WR - 1-2:30 p.m., July 27-30, at Heritage Park (grades 3-12).

For more information, visit poppsqbttutor.com; or e-mail Richard Popp at: theqbttutor@yahoo.com.

Ladywood soccer camp

The 2009 Livonia Ladywood soccer camp for girls only (grades K-9) will be from 9 a.m. until noon, June 22-25, at the high school, located at 18600 Haggerty Road (between Five Mile and I-96).

Varsity coach Ken Shingledecker will be the head instructor along with current

Ladywood players. Goalkeeper training is also available.

The cost is \$100 (includes camp T-shirt).

For more information, visit www.ladywood.org (visit athletics and click on camps).

Skyhawks Camps

The City of Livonia Department of Parks and Recreation will stage its Skyhawks sports camps (ages 5-7) including basketball (June 15-19), soccer (June 22-26) and mini-hawk multi-sport (July 6-10).

All camps are from 9 a.m. until noon, Monday through Friday. The cost is \$99 (residents) and \$109 (non-residents).

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

Scicluna Soccer
The City of Livonia Department of Parks and Recreation will offer three different sessions of soccer camps the weeks of July 6-10, 13-17 and 20-24, at the Livonia Community Recreation Center.

The base camp will be from 9 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. (\$160 for residents; \$175 for non-residents). The full-day camp runs from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. (\$210 for residents; \$220 for non-residents).

All three sessions also include Camp Swoosh A.M. Extender care from 7:30-9 a.m. (\$15 LCRC pass holders; \$17 residents; \$20 non-residents).

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

HYPE camps

The City of Livonia Department of Parks and Recreation will offer three different sessions of summer HYPE athletic camps for ages 8-14 including baseball (June 22-26 at Rotary Park); basketball (June 29-July 3 at the Livonia Community Recreation Center's main gym); and football (July 6-10 at the LCRC fields).

Each camp will run from 9 a.m. until noon.

The cost for each camp is \$70 (LCRC pass holders); \$75 (residents); and \$80 (non-residents).

Registration will be at the LCRC, located at 15100 Hubbard (at Five Mile Road).

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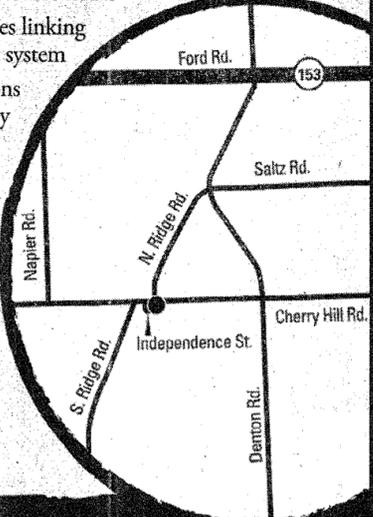
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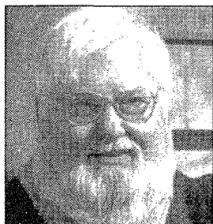


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ARCHIE KATSIKAS

Age 80, May 28, 2009. Loving husband of Kanella. Dear father of Mary (Angelo) Zervos and Demetri (Amy) Katsikas. Beloved grandfather of Michael, Aris, Rena and Demetri Zervos and Ella and Ava Katsikas. Archie immigrated from Greece in 1956 and was the proprietor of several restaurants, most recently Archie's Coney Island in Livonia. Visitation Monday 4-9 p.m. with Trisagion at 7:30 p.m. at the Harry J. Will Funeral Home, 37000 Six Mile, Livonia. In state Tuesday 9:30 a.m. at Nativity of the Virgin Mary Greek Orthodox Church, 39851 Five Mile, Plymouth until his funeral service at 10 a.m. Burial at Glen Eden, Livonia. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the church in his honor. Please visit www.harryjwillfuneralhome.com



RICHARD GEORGE THOMAS

July 17, 1948-May 24, 2009. A native of Detroit, MI, keyboard artist for Forest Greene and the Rangers, Richard Thomas attended Bloomfield High School and Eastern Michigan University where he served as a resident advisor. Following university, Mr. Thomas established a local landscaping business before being hired by Surgeonics, Ltd. and transferred to Mount Kisco, New York. Mr. Thomas eventually bought the company and served as its president and CEO moving the business Glens Falls, New York where he was active in the local Chamber of Commerce and the PTA. Returning to his native Michigan, Mr. Thomas designed kitchens for local hardware businesses. An avid genealogist, Mr. Thomas maintained contact with a widely scattered family. He is survived by his former wife, Eileen Thomas, his three children, Philip Thomas of New York City, Tara and Alana Thomas of Glens Falls NY, his mother Ellen Thomas of Rochester Hills, MI, brother, Dr. James P. Thomas, sister, Mrs. Susan Knudsen, also of Rochester and George D. Thomas of Washington, DC as well as their spouses, aunts, uncle, cousins and four nieces and nephews. The family requests donations to the American Diabetes Association in lieu of flowers.



