

SUNDAY
August 2,
2009

Joe time: Youth enjoys day at hockey camp, A3



'Y' not baseball?
Sports, B1

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AROUND TOWN

Magic Monday

Magic Monday Family Night with WMGC 105.1 radio returns to the Bailey Recreation Center 7-9 p.m. Monday, Aug. 3.

Meet your WMGC 105.1 Family and enjoy inflated games provided by Bobby's Boilers, swimming in the outdoor pool, and playing in the Bailey Center gymnasium and at Tattan Park's Play Planet Playscape.

All ages are welcome. Bring your swim attire and a lock for locker. The cost is \$3 for adults and \$2 for child to use the pool. Adults in the wading pool area are free. All other activities are free.

In case of inclement weather, activities will be in the gymnasium, and swimming will not be available. For more information, call (734) 722-7620.

Small pets

While Disney may have some pretty special guinea pigs in their new summer film *G-Force*, they've got nothing on the "real thing" at the Michigan Humane Society.

Each year, hundreds of small companion animals, such as guinea pigs, hamsters, gerbils, rats and rabbits await new homes at MHS' three centers for animal care. To help promote the unique qualities of these small but mighty companions, the Michigan Humane Society is hosting a "Small Animal Adoption Day" 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 8, at its Berman Center for Animal Care at 900 N. Newburgh in Westland.

MHS adoption counselors and small animal experts will be at the event to help create great matches between adopters and their new furry family members. The modest adoption fees for the smallest of these companion animals range from \$3 for hamsters to \$15 for guinea pigs. Rabbits may be adopted for \$30, which includes the spaying or neutering of rabbits six months and older.

To "meet" some of the diminutive but delightful companions who are currently available for adoption from MHS, visit www.michiganhumane.org and click on "Adopt."

For more information, call 1-866-MHUMANE or visit www.michiganhumane.org.

School items

Book bags and supplies will be given to the first 300 kids who attend the Department of Public Health Wayne County Health and Safety Fun Fest 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 6, on the grounds of the Wayne County Department of Public Health located at 33030 Van Born Road, Wayne.

The event, is sponsored by Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano and the Wayne County Department of Public Health, will include dental screenings, adult and childhood immunizations, lead testing, Head Start information, hearing and vision screenings, health and safety information, blood pressure screenings, Project Fresh Vegetables/Fruits and much more.

For more information, call (734) 727-7000.

Tuesday vote to trim council candidates to 8

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

About a 12.5 percent voter turnout is projected for the Tuesday primary election which will narrow the field of candidates seeking four seats on the Westland City Council.

Incumbent Mayor William Wild is unchallenged in his bid for re-election.

Nine candidates are on the ballot — eight of whom will move on to the Nov. 3 general election ballot

where three four-year and on two-year terms will be filled by voters.

Council candidates appearing on the ballot are: Christine Cicirelli Bryant, Harold Dunn, Sam Durante, Janet Frederick-Wilson, Adam Hammons, Meriem Kadi, Kenneth Mehl, Mark Rodriguez and the sole incumbent, Dewey Reeves.

Less than an hour before the filing deadline on July 24, Daniel Devlin, 76, submitted an affidavit to run for council as a write-in

candidate. State law requires that write-in candidates file the affidavit by the deadline and any votes cast for candidates who haven't filed are invalid.

"If people want to know who is a write-in candidate, they have to call City Hall. An election worker can't give them the information," Clerk Eileen DeHart said. "If an election worker gave the names at the polls, it would be like campaigning."

It's similar to election rules which prohibits election material from

being on view inside the polls. "Literature with a candidate's name has to be tucked away," DeHart said.

The polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

The Bailey Recreation Library and 18th District Court will be open election day but all other city offices will be closed. The Clerk's Office will be open for election business only.

rogers@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-5428



Cindy Robertson and Renee Mosher sample the food at Longhorn Steakhouse during the annual Westland Chamber of Commerce Restaurant Rally.

Yum, yum: Diners savor tastes of annual rally

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

More than a dozen local restaurants got to show off their menu items to more 400 diners at the Westland Chamber of Commerce's annual Restaurant Rally on Tuesday.

"I tried the Pecan Apple Salad. It was good, very tasty," said Westland resident Jerry Osborne, who was at Olga's Kitchen with Barbara, his wife of 46 years.

"I love the Snackers," said Barbara Osborne.

First-timers at the restaurant rally, the Osbornes didn't use one of the trolleys provided to transport guests between the 15 restaurant stops on the rally.

"I wanted to be able to leave when we wanted," said Jerry Osborne.

"We're on a date," said Barbara Osborne, adding the couple expected to hit at least 10 of the 15 establishments participating in the rally.

Olga's Kitchen, located in Westland Center, was participating in the rally for the first time.

"I had never heard of the restaurant rally before I took over the restaurant two years ago," said



Brighton residents Lloyd Geroux, Sandy Renbarger and husband Russ dig in at Ashley's Beer & Grille. The couples particularly gave a thumb up to the chocolate mousse.

Please see RALLY, A2

Police catch duo wanted for robbery

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Too much loot in the car trunk reportedly helped Westland police arrest two men for robbing a local game store Wednesday morning.

A clerk at Game Stop, 35607 Warren Road, called police to report the robbery at 11:20 a.m. The clerk told police two men wearing bandanas, one armed with a shotgun, had robbed the store of an undisclosed amount of cash, along with Xbox, PlayStation 3 and Wii game systems and games valued at \$6,500.

"They took 15 game systems and a whole bag of various controllers. They took so much stuff that they had to stop and make sure their (car) trunk was closed," Westland police Lt. Dan Karrick said.

The men, Detroit residents ages 23 and 27, had fled before police arrived, police said. A patrol officer spotted their Chevrolet Lumina stopped nearby on Lewis west of Yale.

One of the suspects was arrested at the vehicle but the other man fled on foot through the adjoining neighborhood, police said.

"He went inside a house. The owner was in the back yard and he pushed past him into the house," Karrick said. "When he looked out the front window and saw the patrol cars, he ran back out of the house and was arrested."

Officers reportedly recovered the merchandise and a shotgun from the vehicle. The pair aren't suspected in any other Westland robberies but Karrick said the men appeared to be experienced.

Please see ARRESTS, A2

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After several years to obtain the historical designation and more time to raise the money for the marker, Annapolis Park had unveiled the community's historical marker installed at an entrance to the subdivision.

It's official: Residents unveil historical marker

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Forecasted thunderstorms didn't materialize last week as the historical marker commemorating Westland's Annapolis Park subdivision was unveiled.

"It was raining until 10 a.m. At 10:05 a.m. I held my hands up and the rain stopped," said Reasther Everett, Southeast Westland Homeowners Association president. "It was great. We had no complaints or concerns. It was a good day."

Located in southeast Westland on Middlebelt between Van Born and Annapolis, Annapolis Park

was developed by Julius Schwartz and several partners in 1953 to address a housing shortage faced by African-Americans — during World War II the black population of Detroit had doubled to reach 300,000.

African-Americans found obstacles in purchasing homes through restrictive covenants and other discriminatory practices. Schwartz and his brother-in-law also provided mortgage financing for Annapolis Park when African-American home buyers found difficulty getting approved by other lenders. By 1957, 354 lots in the subdivi-

Please see MARKER, A2

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OE0865684

Monit tapped to lead WW board

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER



Monit

building usage to finances to find ways to maintain the educational program while cutting expenses. It began meeting in late June with the goal of having a plan in place by the 2010-2011 school year.

Monit also wants to make sure new members John Goci and Carol Middel are assimilated into the board.

"It's important that we're all on the same page and are able to work together," he said.

Monit was tapped for the board's top position at its recent organizational meeting. Also elected board officers were Cindy Schofield as vice president, Martha Pitsenbarger as secretary and Shawna Walker as treasurer.

Monit is confident in taking on the job as president. This is the fourth time in his 11 years on the board he has held the post and the second time since 2007-2008.

"I feel pretty good about it," he said. "I work well with Superintendent Greg Baracy and he works well with me. This is not something I have to learn,

I'm revisiting a position I've already held."

As a school board member, he has earned several certifications through the Michigan Association of School Boards, including its basic, advocacy and master board member honors. His experience and knowledge, he said, will be a valuable tool during these tough economic times.

"I'm in the enviable positions of being able to use my knowledge and experience to be beneficial to the students and the school district," he added.

smason@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-6751



Antoinette Martin of Ameriprise Financial, a restaurant rally sponsor, and April Watts greeted guests as they arrived at Ashley's Beer & Grille.

AROUND WESTLAND

District hours

The staff of Congressman Thaddeus McCotter, R-Livonia, will be holding office hours in the 11th Congressional District this week.

Citizens served by the congressman have the opportunity to speak with a staff member one-on-one regarding any federal issue that they might have.

McCotter's staff will be available Tuesday, Aug. 4, 9-10 a.m. at Livonia Civic Park Senior Center, 10:30-11:30 a.m. at Redford Community Center, 1-2

p.m. at Maplewood Community Center in Garden City and 2:30-3:30 p.m. at the Westland senior Friendship Center.

District hours for Thursday, Aug. 6, are 9-10 a.m. at the Canton Summit Senior Center, 11 a.m. to noon at the Northville Senior Center, 12:30-1:30 p.m. at the Plymouth District Library and 2:30-3:30 p.m. at the Van Buren September Days Senior Center.

McCotter has two offices in the district to serve his constituents. The Livonia office can be reached by calling (734)

632-0314 or the Milford office is available at (248) 685-9495.

Free concert

Enjoy an evening of rhythm and blues music, featuring Tyrone Hamilton and the All Stars at the Westland Library Performance Pavilion behind the William P. Faust Public Library at 6123 Central City Parkway, north of Ford between Wayne and Newburgh roads, at 6 p.m. this evening (Aug. 2). Bring your own chair or blanket. For further information, please call (734) 722-7620 or

(734) 522-3918.

The 'Beatles'

Join Beatles fans at the "Twist & Shout" concert, featuring music of The Beatles performed by the Backbeats 6-8 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 8, at the Westland Friendship Center, 1119 N. Newburgh. The cost is \$10 per person, which includes the concert and pulled pork sandwiches. It will take place outside on the Friendship Center Grounds, so please bring your lawn chair. It will move inside in the event of rain.

MARKER

FROM PAGE A1

sion had been developed. Efforts to get the subdivision designated as a federal

and state historical site began in the 1990s — Annapolis Park was the first subdivision developed for what was then called "colored GIs."

The designation was received in 2006 and then it was a matter of raising more

than \$5,000 for the marker which has to be paid for privately.

"We had close to 100 people at the ceremony and more people for the picnic (which followed)," Everett said. "Some of the oldies — people who haven't been active — came out for this."

The unveiling drew Westland Mayor William Wild and most of the city council members along with State Rep. Richard LeBlanc, D-Westland, and State Sen. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland.

"It was a great turnout. We are very pleased, very happy

and very proud," said Everett, an original homeowner in Annapolis Park with her husband of 56 years Julius.

Along with a cloth covering the mark, Everett said the marker also included a ribbon which was cut by Westland Historical Society members Edna Parker and Ruth Dale. "We made sure we had a ribbon, so they could cut it officially. Both of them put in a lot of effort on this," Everett said.

The marker was installed at Middlebelt and Hanover.

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ARRESTS

FROM PAGE A1

"They forced the employee to the rear of the store to where the games are kept

locked. We have the surveillance video, they were in and out pretty quick," Karrick said.

William Charles Wilson, 23, and Alton Ray Ricks, 27, were both arraigned in 18th District Court on charges of armed robbery, receiving sto-

len property and assault with a dangerous weapon.

Wilson, who was being held in lieu of \$150,000 cash/surety bond, was also charged with possessing a sawed off shotgun and illegal use of a license plate/title.

Held on a \$250,000 cash/surety bond, Ricks was charged with breaking and entering/illegal entry and being a third-degree

habitual offender. According to the Michigan Department of Corrections, Ricks was paroled in December after serving four years in prison for two armed robbery convictions.

Not guilty pleas were entered for both men and preliminary examinations were set for Thursday, Aug. 13.

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INVITATION TO BID
CITY OF WESTLAND
MATTHEW STREET RECONSTRUCTION

AUGUST 4th, 2009

Sealed Bids for the CITY OF WESTLAND MATTHEW STREET RECONSTRUCTION will be received by the City of Westland until 11:00 AM, local time, on **August 10th, 2009**, by the office of the Purchasing Agent located at 36601 Ford Road, Westland, MI 48185. The approximate quantities of major items of work involved are as follows:

Remove Pavement	2,752 Syd
Subgrade Underdrain 6"	1,660 FT
Conc. Pavt, W/Intg Curb, Non Reinf. 8"	2,450 Syd
21AA Aggregate Base (Limestone)	974 Ton

This project consists of reconstructing approximately 800 feet of concrete road with 8" concrete pavement. As a result of these improvements, there will be driveway approach replacements and restoration.