LAURENCE S. RATHBUN

Age 94, passed away peacefully on February 22, 2009 at Munson Hospital in Traverse City, surrounded by his loving family. Born in Flint, MI on January 13, 1915 to Eulia and Otis Rathbun, Larry graduated from Flint Northern High School in 1932 and Michigan State College (now University) in 1936. Larry married Helen Cooper in 1941 and following WWII, they resided in Birmingham until 1980 when they retired to Frankfort, MI and fulfilled a longtime dream of designing and building a home (named "Camelot") on the shores of Crystal Lake. He resided there until very recently. During WWII, Larry served first as a glider pilot and later in Italy with the Quartermaster Corp. outside of the war years, Larry owned several companies including an oil drilling and distributing company in Gladwin, a heating contracting firm in Birmingham and a manufacturing company in Pontiac. Larry loved to design and invent things and his companies held several patents and trademarks. Larry was a member of the Methodist Church, Kiwanis Club, Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity, and both the Birmingham and Benzie County Historical Societies. An avid antique collector, Larry enjoyed traveling often returning home with something unique, plus the full history behind it. He was also quite an accomplished story teller. His experiences growing up in an early auto industry family in Flint, wildcat drilling in Northern Michigan, being an Army Captain during WWII, then participating in the massive housing boom following it, all created many legendary tales. They'll all be long remembered by his family and greatly missed. Larry was preceded in death by his first wife, Helen in 1996 and his second wife, Betty in 2008. He is survived by his daughter, Dianne (Dick) Munt of Frankfort and son Kent of Royal Oak and several nieces and nephews. Larry's family would like to extend a special thanks to his caregivers, Deb Johnson, Cheryl Love, Patti Conrad and Jane Chavalia for all the loving care they gave to him in recent years. Funeral services will be held on Monday, June 8, 2009 at 11:00 a.m. at the Frankfort United Methodist Church in Frankfort (537 Crystal Ave) with Rev. Greg Culver officiating. A graveside service will be held afterwards at the Crystal Lake Twp. Cemetery - North. A visitation will also be held at the Jowett Family Funeral Home at 803 Forest Ave in Frankfort on Sunday, June 7 from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. The family suggests that contributions to Larry's memory be directed to either the Salvation Army (1215 E. Fulton St. Grand Rapids, MI 49503) or the Frankfort United Methodist Church (537 Crystal Ave., Frankfort, MI 49635). In the latter case, please designate the donation to either the handbells or to the general operating fund. This funeral service was arranged by the Jowett Family Funeral Home of Frankfort and Benzonia.

DALE GRIM

Of Port Charlotte, FL, formerly of Garden City, passed away 5-26-09 at the age of 67. Dale will be missed by his wife of 39 years, Sandy Grim. He was a devoted father to Vicki Hempel, Terri (Wayne) Golden-Hart, Cliff (Dawn) Golden, Lynette (Dwayne) Childress, and Bethany Grim. He leaves behind 12 grandchildren.



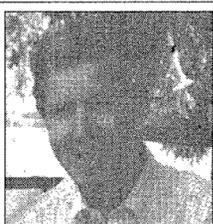
JOHN H. POTTER

May 26, 2009, age 80. Beloved husband of Margaret for 13 years, and the late Doris for 26 years. Loving father of Janet Obeginski, Tom (Barbie) Potter, Linda (Mike) Rosenkrantz and Cathy (Mike) Rumfield. Brother of Harriett (Larry) Stoddard. Stepfather, grandfather and great-grandfather of many. Visitation, Mon June 1, 2009 4-8pm. Funeral Tues, June 2, 2009 11:00am at the Harry J. Will Funeral Home 37000 Six Mile, Livonia, MI 48152. www.harryjwillfuneralhome.com



RUTH ELIZABETH JESSUP

1963-2009. Ruth, age 45, died on April 30th, of complications after an extended illness. She graduated from Seaholm High School in 1981 and the University of Michigan in 1985, where she was a member of Kappa Alpha Theta sorority. Ruth pursued a career in the film industry, first locally and eventually in Hollywood, where she met her husband Ira. Together they formed the Ira Belgrade Management Company, which specializes in discovering and managing young talent. Ruth enjoyed spending time with her family and Hearing Ear dog, skiing, snorkeling, working on her screenplay and appreciating a good joke. Throughout her illness she never lost her sense of humor or zest for life. Ruth is survived by her devoted husband of fourteen years, Ira, their two year old son, Izzy, her parents Richard and Involut Jessup of Bloomfield Hills, her brothers Richard "Byrd" (Hildegard) Jessup and Randall (Patricia) Jessup, her sister, Katie Jessup, five nephews and a niece. A celebration of her life will be held on June 7, in Los Angeles, where she resided. In Michigan, a service honoring Ruth's memory, will be held on Saturday, June 13, at 11 o'clock, in Bloomfield Hills.



MICHAEL HENRY HORTON

Age 55, of Perrysburg, and formerly of Plymouth, MI. Passed away Friday, May 22, 2009 at his home. He was born on May 24, 1953 in Detroit, MI to Sam and Karen (Plummer) Horton and was a 1971 graduate of Plymouth High School. Mike was a 1975 graduate of Michigan State University, receiving his Bachelor of Science degree in Zoology. He married his high school sweetheart, Robin Faber on June 14, 1975. Mike was currently employed as President of Buckeye Hydraulics, Inc. of Grand Rapids, OH and was a member of St. Timothy's Episcopal Church. He served on the Board of Directors for the Fort Meigs YMCA and in his spare time enjoyed cycling, running and yard work. He is survived by his loving wife Robin; daughter, Erin (Ross) Headley of Green Bay, WI; son, Matthew Horton of Chicago, IL; a grandchild due this week; mother, Karen Horton of Plymouth, MI; brothers, Curtis, Jeffrey (Jackie) and John (Lupita) Horton; sister, Kathleen Horton; father and mother-in-law, Alan and Marilyn Faber; brother-in-law, Alan (Pamela) Faber; sister-in-law, Karen Pennini; and fourteen nieces and nephews. Memorial Services will be held on Saturday, July 11, 2009 at 11:00 a.m. at St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, 871 East Boundary St., Perrysburg, OH 43051 with the Rev. Kenneth Pepin officiating. Those planning an expression of sympathy are asked to consider Fort Meigs YMCA, 13415 Eckel Junction Rd., Perrysburg, OH 43051 or the American Brain Tumor Association, 2720 River Road, Des Plaines, IL 60018. Arrangements are being handled by the Witzler-Shank Funeral Home, Perrysburg, OH (419-874-3133). Condolences may be made directly to the family by visiting www.witzlershank.com.



WARREN RICHARD SMITH

Age 77, of Cave Creek, AZ, died Monday, May 25 at the Hospice of the Valley in Scottsdale, AZ. Born in Detroit and raised in Minneapolis, Smith was a talented advertising executive who held positions at Campbell-Ewald, General Motors, and Fruehauf, among other companies, before retiring and moving from suburban Detroit to Arizona in 1996. Known to all as "Dick," Smith will be remembered as a quick-witted, irreverent man who held strong opinions and wasn't shy about expressing them. An avid cook, he enjoyed preparing elaborate feasts for his children and grandchildren. He loved the desert landscape, especially the many unusual birds it attracts, and doted upon his rescue dogs. Over the years, his enthusiasms ranged from creating watercolor paintings to writing cookbooks and screenplays. He was preceded in death by his wife Jane in 1975, and his grandson Kyle in 1988. He is survived by his son Kevin and daughter-in-law Nancy of Pacific Palisades, CA; daughters Tracey and Lauren of Oxford, MI; son Tobin and daughter-in-law Nancy of Bloomfield Hills, MI; daughter Dana of Austin, TX; seven grandchildren; and his long-time companion, Geri Williams, of Cave Creek, AZ. A private memorial service will be held. Donations honoring Smith's memory may be made to the charity of donor's choice.

TIMOTHY G. PETRIE

May 28, 1958 to May 16, 2009, leaves behind 2 wonderful children, Maxwell and Austin, his mother, Dorothy and brother Joel. Also survived by Kimberly Petrie-Truxell. Memorial service to be held Friday June 5 at 7PM at Ward Presbyterian Church in Northville Township.

WILLIAM L. SIMMONS

Age 81, formerly of Farmington Hills. He leaves behind daughters Terry Worscheck (Cork), Brenda Sayers (Steve), Patty Pope (Tim); grandchildren Jennifer Huff (Duane), Sandy Dymowski (EJ), Bill Sayers, Dan Sayers, and Eric Pope; great-grandchildren Zach and Amanda Huff and Jessica, Kyle, and Sam Dymowski. A Memorial Service will be at First Presbyterian Church of Farmington Hills on Saturday, June 6, 2009 at 11:00 a.m. (248-474-6170). Donations may be made to your local PBS station.

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.

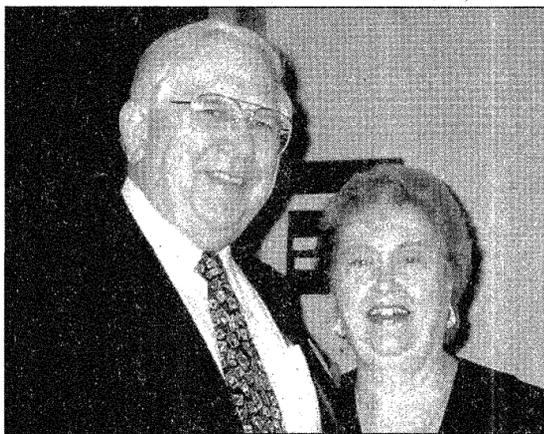
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MILESTONES



Robert and Nancy Bulmer



Robert and Nancy Bulmer on their wedding day.

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

Robert and Nancy Bulmer will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary June 6.

The Canton couple married in 1959 at Divinity Lutheran Church in Detroit.

The Bulmers have four children, David (Debbie) Bulmer of Plymouth, Julie (Roy) Sutherland of Westland, Douglas (Darlene) Bulmer of Ottawa Lake, and Robert Jr., of Canton.

Grandchildren are Kristina (Jim) Bowles, Justin Bulmer, Amy (Tony) LePere, Kelly Sutherland, Melissa Bulmer, Abby Bulmer and Holly Sutherland. Great-grandchildren are Amber and Brandon Bowles.

Their children plan a celebration for them at Antonio's Italian Cucina in Canton for family and friends.

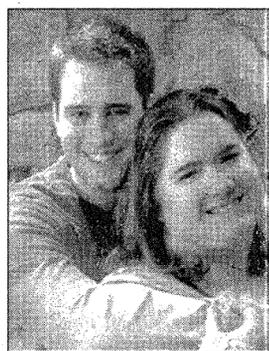
SHERMAN-GNAGEY

Emily Sherman of Canton and Kyle Gnagey of Plymouth plan to marry in June 2009.

The bride-to-be is the daughter of Wes and Marcia Sherman of Canton. She is a graduate of Eastern Michigan University and owns Ever After productions, Canton's resident youth theater company.

Her fiancé, son of Laurel Thomas Gnagey of Plymouth and Jeff Gnagey of Northville, is a recent graduate of the Tisch School of the Arts at New York University.

The couple will reside in New York City after they wed.



Sherman-Gnagey

GARDEN CALENDAR

If you have an item for the garden calendar, submit it at least two weeks prior to the event to Sharon Dargay at sdargay@hometownlife.com.