The Contract Documents for this project are on file and may be examined on and after 1:00 PM, August 4th, 2009, at the following locations: the office of the ENGINEER, Orchard, Hiltz, & McCliment, Inc., 34000 Plymouth Road, Livonia, MI 48150; area offices of McGraw-Hill Construction/ReproMAX, 36060 Industrial Road, Livonia MI 48150; Reed Construction Data at www.reedcpr.com; the Construction Association of Michigan (CAM), 43636 Woodward, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302-3204; Construction News Service of Michigan at www.michiganconstruction.net; and the City of Westland, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, MI 48185.

Copies thereof may be obtained on or after 1:00 PM, local time, August 4th, 2009, at the office of the ENGINEER, Orchard, Hiltz, & McCliment, Inc., 34000 Plymouth Road, Livonia, MI 48150. A non-refundable fee of forty dollars (\$40.00) will be charged for each set of Contract Documents. An additional non-refundable fee of ten dollars (\$10.00) will be charged for each set of Contract Documents that are mailed.

Proposals shall be enclosed in sealed envelopes plainly marked on the lower left-hand corner with: CITY OF WESTLAND, MATTHEW STREET RECONSTRUCTION, and the name of the bidder. Bid Security in the form of a Certified or Cashier's Check or Bid Bond for a sum no less than five percent (5%) of the amount of the Bid will be required with each Bid.

No Bid may be withdrawn for a period of ninety (90) calendar days after the scheduled closing time for receipt of the Bids. The OWNER reserves the right to accept any Bid, reject any Bid, or waive Irregularities in Bids.

This project requires Contractors and Subcontractors to pay employees the prevailing wages and benefits as stated in the most recent survey of the Michigan Department of Labor for prevailing wage determination, under Act 166 of the Public Acts of 1965, as amended.

No pre-bid meetings are scheduled for this project

William Gabriel, Controller
City of Westland

Published August 2, 2009 OE08067304-2x5

ABANDONED VEHICLE AUCTION
Sparks Towing
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August 8 • 10 a.m.

- 1) 1993 Mercury - 1MELMB349PG624845
- 2) 1996 Ford F350 Dump Truck - 1FDKF38F0TEA22425
- 3) 1999 Oldsmobile - 1G3WS52KXXF336472
- 4) 1998 Volkswagen - 3VWSC29M9XM017322
- 5) 2000 Dodge - 1B71626X3Y5581365
- 6) 2000 Ford - 1FALP5291YG261908
- 7) 1996 Ford - 1FALP6532TK161849
- 8) 1998 Suzuki - JS2GB31SW5145143

Publish: August 2, 2009 OE08067073-2x5

CITY OF WESTLAND
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
PUBLIC NOTICE

The following appeals will be heard at a public hearing to be held in the Council Chambers of Westland City Hall, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, MI on Wednesday, August 19, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. at which time comments may be directed to the Board during audience participation. If you wish to reply by mail, send your comments to the above address. All property owners whose names appear in our tax rolls located within 300' of this property are being notified pursuant to this statute.

Petition #2677-A. Natoli, 31793 Mackenzie
Request for a 4' front yard setback variance from Ordinance 248 as a result of the construction of a 7'31" x 8'61" covered porch addition to the front of the home that is located 21' from the front lot line; whereas Section 7.4.2 requires a minimum front yard setback of 25'.

Petition #2683-J. Douglass, 8542 Liberty
Request for a 5'101 front yard setback variance from Ordinance 248 to construct an 8' x 161 covered porch addition to the front of the home that would be 19'21 from the front lot line; whereas Section 7.4.2 requires a minimum 25 ft. setback.

Petition #2684-B & B Westland Mall LLC 35000 Warren
Request for a 3.427 acre (149, 280.12 sq. ft.) lot area variance from Ordinance 248 to divide a 0.573 (24,959.88 sq. ft.) parcel from the larger shopping center parcel along the east (Wayne Road) side of the site; whereas Section 9:5.4 requires a minimum lot area of 4 acres (174, 240 sq. ft.).

Publish: August 2, 2009 OE08067074-2x5

Services scheduled for 3 teens killed in car crash

Funeral services have been scheduled for three area teens killed in a high speed crash near Venoy and Van Born in Romulus Tuesday.

Daniel Gains

Visitation for the 19-year-old Daniel Gains of Canton began Saturday and continues 2-9 p.m. today (Sunday) at Harry Will Funeral Home, 34567 Michigan Ave., Wayne. The funeral service is scheduled for 11 a.m. Monday at the funeral home.

Survivors include parents Gary Gains and Carol Gains; siblings Carly and Aaron Gains; grandparents Robert and Lorraine Otis and Glenda Gains and many aunts, uncles and cousins.

Brianna L. Bennett

Arrangements for Brianna Bennett, 19, of Inkster are being handled at John Santeiu and Son Funeral

Home on Inkster Road at Marquette in Garden City. Visitation is 2-9 p.m. today (Sunday) with funeral services at 1 p.m. Monday.

Survivors include a daughter Kendra Michelle Lochrie; parents Brian Bennett and Jennifer Anderson; sister and brother Skylar and Colin; grandparents Cal Anderson and Betty Bennett and great-grandparent Vendra (James) Carleton.

Joshua Kenneth Siebenrock

Visitation for Joshua Siebenrock, 17, of Westland is scheduled for 3-7 p.m. Monday with funeral services at 7 p.m. at John Santeiu and Son Funeral Home in Garden City.

Survivors include parents Kenneth and Marie; brothers and sisters Shannon, Kim, Scott, Ashley, Matthew and Phillip and many aunts, uncles and cousins.

Joe time: Youth enjoys day at hockey camp

For a child with dreams of being a professional ice hockey player, a day at Joe Louis Arena can be inspiring.

Thanks to the Detroit Red Wings, Warrior Hockey and The Salvation Army of Metro Detroit, Jagr Bugaski, 11, of Westland experienced every hockey fan's dream on July 14 - ice time at Joe Louis Arena and coaching from former player Jiri Fischer (now director of player development) and current player Darren McCarty.

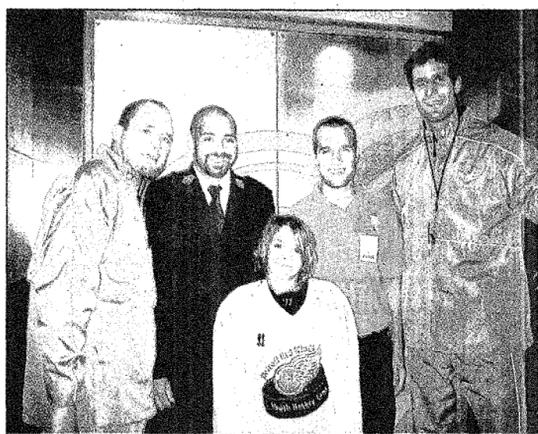
"He's doing good. He's got the spunk, he's got the determination. That's what it's all about," McCarty said, watching Jagr skate on the ice from the players' bench.

The Red Wings donated a scholarship for Jagr to attend the organization's 2009 Youth Hockey Camp July 13-14, sponsored by Warrior Hockey.

"The camp can be expensive, and we saw it as a great opportunity for someone like Jagr to experience the Joe," said Red Wings Youth Hockey Manager Phil Pierce. "He's trying hard. If you have a passion for hockey, once you get out there, you're just going to get better and better."

In addition, Warrior Hockey of Warren donated Jagr's equipment, excluding skates and a helmet.

"We got him outfitted in com-



Detroit Red Wing Darren McCarty (from left), who served as a coach for the youth hockey camp, shares a smile with Capt. Derek Rose, commanding officer of The Salvation Army's Wayne/Westland Corps; Jagr Bugaski of Westland; Andrew Barylski, director of community and youth ministries and STRIVE hockey coach for The Salvation Army Wayne/Westland Corps; and Jiri Fischer, director of player development for Detroit Red Wings

plete Warrior gear," said Jason Reynolds, the company's regional brand representative. "When we gave it all to him, you could tell he was trying to contain his excitement."

The Salvation Army received a \$15,000 grant from the Detroit Red Wings Foundation earlier this year to help fund the nonprofit's STRIVE (Student Training for Integrity, Vitality, and Education) Youth Hockey

program.

Jagr first discovered hockey while attending STRIVE last spring, at The Salvation Army's Wayne-Westland Corps at 2300 Venoy Road. Hockey soon became his passion.

The STRIVE mission is to help meet the spiritual, mental and physical needs of the whole child through an organized floor hockey program at The Salvation Army's participating community

centers. It allows children like Jagr the chance to experience a sport they may not previously have considered, often due to economic constraints.

Hiding under a long, sweaty mop of blond hair, Jagr worked the ice with his fellow campgoers July 14, then got an exclusive tour of the Red Wings' locker room.

Prior to his two-day stint on the Joe's ice, he had no more than four hours of actual ice time. Jagr played just 16 weeks of floor hockey at The Salvation Army's Wayne-Westland Corps. The STRIVE team is run by Andrew Barylski, director of community and youth ministries.

"Jagr's two-day adventure with the Detroit Red Wings is a perfect example of what can happen when programs like STRIVE help kids discover their passion," Barylski said. "We're beyond thankful that the Red Wings and Warrior Hockey were kind enough to give him that experience."

STRIVE is a grass roots effort to not only provide children new opportunities, but also to partner with community members to grow the sport of hockey. Fall STRIVE hockey begins in late September. To register for the Wayne-Westland team, call (734) 722-3660.

Charity poker run to benefit injured toddler

A charity poker run to benefit a Westland girl seriously injured in a lawn mower accident is scheduled for Sunday, Aug. 9.

The event to benefit Allie Osenroth, 3, is being sponsored by the American Legion Riders from Post 32 in Livonia. The 120-mile poker run begins at American Legion Post 396, 6860 Middlebelt in Garden City. Sign-in starts at 10:30 a.m. with the last bike out at noon. The event will be held rain or shine.

The poker run will end at American Legion Post 32, 9318 Newburgh in Livonia. The last bike must be in by 5 p.m.

The cost is \$15 per rider/driver and \$5 per passenger. Prizes will be awarded for the three best poker hands - two extra cards are available for a donation after the run is completed. There also will be a silent auction and 50-50 raffles.

There will be a spaghetti dinner beginning at 3 p.m. Non-riders are invited to the dinner at \$7 per person.

Allie lost one third of her knee, her big toe and her entire heel after she was accidentally backed over with a riding lawn mower at her family home. Her father recently lost his job and the family needs financial assistance.

Census 2010: Full count important to cities, state

BY JULIE BROWN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Brian White, partnership specialist with the U.S. Census Bureau, brought a simple message to Westland Rotary last week.

"This is very important to the state of Michigan," said White about a full count for the 2010 census. In the 2000 census, Michigan lost three of its seats in Congress due to the counts.

This time around, Michigan stands to lose one such seat and possibly a second. White noted the total seats in Congress remain constant nationwide. People are elected to those seats who don't understand the auto



industry and its importance.

"They gain momentum in terms of doing harm to Michigan," said the Detroit-based White. "We need every single dollar to come to these communities."

Census counts also matter in terms of sharing appropriations for local communities. The census management

jobs are just about filled, White said, but other temporary jobs will be available with information at 2010censusjobs.gov or by calling toll free at (866) 861-2010. Jobs pay some \$16.50 for field operations up to \$24 per hour for their supervisors.

White also spoke to confidentiality of census data, noting not even the U.S. president can access individual results. Some people are reluctant to cooperate with government employees, he said, which is why the census staff works with religious groups, service clubs and others more likely to be trusted.

"We have to stress to them the confidentiality of our infor-

mation," White said.

White was accompanied by Westland City Councilman Dewey Reeves, who said it's difficult to count such people as the incarcerated, homeless, those facing foreclosure and those in hospitals.

"We need 100 percent, that's the goal," Reeves said. "Anything less than that, we fail."

Reeves said the auto industry's plight has led to people leaving Michigan. In Westland, Planning Director Bruce Thompson is coordinating efforts among groups and civic leaders to gain full participation. Thompson can be reached at (734) 467-3219.

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A berry good place to start

Do you have some unidentified berries growing in your backyard? Have you gone for a walk in the woods and seen some wild berries growing along the path? Have you ever wondered if you could eat them?

Summertime brings an array of wild plants that can often be mysterious and confusing to people who like to know what is growing around them. Luckily there's help.

The "Great Lakes Berry Book: a Complete Guide to Finding, Harvesting and Preparing Wild Berries and Fruits in the Great Lakes Region" by Bob Krumm can help you identify the types of berries growing in your area. If you determine they are edible, the book also contains 115 recipes.

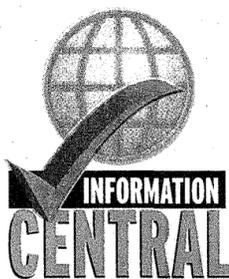
If you don't want to take any chances and would rather plant your own berries, the book, "Backyard Fruits and Berries: Everything You Need to Know about Planting and Growing Fruits and Berries in Your Own Backyard" by Miranda Smith should prove useful. "The Berry Bible: With 175 Recipes Using Cultivated and Wild, Fresh and Frozen Berries" by Janie Hibler will also provide you with lots of ideas to use up those berries.