Classes at Madonna

Madonna University's Office of Continuing Education and Professional Studies is offering two garden classes this month:

■ **Healing Garden - Amazing Herbs** will show you how to spice up your life and save money by learning to grow your own herb garden. The class will focus on which plants are great for salads and favorite dishes, as well as which herbs make for sweet-smelling potpourris, oils and sprays. Class meets 10 a.m.-noon, Saturday, June 13. Cost is \$24.

■ **The User Friendly Garden** is ideal for gerontology students or anyone working with the



Learn about dahlias at Goldner Walsh.

elderly. Participants will learn simple and inexpensive ways to adapt a garden to someone

with disabilities and/or age-related changes in physical abilities. Class meets 10 a.m.-noon, Saturday, June 27. Cost is \$24.

Both classes meet in room 1003 in the academic building on the Madonna University Livonia campus, 36600 Schoolcraft, at Levan. (734) 432-5804 or visit <http://www.madonna.edu/pages/officecontinuinged.cfm>.

Learn about dahlias

Wilson Garner, President of the Southeastern Michigan Dahlia Society and long time local grower and exhibitor of prize winning dahlias, will give a slide presentation and lecture at 11 a.m., Saturday, June 6, at Goldner Walsh, 559 Orchard Lake Road, Pontiac. Light refreshments will be served. Admission is free. (248) 332-6430.

Happenings in my world

As a writer of this column for some 20 years I have shared many aspects of my personal life, my business life and certainly opened your eyes as to what goes on in the appliance industry. I have never taken it lightly that I have the extreme privilege of being able to serve the public in this fashion. I have received several communications detailing the upcoming close of different newspapers in surrounding communities and the main question asked of me is, "where will I be able to read your column?"

I will continue to write until I am informed otherwise.

On the subject of understanding, if you happen to know Mr. McCotter in Washington, could you please ask him why he hasn't responded to Joe Gagnon's e-mail requesting his assistance in helping consumers become aware of all recalls on major home appliances? I'm still patiently waiting!

I recently spoke with Cathy Cannivet in Naples, Fla. about her ongoing battle with General Electric. She told me there was a recent story on Cleveland television about microwave ovens catching

fire and causing a lot of harm. She informed me that there is a class action suit being filed against GE very soon. In a short period of three years Kathy has become a well known consumer advocate across the state of Florida. It all started when she discovered manufacturing defects on her refrigerator and found that these same defects existed in thousands of her neighbors refrigerators. A class action suit evolved and it ended up costing GE a ton of money. This one person along with a good friend set up her kitchen office and they designed their own web site (www.bringgoodthingstolife.org) and have a never ending story of defects with GE appliances.

I am in awe of this lady who would not let herself be taken to the cleaners. She has reversed the field of play. Maybe this is the reason why General Electric is on the open market trying to sell their appliance division. With her around they might have to file for bankruptcy.

NEW BUSINESS

As of this coming July 1 there will be a new kid on the block servicing major appliances. He's called the Appliance Doctor Service Company based in Livonia with two of the best technicians in the country. My sons, Mark and Andrew, will be doing the hard work while I watch the computer. I can't

imagine myself taking calls from unsatisfied customers or should I say, "I'd better not."

A lady has received a brand new expensive kitchen range at no cost from the Whirlpool Corporation. Her stove had a defective control board which needed replacing. The problem was that Whirlpool couldn't locate the part and offered her an initial offer of a \$50 credit on a new range. She persisted and they bent and now Whirlpool has another happy customer. It's called building brand loyalty.

Thanks to the Ladies Clubs at the Presbyterian Church in Northville and the Lutheran in Livonia for allowing me to do an appliance seminar with your groups. Remember ladies: no more than eight level teaspoons of powdered detergent in your dishwashers and make sure to turn on the hot water faucet at the sink and let it run for a minute before you use the dishwasher. Make sure you do this every time. Remember the warm weather is here now and you need to clean the condenser on the refrigerator to make sure it cools properly, runs efficiently and lasts longer. Stay tuned.

Joe Gagnon can be heard at 8 a.m., Saturdays on WAAM 1600 and Sundays at 2 p.m. on WDTK 1400. You can e-mail your problems and questions on appliances to appldr@twm.rr.com

Churches offer help to the unemployed

I'm going to miss the people I've come to know as a feature writer for the *Observer & Eccentric* Newspapers over the last 19 years. Friday was my last day as I am among the 44 people who received layoff notices.

When we were told seven weeks ago I initially cried over the news but once the tears

stopped I began asking myself where do I go from here to find a job?

Early that Monday I had visited the Very Rev. Timothy Barna to interview him about the new cupolas atop St.

Michael the Archangel Russian Orthodox Church in Redford. He gave me a good piece of advice. Tell everyone you come into contact that you've lost your job. In today's market networking is key to finding employment.

I started with my family. My cousin had just been told he was being laid off from 3M. A co-worker suggested he come to the Career Transitions series at his church, Cornerstones Evangelical Presbyterian in Brighton. We decided to go to

the evening classes along with my cousin's wife who was losing her job at Chase Bank.

Cindy Karns became involved when she heard the church was starting the ministry three years ago. She was job hunting at the time and looking to brush up her search skills. As program administrator she oversees the eight weeks on resume writing, interviewing strategies, networking and marketing yourself, and entrepreneurship. For information, call Karns at (517) 552-7265 or visit cornerstoneforlife.com/ctsm. The current session concludes in two weeks but returns in September.

Karns regularly visits church programs in the area looking for ideas to grow the classes at Cornerstone.

"At the time 5 percent of the congregation was out of jobs. It's probably 10 or 12 now," said Karns. "We want to continue to get the word out there about our series. We're part of a network of churches. It's all word of mouth."