For those of you who don't have green thumbs and don't really want to go into the woods to pick berries, you can just go to your local grocer and buy them. Then you can get a book like "Jams and Jellies" by Lou Pappas or "Pie: 300 Tried-and-True Recipes for Delicious Homemade Pie" by Ken Haedrich and have at it.

So remember these two things for a safe and delicious summer. First, if in doubt... don't eat it! Second, come to the William P. Faust Public Library for all your berry and cooking related needs.

The library's summer hours are 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday. And we're always open online at westlandlibrary.org

Highlighted Activities
D.I.Y. Getting Started - Researching Your Family's Heritage: 7 p.m. Aug. 6.
 With so much information avail-



able online and at the library, getting started on your family history has never been easier. This program will explore key resources, including census records and newspapers, online tools and databases to assist you in your research, and successful strategies for finding your elusive ancestors. Michigan/Genealogy Coordinator at the Library of Michigan, Kris Rzepczynski will be the presenter.

D.I.Y. Auto Mechanics - Oil Change and Basic Electrical: 10-11:30 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 8, at the Performance Pavilion.

Mark Batko, experienced Automobile Technology instructor at the William D. Ford Career Technical Center, will demonstrate general preventative maintenance and fluids for your automobile. Some will be able to work on their own vehicle under Mark's supervision. Sign up at the Reference Desk to reserve your place.

Drop-in Knitting Nights @ the library: Every Wednesday evening at 7 p.m. Everyone welcome.

Chess Night: Every Thursday evening at 7 p.m.
 Like to play chess? Want to get better? Come to the library and play a couple of games. Bring your own board or use one of ours. Novices to Chess masters are all welcome. No sign-up required.

There's still time to join the Adult Summer Reading Program, "DIY @ Your Library." Programs, prizes and reading now through Aug. 15.

Information Central was compiled by Reference and Young Adult librarian Bridget Sturdy. The William P. Faust Public Library is at 6123 Central City Parkway, Westland. For more information, call (734) 326-6123.



Members of the Forum Fitness WAM 300 team include Steven Headland (top row from left), Steve Headland, Wendy Headland, the team's Wish Hero Sarah S., Keith Sarkozi, Steve Sarkozi, Heather Sarkozi, Teresa Hulack (bottom row, from left), Stacey Sullivan, Nicole Zeyen.

Forum Fitness team rides in Make-A-Wish bicycle tour

A team of seven riders and two volunteers sponsored by the Forum Fitness Center were among 800 cyclists who rode 300 miles for the benefit of the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

The Wish-A-Mile 300 Bicycle Tour, affectionately known as WAM, is in its 22nd year. It is the largest single Make-A-Wish fund-raising event in the United States, garnering \$1.52 million this year. The cyclists, 100 volunteers, six semi trucks, 5,000 bottles of Gatorade, 10 bicycle mechanics, 30 volunteer massage therapists, 15 volunteer medics all made the three-day, 300-mile journey from Traverse City to Chelsea July 24-26.

And it was all to grant 250 wishes to deserving Michigan wish kids.

The Forum team raised a total of \$7,300. For three days the team woke up at around 4:30 a.m. and hit the road by 6:00 a.m. They slept in gyms, lived out of duffle bags and showered in a semi-truck. Their first stop in the 300-mile bike tour was Ferris State University after they put an amazing 100 miles under their belts. The team experienced some heavy rain early on but for the most part they were able to dodge the rain and rumbles.

After some much needed rest, the team headed out for day two ready to com-

plete their longest ride of 113 miles. During their stay in Dewitt, everyone enjoyed Saturday's award ceremony, the "Wammies." One of the ceremonies most moving moments was watching Wish Hero Amanda having her wish granted which marked the Michigan Chapter's 6,000th wish. Amanda's video of meeting Elmo earlier in the day was priceless.

The third and final day was a ride moved by pure adrenaline. With sore legs tired backs and worn out knees the riders pushed through the last 87 miles and crossed the finish line, experiencing the Heroes Hurrah at the Chelsea fairgrounds.

During the Heroes Hurrah, families enjoyed a fun afternoon of face painting, cotton candy, games and music. Riders got to meet their Wish Hero and hear all about their wish. Afterwards they are rewarded with hugs, smiles, and a medal from their Wish Hero.

Team Forum Fitness Center relaxed later at a team barbecue and reminisced over the weekends events. Before their bodies even had time to recover they were planning fund-raising ideas for next year's ride. The team also has posted photos and comments about WAM on Myspace.com/forumfitness or at ForumFitnessCenter.com.

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Distributions from annuities are taxed

Q: Dear Rick: I recently lost my job and I need money to cover my bills. I received a severance package but that is gone. I am trying to find another job (for a year) until I am eligible for Social Security. Once I can collect Social Security, I'll be in pretty good shape. Problem is I cannot find a job. I need about \$25,000 to cover my expenses. Where should I take the money from? I have an IRA and I also have outside of the IRA three fixed annuities. My friends recommend taking money from the annuity because it will be tax free. I am in the low tax bracket and have had the annuities for about 10 years so there are no penalties.



Money Matters

Rick Bloom

A: What your friends told you is incorrect about the tax consequences from the annuities. Contrary to what some people believe, annuities are not tax free. Annuities grow tax deferred, however, when there is a distribution there is a tax.

Whether you have a fixed or a variable annuity, the tax consequences are basically the same. All the earnings that are reinvested back into the annuity are not currently subject to income tax. The money grows on a tax deferred basis until it is withdrawn.

For purposes of this discussion the annuities referred to are not qualified annuities, meaning they were not purchased within an IRA or a retirement savings program. On those annuities, when you begin taking distributions, the first money that you receive is the interest accumulated on the policy. Because this money is interest and not return of principal, it is taxed to you at your ordinary income tax bracket. Once all the interest has been distributed, the next distributions are the returns on your investments. This money, because it is your money coming back to you, is not subject to income tax.

It would be nice if when you did take a distribution from an annuity you could pick and choose whether that distribution was interest or return of principal. Unfortunately, you do not have that alternative. Annuities are taxed under the last-in, first-out principal which states that when money is distributed, the first money distributed is interest income. For example, if 10 years ago you purchased a fixed annuity for \$50,000 and today it's worth \$70,000, the first \$20,000 (\$70,000 - \$50,000 = \$20,000) is subject to income tax. That money is taxed at your ordinary

income tax bracket which, unfortunately, is your highest income tax bracket. Anything above the \$20,000 that is distributed is your return of principal, which is not subject to income tax.

As to the tax consequences of a traditional IRA, whatever is distributed to you is taxed at your ordinary income bracket. It does not matter whether it is income or principal. If you had a non-tax deductible IRA, there are differ-

ent tax consequences.

One of the other major differences between how the annuity is taxed versus how an IRA is taxed is that non-qualified annuities are not subject to minimum required distributions. With an IRA, when you turn 70½ you must begin taking distributions. Most annuities do not require distributions until someone is in his/her 90s.

In this situation, it's not the tax consequences that should

govern, but rather the return on investments. I would look at how the IRAs are invested versus the return you're receiving on your annuity. Make the decision based upon the economics and not the tax consequences. Of course, after you withdraw the money it is important to make sure that your portfolio remains balanced and diversified.

Just as it is important to have a strategy when your portfolio is

in a growth mode, it is equally important to have a strategy for withdrawals. I tell investors that age is immaterial when it comes to establishing a portfolio, it is important when implementing a strategy for withdrawals. The reason being required minimum distributions, which you must factor into the equation when determining where to begin withdrawals.

Most people assume the best strategy is to allow an IRA to

grow tax deferred for as long as possible. I do not subscribe to that rule. After all, that can put someone in the position of unnecessarily paying higher taxes than necessary because of the required minimum distribution. Sometimes, a better strategy, because of the tax brackets, is to begin withdrawing money from an IRA sooner rather than later. It all depends upon your individual situation.

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HOSPITAL WELLNESS CALENDAR

Garden City Hospital, at 6245 Inkster Road, offers a weekly schedule of health and wellness programs for residents. The lineup includes:
Monday, Aug. 3
 Childbirth Education (fourth of six classes) at 6 p.m. The six-week course prepares the expectant mother and coach for labor and delivery. Class runtime is 2 1/2 hours. There is a \$60 fee. Medicaid is accepted. A refresher course also is available. Call (734) 458-4330 for more information or to register.
Tuesday, Aug. 4
 Get Up and Move at 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. The exercise program is designed to help you get up and get moving, and is the perfect compliment to your diet program. Fee is \$30 per month. For more information, call (734) 458-3242.
 Have your blood pressure checked (free) and your cholesterol level (\$5) or Lipid panel (\$10), tested on the first Tuesday of the month in the Garden City Hospital Lobby from noon to 2 p.m. No registration is necessary. Call (734) 458-4330 for

more information.
 Strength and Stretch at 2 p.m. is a non-aerobic exercise class designed to help strengthen and define muscles, as well as increase flexibility. Each class combines a variety of equipment, including free weights, medicine balls, balance balls and Therabands. Fee is \$30 per month. For more information, call (734) 458-3242.
Wednesday, Aug. 4
 Free blood pressure testing for senior citizens at 10:30 a.m. at the Maplewood Community Center on Maplewood just west of Merriman. Call (734) 458-4330 for more information.
 CPAP and BIPAP Mask Fitting Clinic at 5 p.m. Visit the Sleep Disorders Center of Michigan, 35600 Central City Parkway, Suite 103, Westland, from 5-6 p.m. any Wednesday for a free mask fitting clinic. No appointment is needed. Call (734) 458-3330 for more information.
 CPR - Infant/Child at 6 p.m. Approved by the American Red Cross, the class provides hands-on CPR train-

ing to those who care for children. The class is offered at Garden City Hospital's Health and Education Center, located at 6701 Harrison, just north of Maplewood. There is a \$40 fee. Call Community Education at (734) 458-4330 for more information.
 Baby Care at 6 p.m. (second of two classes) The class helps parents with little or no experience caring for young children as they prepare for a new baby. The class takes place at Garden City Hospital's Harrison Education Center. Cost is \$40 for one or two parents. Call (734) 458-4330 for more information.
 Eating Disorders Support Group at 6:30 p.m. is for individuals with anorexia, bulimia, and compulsive and binge eating disorders. Men, women and teens invited to attend. Call (734) 458-4330 for more information.
Thursday, Aug. 6
 Get Up and Move at 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. The exercise program is designed to help you get up and get moving, and

is the perfect compliment to your diet program. Fee is \$30 per month. For more information, call (734) 458-3242.
 Strength and Stretch at 2 p.m. is a non-aerobic exercise class designed to help strengthen and define muscles, as well as increase flexibility. Each class combines a variety of equipment, including free weights, medicine balls, balance balls and Therabands. Fee is \$30 per month. For more information, call (734) 458-3242.
Daily programs
 Garden City Hospital's Health Enhancement Center offers daily programs Monday through Friday in Phase II and III Cardiac Rehabilitation/Cardiac Wellness, a Peripheral Vascular Disease Exercise and Strength Training Program, and a Diabetes Exercise Program. These classes are presented and monitored by certified exercise physiologists. Contact the Health Enhancement Center at (734) 458-3242 to select an exercise program specifically designed for you.

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

Car show
 American Legion Post 32 host a car show 5-8 p.m. every Thursday evening throughout the summer at the post, 9318 Newburgh, just south of Ann Arbor Trail. The post kitchen is open and serves a variety of dinners for \$7 each and also have grilled items like hot dogs, hamburgers and sloppy joes outside. There also is a DJ, 50/50 raffle and bake sale hosted by the American Legion Riders. Everyone is welcome.
School registration
 St. Damian School is accepting students for the 3-4-year-old preschool program as well as students in kindergarten through eighth-grade. The school is fully accredited by MNSAA,

with certified, experienced teachers, hot lunch program and many other school programs and extracurricular activities. A licensed morning and afternoon latchkey is available. School tours are available upon request. St. Damian School is at 29891 Joy in Westland. Call (734) 427-1680 for more information or visit the school's website at www.stdamian.com.
Crafters needed
 St. Theodore CCW has table rental available for \$25 for its Fall Craft Show 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 10, at the church, 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland. Contact Mary at (734) 425-4421 (voicemail 10) or Mary Ellen at (734) 261-8821. No vendors.
 Crafters are needed for the 21st annual Arts and Crafts Show Saturday, Nov. 20, at Sts. Peter & Paul Church Hall, 750 N. Beech Daly, Dearborn Heights. For more information, call Deb Moga at (248) 946-0173 or Virginia Moore at (734) 522-9653.
Community Baby Shower
 Wayne Metropolitan Community Action Agency's 12th Annual Community Baby Shower will be held 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 24, at Wayne County Community College's Downriver Campus in Taylor. The Community Baby Shower is a free event for low-income expectant parents and those with infants up to 3 months of age by Sept. 24. Parents will receive valuable information and resources regarding their new bundles of joy. Guest speakers will share information regarding family safety, parenting tips and healthy relationships. Participants will also enjoy lunch, prizes and raffles throughout the event. Call for information regarding on-site childcare. Space is limited. Call (734) 246-2280, Ext. 122, for more information or to register. Callers who reach a voice mailbox should leave their name and telephone number so that their call can be returned and the registration process can be completed.
Academic Pathways
 Academic Pathways Cooperative Preschool, at 30330 Schoolcraft, Livonia, will host open houses 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.
Class reunions
 Members of Garden City High School's Class of 1989 need to buy their tickets now for 20th class reunion 6 p.m. to midnight Aug. 29 at Joy Manor in Westland. Tickets are \$75 and include 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 gchs1989reunion@hotmail.com.
 Wayne Memorial Class of 1983 will hold its 26th class reunion noon until dark Saturday, Aug. 29, at Independence Lake Park in Whitmore Lake. The reunion is a family-friendly pot luck event, bring the kids. A donation of any amount - \$5-\$10 suggested per family - is suggested to cover the cost of pavilion rental. For details, call Mary Gills Orwin at (734) 968-6368.

Fish Dial-A-Ride
 Fish Dial-A-Ride of Western Wayne County is seeking volunteer drivers. A nonprofit community service group, it provides door-to-door rides to non-emergency medical and other necessary appointments for senior and disabled residents of Garden City, Livonia and Westland who are unable to drive and have no alternative transportation. Volunteers can specify days, times, and areas they're willing to drive. For additional information, call (888) 660-2007 and leave a message.
Higher Rock Cafe
 The Wayne-Westland Salvation Army presents the Higher Rock Cafe the second and fourth Fridays of the month at its facility at 2300 Venoy, south of Palmer, Westland. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. Live bands perform beginning at 8 p.m. Admission is free, however, a free will offering will be taken to support the bands. Check out Higher Rock on the Web at www.tsa.higherrockcafe.4t.com or call (734) 722-3660.
VOLUNTEERS
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.

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Wednesday, August 5, 2009

EXTRA 20% OFF
 a single sale price apparel item

or take an **EXTRA 15% OFF**
 a single sale price accessory, footwear, intimate apparel, maternity, ladies' or men's outerwear or suit, or men's tailored clothing item

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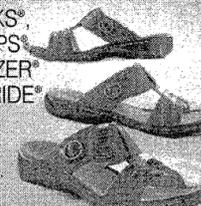


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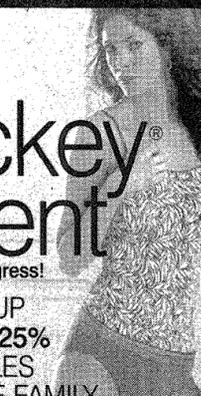
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Now in progress!

STOCK UP
 & SAVE 25%
 ON STYLES
 FOR THE FAMILY



yellow dot clearance!

save **75%**

and more on original prices when you take an **extra 70% off** permanently reduced summer apparel, accessories and footwear

Sorry, Seniors' discount and coupons not valid on Yellow Dot Clearance.

SENIORS AGE 55 OR BETTER GET THE SWEETEST DEAL OF ALL!

SAVE YOUR **EXTRA 20%** ON MOST REGULAR AND SALE PRICE APPAREL WHEN YOU USE YOUR PARISIEN CARD

extra 15% off accessories, footwear, intimate apparel, maternity, ladies' & men's outerwear and suits, and men's tailored clothing, **extra 10% off** toys. Subject to credit approval.

or use any other method of payment and take an **extra 15% off** most regular and sale price apparel, **extra 10% off** accessories, footwear, intimate apparel, maternity, ladies' & men's outerwear and suits, men's tailored clothing and toys. Some exclusions apply; see below for details.

- NO COUPONS TO CLIP!
- SAVE ON REGULAR PRICE MERCHANDISE!
- SAVE OVER AND OVER AGAIN!

Seniors' discount cannot be used in conjunction with any other coupon or special offer. Due to this special savings event, the customary manufacturers' exclusions apply. Event excludes Yellow Dot Clearance, Incredible Value merchandise, Bonus Buys, Door Busters, all fine jewelry & fine watches, all cosmetics & fragrance, bridge sportswear, Brahmin, Coach handbags, Columbia apparel/outerwear/accessories, Dockers apparel/accessories, Levi's, Tempur-Pedic, electronics/Tech Trek department, all furniture/mattresses/area rugs/furniture accessories. Also excludes selected regular price women's, men's and children's better apparel, better & designer accessories & shoes, Godiva and better Home Store merchandise & collectibles. Not valid on Breast Cancer Awareness merchandise, special orders, gift cards or in service departments. Cannot be applied to mail/phone/internet orders or previously purchased merchandise. Look for the special signs throughout the store or see your sales associate for details.

For the store nearest you, visit us at bonton.com.
 Seniors' discount and One Day Sale prices effective Wednesday, August 5, 2009, unless otherwise indicated. No price adjustments for previously purchased clearance merchandise. Entire Stock offers exclude Clearance and Incredible Value merchandise. Regular and original prices reflect offering prices in effect during the 90 days before or after this sale, but not necessarily during the past 30 days. Savings may not be based on actual sales. Intermediate markdowns may have been taken. Merchandise, style and color availability may vary by store and online. [21184B]

P·A·R·I·S·I·A·N
 COME TO THE RIGHT PLACE®

Project 100 encourages giving \$100 at a time

A stranger giving away \$100. That's just what happened to a Garden City resident who received the money recently from Project 100.

In a posting on the Project 100 website, Scott T. wrote: "What?! Some stranger giving away \$100 with no strings attached? No Way! I have a better chance on the lottery! That was me last week, until the act of giving opened my eyes and was completely shocked when Jeremy approached me out in front of Comerica park. All I could ask was, Why me?"

Project 100, a non-profit orga-

nization whose sole purpose is to encourage the positive aspects of giving and community participation has announced that over the next 100 days, it will randomly select 100 people to each receive \$100 dollars no strings attached.

"We believe that the act of giving changes everything," said Jeremy Cybulski, Project 100 spokesperson. "That's why over the next 100 days, Project 100 will be visiting various Oakland and Wayne county communities and giving away crisp new \$100 dollar bills."

The organization assures there are no requirements and no

strings attached.

"Recipients can do whatever they wish with the money," Cybulski. "All we ask is that they think about what they can do to give back to their community — whether it's volunteering for an event or helping out a neighbor in need. The specific act doesn't matter because even the smallest act of kindness can create a spark for change."

Project 100 is encouraging members of the community to visit their website, www.whatisproject100.com, where they can sign up to receive a visit from Cybulski's team and potentially

become the next \$100 dollar recipient. "The website is a great source of information containing a whole section of ideas on how people can get out and volunteer in their communities. Plus if they sign up, they could be next."

Project 100 is a non-profit organization whose mission is to positively impact the community and its residents by encouraging people to give to others in any way they can. Additionally, Project 100, through its website www.whatisproject100.com, is an educational resource for the community on the subjects of volunteering and giving back.

National Night Out is Tuesday at Target

It won't quite be night time, but Tuesday from noon to 4 p.m. the Target store at 35402 Warren Road, will have plenty of things to do as part of the 26th annual National Night Out.

There will be a cookout with free food, raffles, games and give-aways at the Westland

NNO being held in the north-west portion of the store's parking lot. Also participating in the event will be the Westland Police and Fire departments as well as other community departments.

Target's partnership helps underwrite the costs associated with making this program avail-

able to more than 11,000 communities nationwide. As part of a commitment to create safer and healthier communities, Target is partnering with the National Association of Town Watch as national sponsor of National Night Out.

Held on the first Tuesday

each August, the event encourages year-round involvement in crime and drug prevention activities as well as strengthens police-community partnerships. Since 1983 NNO has grown to include more than 35 million people from more than 11,000 communities.

FOODS • FLORAL SUPPLIES • SILK FLOWERS • WEARABLE ART • CRAFTS • FRAMES • CUSTOM FRAMING • CHRISTMAS SHOPPE • NEEDLE ART

All Artist Kits and Art Paint Sets

Poster Making Supplies
FEATURING ARTSKILLS & 3M

Fiddle Stix® Decorative Office Stationary & Coordinating Pieces

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FEATURING WINSOR & NEWTON, MASTER'S TOUCH, ROYAL LANGKNICKEL, ROBERT SIMMONS & MORE!

Poster Frames & Wall Frames with Glass

Candles, Candle Holders & Reed Diffusers
EXCLUDES TEALIGHTS, VOTIVES & CANDLE VALUE PACKS

Ceramics, Pottery & Polyresin
INCLUDES SEASONAL TABLE TOP, BLUE & WHITE, ORIENTAL, SOUTHWEST & MUCH MORE!

Bandanas
LICENSED, SOLIDS & PRINTS
INCLUDES SEASONAL

Children's Medium Boxed Activity Kits
FEATURING MEGA BRANDS, NSI, AMAY & CREATIVE KIDS

Self-Sealing Storage Bags
2x3 • 3x4
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Bead Stringing Thread, Wire & Cord

Entire Stock of 54" Home Dec Fabric
Prints, Solids & Sheers
PREVIOUSLY REDUCED
ITEMS NOT INCLUDED

All Tempera Paint, Window Writers & Poster Paint Markers

Artist Pads & Sheet Paper
FEATURING CANSON, STRATHMORE, CAROLINA PAD & MORE!

All Construction Paper & Poster Board

All Art Markers
INCLUDES SETS & INDIVIDUALS.
FEATURING PRISMACOLOR, SHARPIE & MORE!

Custom Frames
(APPLIES TO FRAME ONLY)
THIS OFFER AVAILABLE ONLY AT STORE. ADDRESSES LISTED BELOW.

All Woven Baskets, Storage Baskets & Hampers

Metalware
INCLUDES ITEMS WITH DECORATIVE BEADED ACCENTS.
EXCLUDES FURNITURE.

Jacquard Pearl-EX Pigments
3.47
OUR EVERYDAY LOW 4.47

All Coin & Stamp Collecting Supplies
FEATURING WHITMAN, H.E. HARRIS & CO. & ULTRA OPTIX.

DIAMOND TECH Power Max II Grinder
FOR ALL YOUR STAINED GLASS PROJECTS

Jewelry Tools

Plisse, Pique & Seersucker
PRINTS & SOLIDS

Artist Pencils & Pastels
INCLUDES SETS & INDIVIDUALS.
FEATURING GRAPHITE, WATERCOLOR, COLORED, MUNGYO, PRISMACOLOR, DERWENT, PENTEL, GENERAL'S & MORE!

All Display Boards & 20x30 Foam Boards

Christmas Ornaments
INCLUDING CHRISTMAS BASICS & ROBERT STANLEY BLOWN GLASS

Decorative Treetops
INCLUDES METAL, PLASTIC & FABRIC ANGELS & SANTAS

Portrait Frames & Document Frames with Glass

Floral Arrangements
INCLUDES FLOWERS, GREENERY, FALL.
EXCLUDES CUSTOM DESIGNS.

Dried Naturals
INCLUDES FALL, CHRISTMAS, PRESERVED DRIED FLOWERS, PODS, BRANCHES, GRASS, STICKS, FEATHERS, FILLERS, GRAINS, BOUQUETS & BOWL FILLERS.

Floral
Categories Shown

All Flowering & Greenery Decor
Includes Bushes, Stems, Garlands, Wreaths & Swags.
EXCLUDES CUSTOM DESIGNS & POTTED TREES.

Entire Stock of Scrapbooking Rub-Ons
FEATURING THE PAPER STUDIO™
MAKING MEMORIES, AMERICAN CRAFTS & MORE OVER 100 TO CHOOSE FROM!

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"ADD PHOTOS OR ART" CHOOSE FROM MUGS, SNOW GLOBES AND MORE!

Entire Stock of Scrapbook Totes & Organizers

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FOR CUTTING, EMBOSING & STENCILING

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Flour Sack Towels

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45" WIDE
100% COTTON
INCLUDES APPAREL COTTON PRINTS

Entire Stock of Sewing & Quilting Notions

Art Supplies BACK TO SCHOOL
Categories Shown
30% Off

All Furniture
Select Group of Furniture
Now Marked... **66% Off**

Christmas Trim-A-Tree
Categories Shown
40% Off

Christmas Ornaments
"A Tree for Me" Miniature Ornaments & Mini Trees

Floral
Categories Shown
50% Off

Floral Arrangements
60% Off
OUR EVERYDAY LOW PRICES

Scrapbooking
Categories Shown
30% Off

Scrapbooking Rub-Ons
40% Off
OUR EVERYDAY LOW PRICES

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Coats Luster Sheen
4 OZ.
3.99
OUR EVERYDAY LOW 4.99

Needleart Categories Shown

Flour Sack Towels
28 x 28
33 x 38
3.99
OUR EVERYDAY LOW 5.49

Coats Luster Sheen
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OUR EVERYDAY LOW 4.99

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OUR EVERYDAY LOW 6.49

Coats Luster Sheen
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Colonial Packaged Stamped Cross Blanks

Flour Sack Towels
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OUR EVERYDAY LOW 8.99

Coats Luster Sheen
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Still got it

Older actors find a home with over-50 troupe

BY BRAD KADRICH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Before Tom Strock got back into acting five years ago, the only on-stage action he'd seen was in high school productions of *Our Town* and *Time Out for Ginger*.