While NorthRidge and Our Lady of Good Counsel churches offer support groups, Cornerstone presents a series of weekly classes. Karns calls on volunteers from the church to present information on the areas they know about — human resources, sales, entrepreneur-

ship. In the last six weeks we've heard the latest about what skills might transfer to another field and how to write functional and chronological resumes. All of the help at area churches is available at no charge.

"We saw a need not only in our church but the community as well," said Karns. "We went through a year of growing pains. We have about 13 or 14 resource leaders who teach various sessions in teams. The need has gotten so much greater in the past three years because of the economy. A lot of other churches have adapted some kind of ministry, some is job search, support. We actually go into skill teaching."

Curt MacRay is just getting the GET TO WORKshop off the ground at Mt. Hope Congregational Church in Livonia. Beginning June 11, he leads three weekly sessions from 6:30-8:30 p.m. To register, call (734) 775-2500 or e-

mail cmac@humantransitions.com. His blog with helpful hints can be found at www.examiner.com/x-1-186-Detroit-Job-Search-Examiner.

MacRay held the first workshops starting at the end of March after pastor Steve Schafer expressed his concern about church members who lost their jobs.

"I closed my leasing equipment company and I've been through a lot of what these people are going through," said MacRay, a Livonia resident. "The group will determine the direction. We're going to talk about the psychology of job loss, networking, resume preparation, job boards online, how to post resumes online, interviewing techniques and processes, and branding which is something kind of new to people about building your reputation."

The workshops are free at this time but MacRay is hoping corporations and municipalities

see the wisdom in presenting the sessions for employees being laid off.

"Everybody was rooting for each other when we got an e-mail that one man had landed a job," said MacRay. I tell them, your job is to get a job. Don't lay in bed until noon. Get your attitude back and get moving."

For those still looking and running out of resources Mt. Hope and other churches in the area are trying to help in a variety of ways. While covering religion I learned about food pantries at Trinity Church in Plymouth and St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Livonia. Mt. Hope is selling a box of food that assists in feeding a family of 4 for a week or a senior citizen for almost a month for \$30 through Angel Food Ministries. For help, contact your local church or municipality. Mt. Hope can be reached at (734) 425-7280 or visit www.angel-foodministries.com. Call (734) 459-0715 about the Trinity Food Pantry. A weekly drop-in

Food Cupboard (nonperishable items) is available 10 a.m. to noon Saturdays at St. Andrew's, 16360 Hubbard.

"More and more it seems every day people are losing their jobs," said Schafer. "There's a lot of depression, what are we going to do now? We wanted to help anybody out there who needs the help."

The most important thing to remember is there are people who care if you only reach out. I plan to do everything I can to invest in my future by contacting everyone I know and sending out resumes. Never give up. I know I'm very blessed even without a job. I have my sister Gwen, brother Gary, my dog Clancy, family and friends, and my health. Who could ask for more? Of course if you hear of any job leads, please contact me.

Linda Ann Chomin is the former health and community life reporter for the *Observer & Eccentric* Newspapers. She can be reached at lachomin@att.net.



Linda Chomin

Michael the Archangel Russian Orthodox Church in Redford. He gave me a good piece of advice. Tell everyone you come into contact that you've lost your job. In today's market networking is key to finding employment.

I started with my family. My cousin had just been told he was being laid off from 3M. A co-worker suggested he come to the Career Transitions series at his church, Cornerstones Evangelical Presbyterian in Brighton. We decided to go to

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A148 Kelli Bertl	2 Totes, Mattress, Dresser
A209 Starlisa Neal	Couch, 2 Dressers, TV
A340 Felicia Skeen	Big Screen TV, 2 speakers, Keyboard
C125 Yvonne Swygart	Refrigerator, 3 Dressers, Mattress
C156 Robert Pope	Chair, Table, Mattress
C188 Phillip Greenshields	Tools, 4 Speakers, 5 Boxes
D106 Rebecca Bradley	2 Dressers, TV, Mattress

Publish: May 31 and June 7, 2009

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Employment

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Victory Automotive Group is having a Job Fair for well qualified Sales Professionals on Monday, June 1 Tuesday, June 2 Wednesday, June 3

Victory Honda in Plymouth Victory Honda in Monroe Victory Toyota in Canton Please contact the following between 10AM-6PM or Just Stop By.

Looking for career minded individuals who have excelled in retail sales, mortgage or real estate sales or currently in the restaurant business - now is your chance to enhance your lifestyle with one of the largest family owned dealer groups in the country.

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*Please note that with the closing of local dealerships, we are staffing up the increase in business that we are experiencing.

Interviews 3 days only! Mon., Tues. & Wed. June 1, 2 & 3 10am-6pm

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Victory Honda of Plymouth
315 Ann Arbor Rd.
(734) 453-3600

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Must have stick exp. & good driving record. \$10/hr. to start. Apply at: Nobles Landscape Supply, 29450 W. 8 Mile, W. of Middlebelt. 248-474-4922

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With NCCPA certification. Dearborn. Full time. Hospital rounding and office based oncology practice of 20 years. Benefits. Fax resume to 313-274-8717

RN/MEDICAL ASSISTANT

Experienced. PT to FT employment. Busy medical practice in South Lyon. Competitive pay. Fax resume: (248) 437-2526

Help Wanted-Food/Beverage 5080

COOKS, Full-Time

With grill & pizza exp. Apply at: Starting Gate 135 N. Center St., Northville

SERVER, Part-Time

Needed at senior residence. Accepting applications at: 37501 Joy Rd. Westland MI 48185

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Position available for individual with background in institutional catering & full service restaurant operations. This person must possess culinary training & a minimum of 2 yrs. practical exp. If you are qualified and are interested in a Career position please call with inquires. (734) 464-0600

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Help Wanted-Dietary 5200

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NEIGHBORS

Festival to celebrate arts abilities

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
O&E STAFF WRITER

The excitement grows as Jody Conradi-Stark and Connie Lott walk toward the DiPonio room where 120 performers are scheduled to take the stage in the VisTaTech Center at Schoolcraft College Friday-Saturday, June 5-6, for a celebration of arts-ability. The southeast region committee of VSA arts of Michigan has been planning the festival for months so the women have seen the space before but this time the dream is closer to becoming reality.

For nearly 20 years the nonprofit organization has made it possible for children and adults with disabilities to perform on stage like people without challenges.

The students especially look forward to the annual festival where they not only have the opportunity to sing for an audience but spend the day with friends. Once they leave the stage there are hands-on art activities and lunch.

The performers are there simply to have fun. While that's part of the reason for the festival, the committee knows the real reason they volunteer time to make the event a success. VSA arts enables children and adults with disabilities to experience and grow through the arts. The nonprofit was started more than 25 years ago by Jean Kennedy Smith to provide activities similar to Special Olympics but in the arts.

In the past, local malls have provided the backdrop for the southeast region celebration until this year when the committee formed a partnership with the college. The concept for the event is to bring the performers and the public together to show children and adults with disabilities are just like everyone else. The orga-



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Jody Conradi-Stark (left), Jim Ryan, Linda Ann Chomin, and Connie Lott met recently to discuss the VSA arts of Michigan festival June 5-6, in the VisTaTech Center at Schoolcraft College in Livonia. Ryan, the college's executive director of development and governmental relations, has been working with the members of the Southeast Region Committee which presents the annual celebration featuring the talents of children and adults with disabilities.

nization was originally known as Very Special Arts but was changed to show that everyone has the ability to enjoy their creative side.

"We want to hold the festival in a community venue to show the importance of the arts for everyone," said Stark, committee president and owner of Creative Arts Therapies.

Throughout the year the children and adults participate in music and dance therapy classes. For years the committee awarded mini grants to make the opportunities possible.

"You can see the pride, the self-esteem the arts create in them," said Stark.

"The arts translates into job skills, confidence," added Lott who is the mother of an adult daughter with disabilities.

Jim Ryan couldn't agree more. As executive director

of development and governmental relations at Schoolcraft College, he's been working with the committee to bring the festival to the VisTaTech Center on campus. Ryan is the former superintendent of Plymouth-Canton Community Schools and knows first hand about the special needs of students with disabilities.

"We have this gorgeous facility," said Ryan. "VisTaTech stands for Vision, Talent and Technology. VSA is going to fulfill a couple of those at least. We are a public community college and like the public using this facility and partnering with organizations."

"We hope to have performers broadcast on a large overhead screen for kids deserve a chance to celebrate skills. The festival breaks down the barriers. The things they do I would never dream of try-

ing. It's important to celebrate diversity."

Everyone is working together to make the festival special for the children and adults from Pontiac, Northville, Lincoln Park, Birmingham, and Warren.

The college's music department is loaning the use of a piano so performers like Raymond Wells of Plymouth can show off their talent. The cafeteria is providing a special rate on a meal for performers. Now all that's needed is an audience.

For the first time this year the festival not only spotlights performers but encourages them, as well as the public, to take part in workshops on drumming, art and dance. The VSA arts of MI 2009 Emerging Artists Touring Exhibit will also be featured along with an art table for

everyone to make gifts for Father's Day.

Lora Frankel, VSA arts of Michigan executive director, is grateful for a \$6,000 grant from the CVS/Pharmacy Caremark All Kids Can Charitable Trust for making the workshops possible. The grant is part of a 5-year commitment through the national VSA organization to sponsor an art exhibit, residency programs in schools, and special events like the festival. Locally district managers are in charge of the CVS volunteers who will set up chairs and the touring art exhibit, help with hands-on art activities and workshops, and pass out T-shirts to the performers.

"CVS is getting employees involved and we're using part of the money to bring in Kevin Collins, Molly Landis, Daniel Cascardo and Cindy Babcock for the workshops," said Frankel. "Kevin Collins, a professional musician from Flint, is going to get everybody drumming. He brings African drums and percussion instruments, a whole van load of instruments. At least 15 people can participate at once. Molly Landis, a visual artist and art therapist from Pontiac, is wonderful with kids and going to get them involved in an art project, and Daniel Cascardo from Royal Oak is going to engage people in doing a group mural. Cindy is a dance therapist and is going to get everyone moving. It's open to the public. I think it's going to be great."

Hours for the VSA arts of Michigan-Southeast 2009 Festival are 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Friday, June 5, and 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, June 6, in the VisTaTech Center at Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty, between Six Mile and Seven Mile, Livonia.

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MILESTONES



Pulliam-Anders

Mr. and Mrs. Stan Pulliam of Athens, Ga., announce the engagement of their daughter, Gayla Joy, to Jared Lee Anders, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Mark Anders of Westland.

The bride-to-be graduated from Thomas Edison State College with a bachelor's degree in piano performance. She is self-employed as a nutrition and environmental consultant with the Shaklee Corp.

The prospective groom also graduated from Thomas Edison State College with a bachelor's degree in piano performance. He works for CollegePlus! as an academic coach.

The couple is engaged to be married in Spring 2010.

IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

CALL FOR ARTISTS

Nancy Paton, curator for The Green Show, is looking for artists for two shows later this year and early 2010.