But considering Strock is 69 years old, the high school work came some time ago. Still, when he went looking for something to do a few years ago, he opted for the grease paint and stage lights.

Now Strock is a leading man, heading a contingent of senior actors in the new Still Got It Players' production of *Any Body for Tea*, which opens at Canton's Village Theater at Cherry Hill later this month.

Strock is among a dozen actors, all at least age 50, who comprise the Still Got It Players. "I've always admired actors," said Strock, who first joined the



Actors Lanna Collins of Garden City (from left), Linda Trygg of Westland, Joanna McKay of Canton and Robin Hoover of Willis rehearse "Funeral Tea."

Canton Senior Players in 2004. "It seemed like quite a challenge. I figured if I didn't get a part and it didn't work out, well, at least I tried."

It worked out fine for Strock

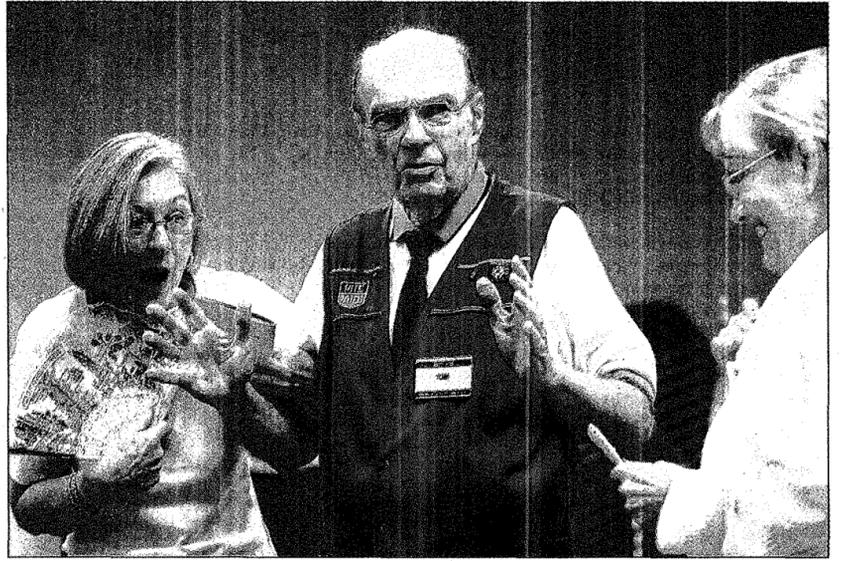
and the other actors in the group, the brainchild of 54-year-old director Debbie Lannen, who said she tired of watching play after play without any substantive roles for senior citizens.

Lannen, a former dance studio owner who holds a bachelor of fine arts degree from Wayne State University, said the Still Got It Players gives "something to do" to elder citizens who "aren't all ready to sit at home." "A lot of times there aren't a lot of parts for the older actor," said Lannen, who directed the premiere of the musical *Father Bingo* at the Detroit Music Hall Center for Performing Arts. "This group is focused on finding roles for that age group."

There are a dozen actors filling 14 roles in the two initial plays. The group focuses first on its fledgling productions, both one-act plays (the other is *Funeral Tea*) designed, Lannen said, to make it easier for the older actors to memorize lines and stage directions.

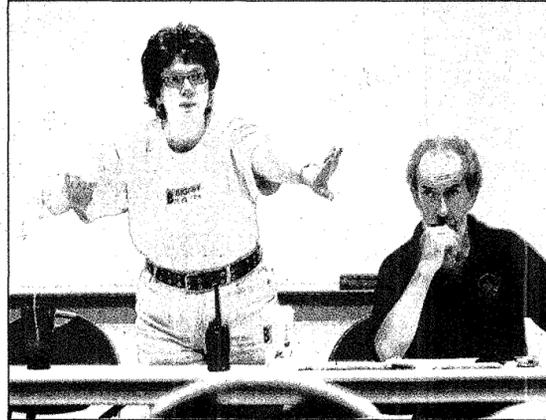
Linda Trygg of Westland said older actors can get a bit discouraged trying out for plays and seeing nothing but youngsters getting the roles.

"Half the time you go to rehearsals and you see a bunch of 20-year-olds," Trygg said. "You know you can't compete with that."



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Still Got It Players actors Marion Busa of Canton, Tom Strock of Canton, and Lanna Collins of Garden City rehearse "Any Body For Tea?"



Director Debbie Lannen and set designer Michael Burden of Redford watch a rehearsal of "Any Body for Tea?"

That's because actors over 50 are in the fourth stage of what he says are five stages of an acting career, according to Michael Burden of Redford, the set designer for Still Got It's production.

"First is, 'Who's Michael?' followed by 'Get me Michael!'" Burden said, smiling. "The third stage is 'Get me a Michael type,' followed by 'Get me a YOUNG Michael' and then, 'Who's Michael?' again."

So far, the group is having fun with the production. The two plays — *Anybody for Tea?* by C.B. Gilford and *Funeral Tea* by Pat Wilson — put the focus on a couple of different groups of

ladies.

"In *Anybody for Tea?* is a wonderful group of elderly ladies dying to meet the handsome detective across the street, and the lengths they go to meet him are hilarious and quite unexpected," Lannen said. "*Funeral Tea* introduces us to a different group of eccentric ladies faced with the dilemma and privilege of finding the perfect resting place for a favorite uncle."

Robin Hoover, 50, of Willis, Mich., (between Belleville and Ann Arbor) joined the Spotlight Players for their production of *Pajama Game*, the first acting experience of her life. Being a part of the Still Got It Players

TAKING THE STAGE

What: Still Got It Players productions of "Any Body for Tea" and "Funeral Tea"

When: Aug. 26-27, 1 p.m.; Aug. 28-29, 7 p.m.; Aug. 30, 2 p.m.

Where: Village Theater at Cherry Hill in Canton

Who: Still Got It Players features actors from Plymouth, Canton, Redford, Garden City, Westland and Northville

Tickets: \$15 for adults; \$13 for seniors/students under 19

Info: www.spotlightplayersmi.org or call (734) 734-480-4945

fulfills a lifelong wish.

"I always wanted to act, but I was the youngest of 11 children, so there was never time," Hoover said. "When I turned 50 I said, 'I'm doing it.' My kids thought I was crazy, but I didn't care!"

Lannen, the veteran director, is glad to see her dozen actors having fun.

"They seem to be enjoying it," she said. "They're volunteering to do things, bringing in props from home, things like that. They're excited when they get here."

She stops and smiles. "It's a new activity," she added. "It gives us something to do besides bingo."

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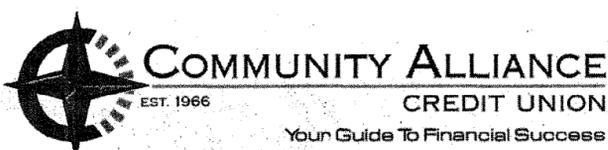
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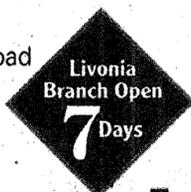
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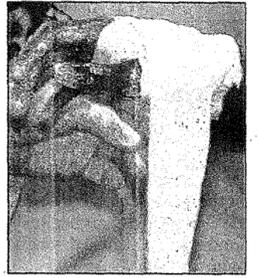
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Jim Toth, editor, (313) 222-6785
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HOMETOWN LIFE



Livonians lead field at tourney

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Jimmy Johnson proved Wednesday that getting around a golf course takes more than a driver.

The 17-year-old left-hander, who will be a senior this fall at Livonia Franklin High School, successfully defended his Boys 16-17 age group title with a 75, the top round on the day in the Motor City Junior Championship hosted by Livonia's Whispering Willows Golf Course.

Johnson captured his division by a four-stroke margin over Canton's Kyle Korte and

Livonian Adam Yarber, both of whom carded 79s.

"I'd been hitting the driver good, but I was a little off today," said Johnson, who shot 37 on the front nine and 38 on the back side. "I played it safe. I hit a lot of irons off the tees. I didn't want to do anything stupid."

Despite a triple bogey, a double and a pair of bogeys, Johnson was able to recover with three birdies on the front nine including the par-5, 478-yard No. 1; and a pair of 390-yard par-4s, No. 6 and No. 9. He also birdied the par-4, 379-yard No. 14.

His 75 was four strokes better than his summer best of 80 shot recently at adjoining Fox Creek Golf Course. During the summer season, Johnson is employed and hones on his game at Livonia's other public course, Idyl Wyld.

"I've worked a lot on my putting," he said.

But during his spring season at Franklin, Johnson admitted "I was a little under average."

Please see **GOLF, B3**



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth YMCA coach Rory McCosky, of Livonia, works with young baseball players on the importance of crouching down to be in the "ready position." McCosky teaches fundamentals of the sport to kids between ages 3-7 in his back-to-back classes.

'Y' NOT BASEBALL?

Plymouth YMCA baseball program helps teach youngsters basics of sport

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Farrand Elementary School's dusty playground diamond is a long way from Comerica Park in more ways than one.

But that doesn't matter to the youngsters — such as those in the Avila family — who are learning all about baseball this summer thanks to a six-week Plymouth YMCA program.

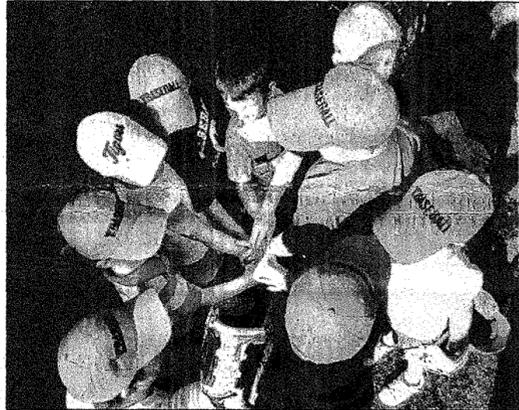
That program includes Monday T-ball sessions for kids ages 3-to-5 immediately followed by youth baseball classes for kids who are just 6 and 7 years old. There are practices and games the rest of the week on the fields behind the Plymouth school.

"I think a lot of parents enjoy the philosophy that the Y has," said Plymouth YMCA program director Jennifer Paffi. "We focus on athletes first, winning second."

"... I think a lot of people like the atmosphere of the Y, and definitely our focus on keeping it fun so that kids want to continue to play sports."

Paffi didn't have to look too far around the Farrand backstop to see examples of happy moms and dads watching their kids soak in the basics of an outdoor sport sometimes overlooked in this era of Guitar Hero and skateboarding.

Please see **BASEBALL, B2**



Youngsters enjoy building that good-old team spirit during the Plymouth YMCA T-Ball class at Farrand Elementary School.

SIDELINES

O&E golf tourney nears

Registration is continuing for the annual Women's Observer & Eccentric Open to be held Saturday, Aug. 8, at Livonia's Whispering Willows Golf Course. Entry fee is \$50 (does not include cart) for the event in which all entrants must have a current USGA index to participate.

Susan Mackinowicz, a special education teacher from Woodhaven and resident of Chesterfield Township, is the two-time defending champion in the event.

For more information, along with pairings and starting times, call (248) 476-4493 (after noon Wednesday, Aug. 5).

MU adds Lucko

Madonna University men's golf coach Steve Mato announced last month that he has signed a pair of transfers out of Oakland Community College including Livonia Churchill grad Tommy Lucko along with James Uelmen of Royal Oak Dondero.

Lucko and Uelmen join Ronnie Pollack, Jr. (Southgate), Kevin Robinson (Churchill), Tyler Skiba (Ossineke) and Erik Taurence (Wyandotte) as 2009-10 MU recruits.

Lucko, a two-time MVP during his days at Churchill, is a two-time Michigan Community College Athletic Association medalist along with being named to the NJCAA Division II Ping All-Region, All-MCCA and All-Eastern Conference teams.

He posted the 20th lowest average in the NJCAA in 2009, carding a 72.9 average per round. He played in the NJCAA Division II Nationals and was also invited to participate in the prestigious

Please see **SIDELINES, A3**

Lakers capture Metro title; Suburban Ice to take over reins

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

From beginning to end, the 2009 Metro Summer Hockey League at Suburban Ice Farmington Hills featured very competitive action from all seven teams. But the Lakers finished what they started, as the regular season winners also spanked the Wolverines, 9-3, in the playoff championship tilt July 26.