Act one of The Green Show will take place Sept. 18-21, at Maxwell's Art & Treasures in Garden City.

Paton is seeking artists interested in creating unique works of art from all types of trash and disposable items. In addition, she is looking for functional objects made from materials that typically end up in the trash to display.

The Green Show act one will be the first of two shows. The second show will be more comprehensive and will take place at Madonna University in Livonia January of 2010. For those interested in educating the public about the harm that's being done to the planet and the solutions, contact Paton. She is also looking for speakers for both events. There are no entry fees for the Act One portion of The Green Show. For information or an entry form, send e-mail to nancypaton@yahoo.com or call (734) 233-7878.

BUBBLES AND BARS OF SOAP

The people of Risen Christ Lutheran Church in Plymouth Township are collecting containers of shampoo, conditioner, and soap - either bars or liquid. Small personal sized items such as those found on sample shelves are also welcome. These items will be freely distributed through the Open Door Ministry of Canton and the Salvation Army to anyone who needs them.

If you would like to donate any of these products please drop them off at the church office or add them to the container in the Welcome Area. Risen Christ is located at 46250 Ann Arbor Road on the corner of McClumpha. Call (734) 453-5252 for more information.

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Morning glory signals possible drug abuse

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
O&E STAFF WRITER

Kathy Schutt thought nothing of it when her son brought home a morning glory plant from a drug rehab program. The Westland mother knew her 14-year old had been experimenting with marijuana and huffing, but never dreamed a flower could be a sign he was still having problems with substance abuse. Then Tyler tried hanging himself from a belt in his bedroom.

Schutt isn't sure if he ever ingested the seeds, but wants parents to be aware the hallucinogen could be resurfacing. Hippies in the 1960s and '70s used the substance along with LSD, a drug similar to LSA (lysergic Acid Amide), to get high.

Schutt learned about the seeds when her 17-year-old daughter found a hand written note with growing instructions after Tyler's attempted suicide. They went on the Internet and were stunned by the availability of morning glory seeds and paraphernalia. She now knows that Heavenly Blues, Pearly Gates and Flying Saucers are more than pretty flowers.

"Parents need to be aware of it," said Schutt. "This scares me. I wouldn't feel right if I didn't do something."

Westland Police Sergeant Thad Nelson hadn't heard of morning glory seeds until his work in the detective bureau brought him into contact with Schutt. Since then he's noticed the ease with which anyone is able to buy the substance. He recently walked into a store where a large display of flower seeds were priced for under a dollar. Even so he's more concerned about the availability of household items.

"Spray paint cans, anything with aerosol is big," said Nelson. "Try to be aware as much as possible. It's hard being a parent. I'm a parent of two younger kids. They have to be involved in their kid's life, get to know their friends. Communication is huge. Ask where they're going. It's not being nosy but being involved."

Schutt hadn't noticed the buy one, get one free hair spray she bought was missing until searching Tyler's room afterwards. Like

Nelson, Westland Youth Officer Daniel Serrano doesn't think morning glory is a problem yet.

"We don't come across a whole lot of it," said Serrano, youth officer at John Glenn High School. "At this age marijuana is going to be the No. 1 drug of choice followed by prescription medication - Xanax called footballs, anything with codeine, Tylenol 3, Prozac, prescribed to parents and parents aren't controlling access and they're bringing them to school or using themselves. Parents need to be responsible with controlled substances even if your kid isn't using friends can come over."

Dr. Jedd Roe agrees with Serrano about parents vigilance over their children. While Roe hasn't seen any cases related to morning glory seeds in the Emergency Medicine Department at Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak, he has encountered the substance in other areas of the country where he worked before coming to Beaumont.

"At Beaumont we haven't seen any, but it's well known in the emergency community. It's unusual but we're more likely to see cocaine and heroine," said Roe, chairman of the emergency medicine department at Beaumont, Royal Oak. "It's a hallucinogen and they use it for the same reason as LSD or mushrooms. Parents should be following through on general drug surveillance of the children, behaviors not the norm. Typically kids aren't going to use morning glory in isolation. There's a pattern of other experimentation. We had jimson weed about a year ago in Royal Oak, two or three cases. It's a risk taking type of behavior similar to morning glory seed."

Like Westland Police Officer Serrano, Dr. Lydia Baltarowich is concerned about adolescents and teens abusing prescription medications from their parents' medicine cabinet. As a consulting medical toxicologist at DMC, Henry Ford Hospital and the regional Poison Control Center at Children's Hospital of Michigan, Baltarowich receives calls for everything from drug abuse to suicide attempts on the 24-hour hotline for the public and physicians at (800) 222-1222. While

she's familiar with morning glory seeds she hasn't seen any cases in the ER at Henry Ford Hospital where she's been a physician for the last 27 years.

"Prescription medications have been the big thing, alcohol," said Baltarowich. "Ecstasy came about the mid '90s and plateaued. In the early '80s and '90s we didn't see as much of abuse by adolescents. Ecstasy was not as available so teens wouldn't get into them. It's alcohol, marijuana and prescription medication which includes pain killers, opioids, sedatives. They're starting to use Ambien, Ritalin drugs for ADHD. Amphetamine look alike are widely available. They take their sibling's medication."

Baltarowich encourages parents not to wait to talk to their children about drug abuse.

"The known abuse of morning glory seeds is well known although it's rare people come to ER with it. The Poison Control Center has only had one or two calls," said Baltarowich. "But there are a lot of low cost substances in teen and adolescents cause they don't have money to buy heroin and cocaine. Seeds is one of them. Jimson weed seeds are much more common. They get a delirium from that. They inhale inhalants, glue, paint, gasoline, hydrocarbon solvents, sniff and just die all of a sudden. They go for low cost things they

find around the house."

Parents should be on the alert for any symptoms from ingesting the seeds. Packaged seed may be coated with chemicals to control insect damage and spoilage so there are other health risks as well.

"Parents should look for a mild hallucinogenic attack, panic attacks or they get scared," said Baltarowich. "If they look like they're seeing things or talking to themselves that can happen with LSD or LSA, distorted colors but also distortion of sense. Synesthesia refers to the term of confusion or reversal of senses. They may hear what they're supposed to see, may see the music and might have residual effects for up to 24 hours. They sometimes do at parties but sometimes do it alone. If a teen is using some type of drugs, the school work drops, they're inattentive or loners sitting alone in rooms or always out with friends."

Schutt knew something was wrong when Tyler had a fight with his hockey coach. He had been playing the game for 6 years. One Sunday morning she woke him for practice and noticed the blown attic insulation all over the closet. She climbed up later and found marijuana, a lighter and flashlight. Until that time, the pediatrician had suspected depression and prescribed Prozac and evaluation by a psychologist. Friday,

March 6, she was told Tyler could return to school. Schutt's father found him smoking marijuana. She searched Tyler's bedroom and found the substance along with pills. She got rid of the morning glory plant but didn't find any seeds. Today, Tyler is still in Mott Children's Hospital in Ann Arbor. He is out of a sedated coma but has been diagnosed with mild to moderate brain damage, and

spasticity which requires medication from a pump to control.

"He has an infection in the tube that feeds him. He's lost 35 pounds since he's been there. He has a tracheotomy so he can't talk. Doctors say he'll probably be coming home mid to late June," said Schutt.

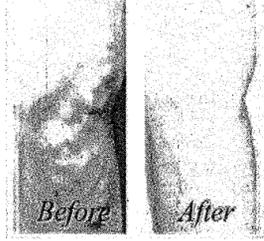
For updates on Tyler Schutt's condition or to make a donation to cover his medical expenses, visit carepages.com.

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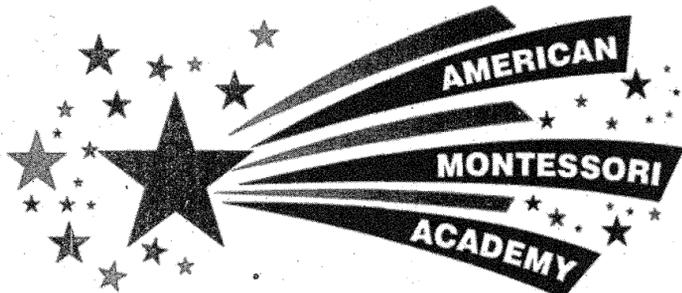
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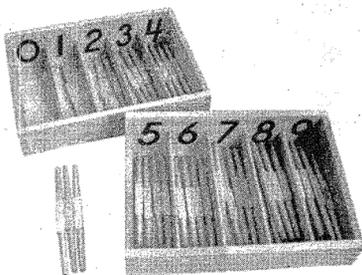
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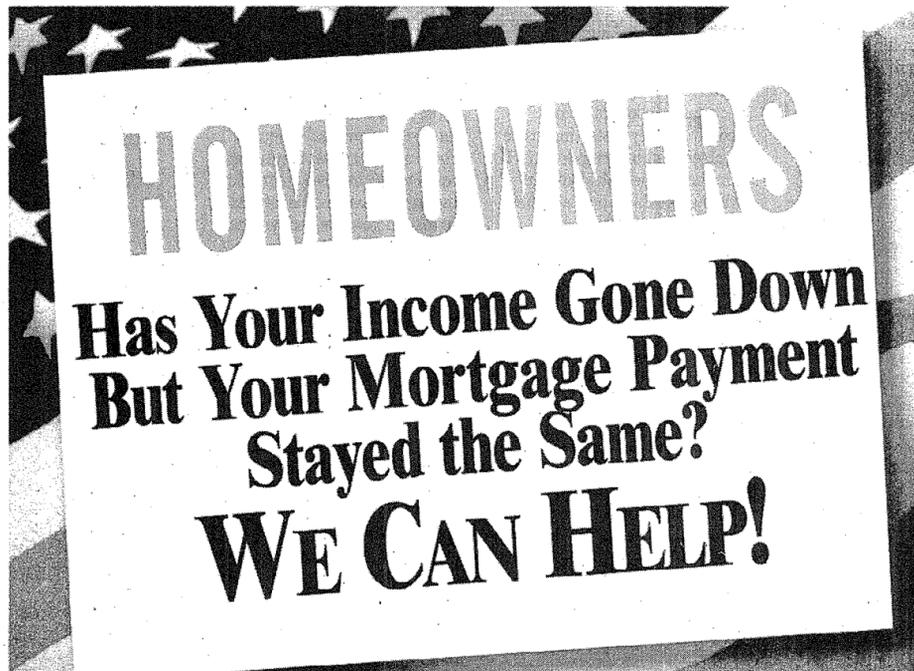
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Thursday, June 4th | 7pm-9pm

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Please RSVP to 1-800-993-1286 or email to ksmall@paymentdoctors.com

SPEAKER'S
TOPICS

Lower Your Mortgage Without Refinancing
Short Sale Realtor - Katherine Small
Real Estate Attorney - Gilbert Borman

**Due to Overwhelming Response
We Will Be Adding Future Seminar Dates.
Please check the website**

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