"They (the Lakers) were the first place team most of the year," said league president Keith Pietila, who is stepping down after 16 seasons at the helm. "And it's probably been a few years since the best regular season team won the playoffs, too."

Pietila, a Brighton resident, said he is relinquishing league

METRO SUMMER HOCKEY

controls to Suburban (located near Halsted-10 Mile) and is confident the quality of the circuit will be maintained in 2010 and beyond.

"Suburban's going to run it," Pietila emphasized. "It's taking up too much time for me. But the league's going to be exactly the same as it's been through the years."

High-quality players from all over Wayne and Oakland counties lace them up for the summer league, including Wolverine Lake's A.J. Jenks, who plays for the Plymouth Whalers.

In the championship game, the Lakers broke out to a 4-0 lead after one period and built up a 6-

0 cushion, more than enough to withstand a second-period surge by the Wolverines.

For the victors, Livonia's John Mays had the hot hand. He scored three goals and set up another. Tallying two goals each were Novi's Ryan Timar (who also collected a helper) and Brighton's Thor Skalski. Other Lakers to score included James Dragescu (Dearborn Heights) and Brandon Contratto (West Bloomfield), who each drew assists as well.

Tallying a goal and an assist for the Wolverines was Farmington Hills' Adam Phillips.

In net for the championship victory was Josh Block, of Northville.

tsmith@hometownlife.com



The Metro Summer Hockey League champion Lakers celebrate July 26 at Suburban Ice Farmington Hills. In the front row, from left are: James Dragescu, John May (Livonia), Josh Block (Northville) and Alfonso Kolis (Howell). In the back row, from left are: Brandon Fritz (West Bloomfield), Drew Sennhenn (Wixom), Houston Staub (Ann Arbor), Paul Arnott (Holly), Thor Skalski (Brighton), Brandon Contratto (West Bloomfield), Andrew Kruczynski (Westland) and Ryan Timar (Novi).

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TEAM TRYOUTS

• Here's the pitch. Tryouts for the 2010 Canton Cardinals travel baseball teams begin Sunday and continue throughout August.

Two tryout sessions for each group are on tap. First up Sunday at Canton Sports Center are 11U tryouts, from 9-to-11 a.m., followed by 13U (Noon-to-2 p.m.), 14U (2-to-4 p.m.), 9U (4-to-6 p.m.), 10U (6-to-8 p.m.) and 12U (also 6-to-8 p.m.). Tryouts also are set for Aug. 11 and 12 (at Heritage Park) and Aug. 30 (at CSC).

The Greater Canton Youth Baseball & Softball Association's travel baseball program seeks competitive and serious athletes willing to commit to weekend tournaments and games outside the community.

Pre-registration for the tryouts is required. To do so, e-mail or call the following coaches and provide name, birth date, phone number and address (for residency requirements): 9U, Alan Zidsik, lzidzik@sbcglobal.net, (734) 397-5739; 10U, Jim Good, goodjames@comcast.net, (810) 397-6272; 11U, Rob Hirschman, hirshmal@yahoo.com, (734) 981-1402; 12U, Dan Hejka, cantoncardinalscoach@yahoo.com, (734) 776-3918; 13U, Jim Hejka, jhejkacardinals@yahoo.com, (734) 658-2446; 14U, Mike Driscoll, miked.amfinancial@tds.net, (734) 968-8700.

• The Farmington Hills Expos U14 Travel Baseball Team will be holding tryouts for the 2009-10 season Aug. 8-9 from 9-11 a.m. at Founders Sports Park Field #6, located on 8 Mile Road between Halsted and

Farmington.

This second-year team is based in Farmington Hills and managed by a former professional player and coach with 10 years of experience, including Major League Baseball. The manager also has experience with pitching and catching instruction at the professional level.

The coaching staff places an emphasis on instruction with the goal to prepare players to have the skills needed to play at the high school level. The Expos will play in the Kensington Valley League and participate in approximately six tournaments.

Players are asked to arrive 30 minutes early to register. For more information, contact Jeff Tomski at (248) 613-8469 or fourystet@aol.com.

• Redford Union's boys soccer program will be holding tryouts for its varsity and junior varsity squads Aug. 12-14 from 3-5 p.m. at MacGowan School, 18255 Kinloch, in Redford. For more

information, call (313) 995-4234.

• Warrior baseball, a USSSA Major 14-year-old travel team, will conduct open tryouts Aug. 5-6 at 6 p.m. at Founders Sports Park (Field 5) in Farmington Hills. Players must pre-register by e-mailing warriorhq@aol.com or by calling (248) 842-7044 and be present on both dates. Individual tryouts can be arranged for players with schedule conflicts.

The team has been formed with the goal of preparing players to play high school baseball at the varsity level and specific objectives of earning a berth in

the USSSA Elite World Series in Florida.

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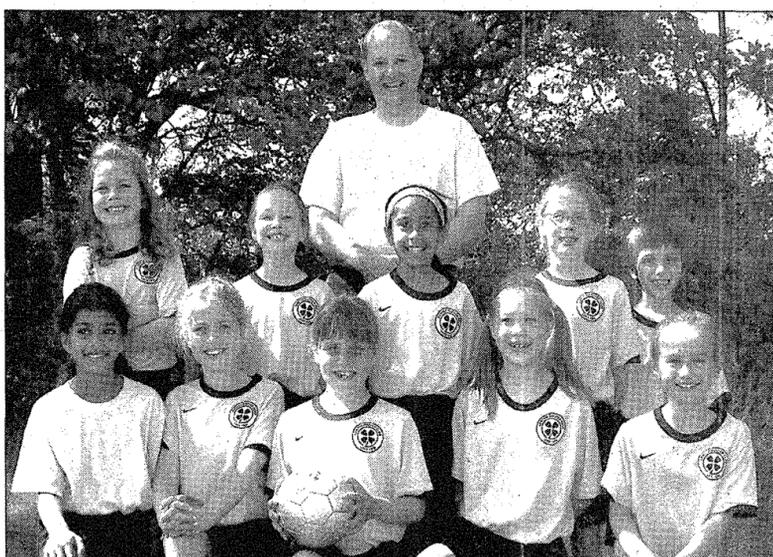
Tryouts for the 12-and-under Motor City Bulldogs will be from noon-2 p.m., Saturday-Sunday, July 31-Aug. 2, at Wayne Ford Civic League, 1645 S. Wayne Road.

• Baseball travel tryouts for the Livonia Baseball-Softball Association will be available for the following age groups at Bicentennial Park (field No. 8):

9-and-under - 9-11 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 22; 11-and-under (Titans) - 2-4 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 22; 10-and-under - noon-2 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 23; and 12-and-under (Tarheels) - 2-4 p.m. Report a half-hour early prior to the tryout time to register. Age is determined as of May 1, 2010.

Manager are also wanted for the 9- and 10-and-under teams.

For more information, call director Bruce Rosen at (313) 531-0721; or visit www.livoniaabsa.com. You can also e-mail Rosen at MBLR1218@aol.com.



Back-to-back

The Canton Soccer Club's U8 girls team won the Division A championship again this spring, for the second year in a row. The team, nicknamed the Sunshines, is coached by Mike Ross. Kneeling (from left) are Aisha Patel, Sarah Hammond, Katie Clark, Nicole Emhke and Brenyel Ison. In the second row (from left) are Eve Davis, Lucy Ross, Sahana Prabhu, Natalie Tyszkiewicz and Emily Thibodeau. Standing in the back row is coach Ross.

Rams tune up for tourney play

With the 20-and-under All-American Amateur Baseball Association Tournament in Johnstown, Pa. upcoming, the Michigan Rams tried to stay sharp with exhibition games Thursday against Jet Box and Tuesday versus the Ohio Monarchs.

Facing Jet Box in play at Wayne State University, the Rams could muster just five hits against a variety of Jet Box hurlers in dropping a 3-0 decision. Adam Kaminski drilled a two-run home run to highlight a three-run fifth inning as Jet Box moved its season mark to 31-11.

The Rams, Livonia

Collegiate Baseball League runner-up, had single hits from Nick Plinka, Joe Barnes, Brett Mazmanian, Justin Forster and Jake Rhodes.

The two teams are scheduled to square off once again Sunday afternoon in a double-header that will end pre-tourney exhibition play for both squads.

In the first of two games with the Monarchs at Adrian College, D.J. Henderson knocked in a pair of runs as the Monarchs, headed to the AAABA Regional in Zanesville, Ohio, came away with a 4-2 win over the Rams. Rhodes, Aaron Cieslak and

Steve Anderson each collected two hits for the Rams, who again used a variety of pitchers in the twinbill to stay sharp.

Forster and Anderson each had an RBI, while Cieslak scored both runs.

In the nightcap, the Rams 23-13 overall, salvaged a split with a 6-3 triumph.

Rhodes went 2-for-3 with an RBI and two runs scored, while Madonna University's Plinka (Livonia Stevenson) knocked in three runs. Cieslak also had two RBI. Anderson also scored twice.

Mike Joseph, Matt Frigo and Ponte knocked in runs for the Monarchs.

BASEBALL

FROM PAGE B1

QUALITY TIME

In fact, Plymouth's Steve and Bernice Avila watched with smiles on their faces as sons Cormac and Ian "Qian Qian" (ages 7 and 6, respectively) along with their 5-year-old daughter Marian collected serious baseball knowledge from instructor Rory McCosky.

"This is the second class (out of six)," Steve Avila said. "She (Marian) just told me today that she learned how to catch and she learned how to run the bases.

"Her and my son Qian Qian are having a really good time. It's all fundamentals. The staff's been quality."

Cormac is in his second year with the youth baseball program and showed he is learning a thing or two. The lefthanded batter ripped a line drive into center field and dashed around the bases; every player gets three swings per at bat.

"He's been looking forward to it (the program)," Steve continued. "He had a real good experience last year."

Farrand is proving to be an oasis of baseball learning, with class instructors such as Livonia resident McCosky teaching the kids with drills, encouragement and all-important repetition.

"We're on our feet, guys, we're on our feet," said McCosky to the youngsters, feeding the ball to mitt-pounding kids who are standing in a semi-circle in front of him.

BIG ON BASICS

He spends time working with them on things like the ready position (knees bent, hands in front) and moving their feet to catch a rubber-coated ball when it is not coming directly at them.

And when the youngsters are standing in the infield, there are miniature orange cones to approximate where they should stand (third base, shortstop, etc.).

"Oh yeah, you try to teach them the fundamentals," said McCosky following the classes. "That's where you start, you got to start throwing and catching and teaching them the other positions and try to keep it fun."

For example, kids who are trying to figure out how to throw a baseball are taught about the "Nose, toes, throw" formula, Paffi said.

"They have to point their nose at the target so they know where to throw," she stressed. But McCosky said he doesn't back off from telling kids about their mistakes, either.

"You let them know or else they're not going to learn," he explained. "We learn from our mistakes and that's something they have to learn, too."

Keeping the YMCA mission statement in mind, he'll take the edge off when doing so.

"Sometimes it's the tone of voice, but mostly I just like to point it out with them on a one-on-one basis and correct what they're doing wrong," McCosky said. "And, just keep reminding them — especially with the little kids, you got to be repetitive."

With the YMCA core val-

ues of respect, responsibility, honesty and caring front and center during the classes, a chalk circle drawn around the batter's boxes provides kids with a visual reminder.

According to Paffi, players must make sure to drop their bats within the circle after they get their swings in (whether off the tee or, later this summer, from a machine or coach).

"It (the circle) is a Plymouth YMCA thing," Paffi noted. "That's both for good sportsmanship and safety."

OLD SCHOOL FEELING

The program also gets a thumbs up from Avila for helping return the spotlight on baseball, a sport he enjoyed as a kid when he and his friends played off-the-cuff neighborhood matches. "It brings back good memories."

Meanwhile, McCosky sees some positives to having young kids be so enthusiastic about becoming baseball players.

"Getting kids involved this young helps them find something that they're going to love in the future," McCosky said. "And it's just to get them away from the video games, keep them outside and active."

"Just show them they're other things to do that can be fun. They see that, they come out here and enjoy it and it makes them want to keep coming back."

For more information about Plymouth YMCA programs, call (734) 453-2904 or go to www.ymcadeloit.org.

tsmith@hometownlife.com

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Ace of the day

Former Livonia Franklin boys basketball coach Larry Jackson (center) recorded his second ace at the Patriot Club Golf Outing held May 17 at South Lyon's Tanglewood Golf Course. Jackson used an 8-iron on the 130-yard, No. 5 hole on Tanglewood's South Course and won a set a Taylor Made drivers donated by Rogin Buick of Livonia. Jackson was accompanied by playing partner Williams Emons (right) and awarded the driver set by Brian Leggett (left) of Rogin Buick.



PAUL WORLEY

Livonia Franklin's Jimmy Johnson birdied the par-3, No. 14 hole en route to the Boys 16-17 age group title following a round of 75 during Wednesday's Motor City Junior Golf Championship held at Whispering Willows.

GOLF

FROM PAGE B1

"I want my senior year to be my breakout year," he added.

In the Boys 14-15 divisions, Livonia's Chris Theile shot an 81 to edge Alex Watson of Commerce Township by a stroke for the title.

One of the most impressive rounds on the day was turned in by Livonia's Brian Sexton, who carded 40-39-79 to seize the Boys 14-15 crown.

Sexton, who will be a freshman this fall at Churchill, was playing in only his first tournament of the summer.

"It was my putting and my drives," said Sexton, a hockey player who stands 5 feet, 3 inches and weighs only 105 pounds. "Today I was straight and long. My driving was on."

On the 165-yard, par-3 No. 17, Sexton won closest to the pin honors by placing his tee shot within 4 feet, 5 inches.

"I'm surprised I played that well because I did not play that well on the practice round (Monday), I shot an 87," he said. "I started out shaky. I had a double-bogey and bogey, then a bunch of pars and a birdie."

Meanwhile, the top round among the girls field was posted by Livonia's Jordyn Shepler, who will be a sophomore this

fall at Churchill.

She posted a 47-46-93 to win the 14-15 age division, four strokes better than West Bloomfield's Madeline Asta.

But Shepler was not completely pleased with her game.

"I putted horribly - both short and long putts - I had 40 putts," said Shepler, who has been a regular this summer on the Meijer Junior Tour. "I missed a one-footer, and that's just not right. It was hard adjusting to the greens. I just have to practice more. Putting is killing me."

Shepler, who took up golf after doing jazz, ballet and tap dancing, made up for her short-game deficiencies by booming drives an average of

265 yards.

"I use a TaylorMade men's shaft where you can adjust the head - and I love it," Shepler said. "One time I hit it 300 yards (on the Meijer tour) and drove the green - but then I three-putted."

Livonia Ladywood High's Val DeMilia, who resides in Salem Township, took the Girls 16-17 crown with a 98 to edge Westland's Sarah Linder, a 2009 Churchill graduate who is headed to Rochester College.

Livonia's Jaelyn Burdette, also headed to Churchill as a ninth-grader, took the Girls 13-and-under title.

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2009 MOTOR CITY JUNIOR GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS

July 29 at Whispering Willows

BOYS 16-17: 1. Jimmy Johnson (Livonia), 75; 2. (tie) Kyle Korte (Canton) and Adam Yarber (Livonia), 79 each; 4. (tie) Cooper Christie and Drake Hermann, 80 each; 6. (tie) Trevor Birdwell and Dylan Orr, 81 each; 8. Thomas Firavich, 84; 9. Brandon Kozyn, 85; 10. (tie) Travis Hall and Josh Perrin, 86 each; 12. Aaron Nicholas, 90; 13. John Selinski, 91; 14. Cody Nalez, 93; 15. Jared Cusmano, 97; 16. Matt Wilson, 100; 17. Matthew DeFore, 106.

Closest to the pin (No. 7): Cory Dare (Westland), 1-9.

GIRLS 14-15: 1. Jordyn Shepler (Livonia), 93; 2. Madeline Asta (West Bloomfield), 97; 3. Christian Briden, 110; Kathleen Karczewski, 120; Katie Gubachy, 130; Nicolette Nasar (West Bloomfield), 12-7.

Closest to the pin (No. 7): Nicolette Nasar (West Bloomfield), 12-7.

BOYS 12-13: 1. Brian Sexton (Livonia),

Linn, 93 each; 16. Brian Roulier, 94; 17. Ryan Zahn, 95; 18. Josh Maxam, 96; 19. (tie) Alec Clevenger, Avery Harris and Steven White, 98 each; 22. Vishaal Amin, 101; 23. Marco Yaquinto, 102; 24. Max Mills, 109; 25. Nick Nelson, 113; 26. Dominic Isopi, 120.

Closest to the pin (No. 17): Cory Dare (Westland), 1-9.

GIRLS 13-AND-UNDER: 1. Jaelyn Burdette, 116; 2. Olivia Asta, 122.

Closest to the pin (No. 7): Olivia Asta (West Bloomfield), 40-9.

CLOSEST TO CENTER OF FAIRWAY BOYS: Jack Pierson (Livonia), 2 feet.

GIRLS: Erin Lixie (Plymouth), 2 feet.

GOLF RESULTS

SIDELINES

FROM PAGE B1

Horton Smith Invitational. Uelmen, a native of Ferndale, was named Player of the Year at Dondero in 2006. He also made All-MCCAA, All-Eastern Conference and earned NJCAA Ping All-Region squad honors.

Burns honored

Trinity College (Conn.) men's ice hockey senior William Burns (Livonia) graced the 2009 ESPN The Magazine At-Large Academic All-District first-team and the 2009 New England Small College

Athletic Conference (NESCAC) All-Academic Team for the second straight year.

Each student-athlete voted to the ESPN The Magazine All-District squad must maintain at least a 3.20 g.p.a. and each NESCAC All-Academic honoree must be varsity letterwinner and maintain at least a 3.35 grade-point average.

Burns, a defenseman from Catholic Central, played in all 29 games and anchored a defense that limited opponents to 2.47 goals per game enroute to a 16-9 record. During his career, Burns notched three goals and seven assists in 78 games.

SOCCER SIGNUP

Applications for youths ages 5-18 looking to participate with the Farmington Soccer Club in the Western Suburban Soccer League are being accepted through Friday, Aug. 7. The team is affiliated with Michigan State Youth Soccer as well as United States Youth Soccer Association and US Soccer. Cost is \$95 which includes full uniform and socks.

Registration forms are available at both Farmington libraries and online at www.myfarmingtonsoccer.com.

For more information, call (248) 471-2019.

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Show us how your family spends fun family times together and you could win a \$60 gift certificate from Beans & Cornbread Souful Bistro in Southfield, MI. Simply take a photo of your family fun along with a brief caption explaining the family activity.

As a bonus, if you include the Observer & Eccentric Newspaper, Hometown Newspaper, or Beans & Cornbread Souful Bistro in the photo, you're entered for a chance to win movie passes.

All entries will be judged based on fun and creativity. Email pictures to: cbjordan@hometownlife.com with the subject line "Family Fun" or mail to Choya Jordan, Observer & Eccentric Newspaper, 615 W. Lafayette Blvd, 2nd Level, Detroit, MI 48226.

Contest runs July 26 - Aug 23, 2009. Winners will be notified. Pictures may be selected for publication. Pictures will not be returned. Pictures size must not exceed 10 MB.



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2 **DETROIT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA** x 4:00PM Musical Magic Children's Matinee Thomas Wilkins, Conductor **MEADOW BROOK MUSIC FESTIVAL**

THIS THURSDAY

6 **THE TEMPTATIONS / THE FOUR TOPS** 7:30PM DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

THIS FRIDAY

7 **NEWSBOYS** 7:00PM w/SUPERCHICK and SEVENGLORY DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

7 **JIM GAFFIGAN** Comedian 8:00PM **MEADOW BROOK MUSIC FESTIVAL**

AUGUST

9 **THE MOODY BLUES** DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

11-12 **NICKELBACK** x w/HINDER, PAPA ROACH and SAVING ABEL DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

13 **JIMMY BUFFETT** ~~ROCKOUT~~ AND THE CORAL REEFER BAND DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

14 **MC HAMMER** w/COOLIO and TONE LOC DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

14 **THE WIGGLES GO BANANAS!** (2:30 & 6:30PM) THE PALACE OF AUBURN HILLS

15 **MÖTLEY CRÜE** w/GODSMACK, THEORY OF A DEADMAN, DROWNING POOL and CHARM CITY DEVILS - **CRÜE FEST 2** DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

16 **AC/DC** w/THE ANSWER THE PALACE OF AUBURN HILLS

16 **RANDY TRAVIS** w/KEITH ANDERSON DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

16 **GEORGE THOROGOOD & THE DESTROYERS / X JONNY LANG** MEADOW BROOK MUSIC FESTIVAL

18 **DEMI LOVATO** w/DAVID ARCHULETA and JORDAN PRUITT DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

19 **B.B. KING** w/THE ROBERT CRAY BAND DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

20 **THE B-52'S** DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

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21 **HEAVEN & HELL** w/COHEED AND CAMBRIA x MEADOW BROOK MUSIC FESTIVAL

22 **BLINK-182** w/FALL OUT BOY, PANIC! AT THE DISCO and CHESTER FRENCH DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

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25 **CREED** DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE

26 **AMERICAN IDOLS LIVE!** THE PALACE OF AUBURN HILLS

26 **JOHNNY & THE SPRITES (2PM & 7PM)** Children's Program MEADOW BROOK MUSIC FESTIVAL

September 8 **The Circus Starring Britney Spears** w/Clara and Kristina DeBarge The Palace of Auburn Hills

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Mary Angela Run set

The Mary Angela Run committee is preparing for its seventh annual event to honor and remember Mary Angela DiGiovanni. For the second year, this year's event will benefit Angels' Place, a non-profit which provides housing and services for people with developmental disabilities.

The run will take place Sunday, Aug. 16, at 9 a.m. at the Oakland Community College Orchard Ridge Campus in Farmington Hills. The event offers a chip timed 5K and 10K run, and 1-mile fitness walk and children run.

"Mary Angela was a caring and dedicated person who wanted to help many different people and we believe that Angels' Place has the same ideals," said race coordinator Sue Vincent, who is also Mary Angela's aunt. "We have had a great turn out every year with nearly 1,000 people attending, and we're hoping to have another great event this year."

The event, which has raised approximately \$40,000 yearly, is a way to honor the memory of 23-year-old Mary Angela DiGiovanni, who was involved in a fatal car accident in January of 2003. Mary Angela was a University of Michigan Public Health student with a desire to improve health care and help people in need, and Mary Angela's family has pledged that her life will continue to reach out and help others.

"We're grateful to the DiGiovanni family and all of their relatives who have put so much time and effort into making this a wonderful event to benefit Angels' Place," said Cheryl Loveday, Angels' Place executive director. "This event has always proved to be a wonderful tribute to Mary Angela and everything that she believed in, and it will be a blessing to all of the people who benefit from Angels' Place." Registration is continuing

with a standard entry fee of \$25, or \$50 for a Mary's Angel sponsorship, which includes a special Mary's Angel t-shirt and recognition on event signage. Participants may register in advance or on the day of the event beginning at 7:30 a.m.

For more information on the Mary Angela Run, or to register for the event, please visit www.angelsplace.com.

Junior golf tourney

For the fifth year in a row, the Livonia-based Wolverine Sports and Conservation Club is spearheading a junior golf tournament with the goal of helping youngsters perhaps discover the game.

This year's event is set to begin at noon Sunday, Aug. 9, at Idyl Wyld Municipal Golf Course, located on Five Mile between Newburgh and Farmington roads in Livonia.

Those who register by the Sunday, Aug. 2, deadline will have the chance to compete in boys or girls divisions for the following age brackets: ages 15-17, 13-14 and 10-12. There will be two prizes awarded to the top golfers in all six brackets (three divisions each for boys and girls). Call (734) 751-4466 to register.

Bowling benefit

The Bowl-4-Animal Rescue Benefit Event will take place 7 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 8, at Country Lanes, 30250 Nine Mile, west of Middlebelt in Farmington Hills.

All proceeds will benefit the Friends for the Dearborn Animal Shelter and the Michigan Animal Adoption Network.

Professional bowling champions Aleta Sill and Michelle Mullen, who co-own Aleta Sill's Bowling World and have adopted seven animals, will host the fourth annual event.

Sill is a Detroit Dream Team member and bowling's first female \$1 million player. Mullen is a USA Bowling GOLD coach and author of Bowling

Fundamentals.

Tickets are \$25 and include three games, food and fun. There will be auctions, raffles, door prizes and karaoke.

Bowlers can even have one of the professional bowlers throw a strike for them.

Tickets may be purchased by calling Aleta Sill's Bowling World at (248) 615-9060 or via e-mail at: michellemullen@att.net.

Punt, Pass & Kick

The City of Livonia Department of Parks and Recreation's 2009 NFL Punt, Pass & Kick competition for ages 8-15 will be Wednesday, Aug. 26 at the Livonia Community Recreation Center's soccer fields, located at 15100 Hubbard (between Farmington and Merriman roads).

Registration, which is free, starts at 5:30 p.m. Competition begins at 6 p.m.

Age classification is as of Dec. 31 of the current year. No football shoes, cleats or turf shoes are allowed. Only gym shoes will be permitted.

The top finishers from each of eight age groups at the local competition will advance to a sectional competition. Sectional scores will be compared with other sectional champions with the top five scorers from the pool of sectional champions advancing to the team championship.

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

Elks Soccer Shoot

The City of Livonia Department of Parks and Recreation's annual Elks Soccer Shoot will be at 5 p.m. Monday, Aug. 17 at the Livonia Community Center soccer fields, located at 15100 Hubbard (at Five Mile Road). Registration, which is free, starts at 4:30 p.m.

Boys and girls separate age groups, determined as of Aug. 1, 2009, include 7-and-under, 8-9, 10-11 and 12-13. Age-group winners advance to the state

contest in October.

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

Churchill fall sports

The fall 2009 athletic team tryout information at Livonia Churchill high school is as follows:

Football - 6-8 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 6 for workouts and condition at the football field (call 734-744-2650; or e-mail coach John Filiatraut at jfiliatr2@livoniapublicschools.org);

Boys soccer - 9-15 a.m. Monday, Aug. 12 at the Churchill track (call 734-744-2650; or e-mail coach Reid Friedrichs at rfriedri@livoniapublicschools.org);

Girls swimming and diving - 8-10 a.m. Monday through Friday, Aug. 12-16, at the Churchill pool (call 734-744-2650; or e-mail coach Aaron Rieder at arieder@livoniapublicschools.org);

Boys cross country - 11 a.m. Monday, Aug. 12 at Cass Benton Park (e-mail coach John McGreevy at jmcgreev@livoniapublicschools.org);

Girls cross country - 11 a.m. Monday, Aug. 12 at Cass Benton Park (e-mail coach Sue Tatro at statia2@livoniapublicschools.org);

Boys tennis - 10 a.m.-noon, Monday, Aug. 12 at the Churchill courts. Bring water and be prepared for conditioning. Call coach Dave Farmer at (734) 709-8574; or e-mail daf222@msn.com;

Girls volleyball - 8-11 a.m. and 1:30-4 p.m. Friday, Aug. 21 at the competitive gym (call 734-744-2650; or e-mail coach Mark Grenier at mgrenier@livoniapublicschools.org);

Girls golf - 11 a.m. Monday through Wednesday, Aug. 12-14, at Whispering Willows. Bring golf equipment and pay an \$8 daily green fee. For more information, call coach Paul Worley at (248) 476-4493; or e-mail paulworley@pga.com.

Learn to Skate

The City of Livonia

Department of Parks and Recreation will be offering its seven-week fall learn to skate program (Session I) from Sept. 14 through Oct. 29 at Edgar Arena, located at 33841 Lyndon (one-half mile south of Five Mile and just west of Farmington Road).

Classes are grouped by age and ability. Openings for each time slot for the following are subject to availability for the following:

Youth classes (ages 4 and-up) - 5 p.m., 5:25 p.m., 6 p.m. or 6:25 p.m. Mondays or Thursdays;

Hockey skills classes - 6:25 p.m. Mondays or 5 p.m. Thursdays;

Tots (3-year-olds only) - 5 p.m. Mondays or Thursdays.

Walk-in registration only will be from 6:30-8 p.m. (residents) and 7-8 p.m. (non-residents) Wednesday, Sept. 9 at the Livonia Community Recreation Center, located at 15100 Hubbard (at Five Mile Road). Make-up classes are not available. All instructors are I.S.I. certified. Private lessons are available for all ages and you must be registered in a group lesson or two hours of private lessons.

Three synchronized skating teams are also available (must be Badge 6 or higher and must be at least 6 years old). Skate rentals are also offered through the Livonia Hockey Association.

For more information, call Kerri Ahmet or Tina Probst at (734) 466-2412.

Nite Lite Golf

Nine holes of Nite Lite Golf will be offered beginning at 9 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 15, at the Fox Classic Course at Fox Hills Golf Course in Plymouth Township.

Included in the \$35 cost is dinner (served at 7:30 p.m.). Glow Ball-Glow necklaces will also be available.

For reservations, call (734) 453-7272; or visit www.foxhills.com.

Girls basketball league

The City of Livonia Department of Parks and Recreation's fall girls basketball league for ages 10-13 will start the week of Sept. 21 at the Livonia Community Recreation Center, located at 15100 Hubbard (at Five Mile Road).

Team placement tryouts will be from 6-7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 11. Practices will be held Friday, Sept. 25 and Oct. 2 followed by games on Oct. 9, 16, 23, 30; Nov. 6 and 13.

Registration for LCRC pass holders will begin Monday, Aug. 17 (fee \$49); Livonia residents, Tuesday, Aug. 18 (fee \$58); and non-residents, Thursday, Aug. 20 (fee \$65). All fees include T-shirt. The deadline to register is Tuesday, Sept. 8.

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

Boys basketball league

The City of Livonia Department of Parks and Recreation will stage a pair of fall boys basketball leagues including Division I (ages 9-11) and Division II (ages 12-14) the week of Sept. 21 at the Livonia Community Recreation Center, located at 15100 Hubbard (at Five Mile Road).

Team placement tryouts will be from 6-7 p.m. (Division I) and 7-8 p.m. (Division II) on Tuesday, Sept. 8 at the LCRC. Division I practice dates are Tuesday, Sept. 22 and 29; followed by games Oct. 6, 13, 20, 27; Nov. 3-10. Division II practices will be Thursday, Sept. 24 and Oct. 1 followed by games on Oct. 8, 15, 22, 29; Nov. 5 and 12.

Registration for LCRC pass holders will begin Monday, Aug. 17 (fee \$49); Livonia residents, Tuesday, Aug. 18 (fee \$58); and non-residents, Thursday, Aug. 20 (fee \$65). All fees include T-shirt. The deadline to register is Tuesday, Sept. 8.

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

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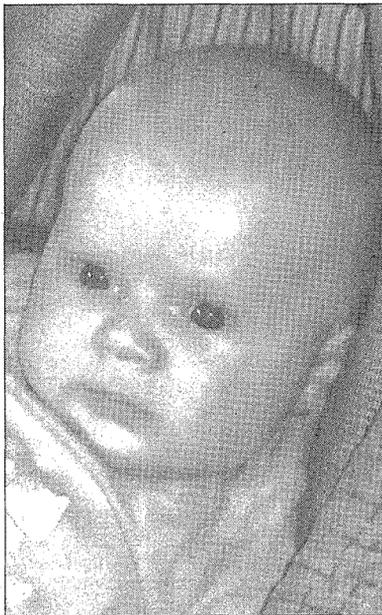
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MILESTONES



Saum baby
Adam and Erica Saum, of Farmington Hills, announce the birth of their second daughter, Addison Marie Saum, on May 27, 2009 at Henry Ford Hospital in West Bloomfield. She weighed 8 pounds, 5 ounces and measured 20 inches long. She was welcomed into the family by her big sister, Ellie, and her grandparents Carol Szymanski, of Troy and John and Marlene Saum, of Williamston.

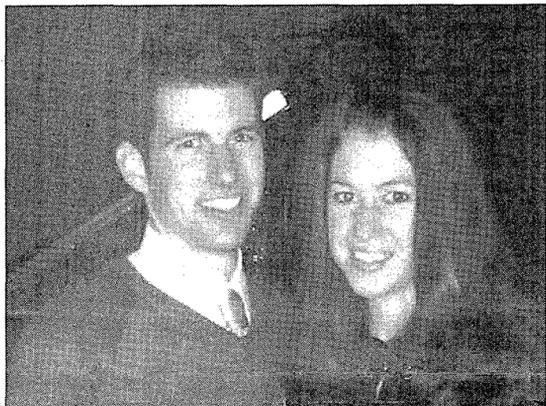
Andrae Leonard Krupin

Andrae Leonard Krupin was born June 19, 2009 to Alana Christine Motsinger of Dexter and David Matthew Krupin of Plymouth.
Andrae weighed 8 pounds, 3 ounces and measured 21 inches.
Grandparents are Ron and Loretta Motsinger of Dexter and Mike and Connie Krupin of Westland. Great-grandparents are Leonard and Connie Motsinger of Dexter.



Conor Timothy Carmody

Conor Timothy Carmody was born June 26, 2009 in St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Ann Arbor.
Proud parents are Tim and Lisa Carmody of Plymouth.
Grandparents are George and Laura Cooper of Plano, Texas and Michael and Camilla Carmody of Jackson.
Great-grandparents are Bess Woodard of Plano, Texas, Edna Cooper of Hammond, Ind., and Donald and Agnes Carmody of Owosso.



Lyon-Adams

Allison Marie Lyon and Brian Thomas Adams announce their engagement.
The bride-to-be, daughter of John and Linda Lyon of Farmington Hills, is a graduate of the University of Michigan.
Her fiancé, son of Richard and Rita Adams of Farmington Hills, is a Michigan State graduate.
A July 2010 wedding is planned in Bay Harbor, Michigan.



Nelson anniversary

Arthur and Margaret Method Nelson of Livonia will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary on Aug. 27.
The couple married in 1949 in Dearborn.
Their children are Mark and Jay Nelson of Northville, Ron and Margaret Long of Plymouth, Jim and Diana Nelson of Crystal Lake, Ill., Art and Marianne Nelson, Michael and Becky Nelson of Huron, Ohio, Jane Nelson of Livonia and Dan and Krustin Nelson of Olmstead Township, Ohio. They have 22 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.
Arthur has been retired from BEI Associates in Detroit for 10 years. Margaret has been a homemaker.
The Nelsons are active at St. Aidens Parish, where they'll mark their anniversary with a Mass on Sunday, Aug. 30. Other celebration activities will include a Detroit Tiger game on Saturday, Aug. 29 and a luncheon at Walnut Creek Country Club on Sunday, Aug. 30.



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.

At English Gardens

- Learn how to attract birds and butterflies to your garden, 7 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 5, at all stores.
 - "Adding Fragrance to the Garden," 7 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 12, at all stores.
 - "How to Arrange Garden Flowers," 7 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 19, at all stores.
 - Learn how to treat pests and problems in the garden, 7 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 26, at all stores.
- Local stores are at 155 N. Maple, Ann Arbor, (734) 332-7900; 22650 Ford Road in Dearborn Heights, (313)278-

4433; and 6370 Orchard Lake Road, in West Bloomfield; (248) 851-7506. For information, log onto www.EnglishGardens.com.

Iris plant sales

Stock up on bearded irises Aug. 8 at the Iris Club of Southeast Michigan's annual iris sale. The organization will sell irises from 7 a.m.-1 p.m. - or until all the irises are gone - both Aug. 8 and Aug. 22, at the market, 316 E. 11 Mile, at Troy Street just east of Main, in downtown Royal Oak.
The group will sell bearded irises in all sizes, including limited selections of reblooming irises, Siberian and Japanese irises.
For more information about the sale, call (248) 280-0848 or visit http://irisclub.org.

Class helps mature drivers improve skills

AAA Michigan will offer a four-hour Driver Improvement Program for Mature Operators (anyone over age 55) at local branches throughout the metro area.

"The program delivers tips and techniques to help experienced drivers compensate for changing vision, reflexes and response time," explained Sue Ritter, coordinator of the AAA driver training program.

"It also acts as a quick refresher on driving defensively in a variety of situations. It is designed to keep the senior on the road longer by helping to make them a safer driver," said Ritter, adding AAA will take the program to any location for a group of 10 or more.

The program also includes CarFit, a 16-point checklist (seat belts, mirrors adjusted properly) with the driver in the vehicle.

Cost of the program is \$20 for AAA members, \$30 for non-members.

Programs are scheduled at the following AAA branch locations:

- AAA Ann Arbor Branch, 1750 Plymouth Road (near the intersection of Plymouth Road and Murfin Ave./Upland Drive) from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday, Aug. 17 and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday, Sept. 14.
 - AAA Birmingham Branch, 34802 Woodward, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Tuesday, Aug. 11 and noon to 4 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 22.
 - AAA Canton Branch, 2017 N. Canton Center Road, noon to 4 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 19 and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday, Sept. 21.
 - AAA Farmington Hills Branch, 38751 W. 12 Mile Road, noon to 4 p.m., Monday, Aug. 24.
 - AAA Livonia Branch, 37383 Six Mile Road, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 9.
- Those interested should contact Ritter at (313) 336-1508 or e-mail to saritter@aaamichigan.com.

8/2/09

Passages

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MARY JOU BARKER

Age 79 of Birmingham, passed away July 25, 2009. She was born March 31, 1930 in Louisville Kentucky to the late Elgin and Myrtle Gillespie. Mary Jou was a manager for the Taubman Company in the shopping center business. She was very active in Birmingham politics, running elections, attending political meetings, as V.P. of Pembroke Manor Association, served on the citizens sewer committee and belonged to the B.A.S.K. organization. Survived by her daughter, Patti (Michael Hennes) Barker; granddaughter, Kathryn Limberakis; and her dear childhood friend, Carol Lohr. She was preceded in death by her beloved son, Robert J. Barker Jr. in (1977). Services were Thursday July 30th at Sawyer-Fuller Funeral Home, 2125 W. 12 Mile Rd., Berkeley. Burial was at Greenwood Cemetery in Birmingham. Memorials may be made to Disabled American Veterans, P.O. Box 14301, Cincinnati, OH 45250-0301 - www.dav.org / Share a memory at www.sawyerfuller.com.



ELIZABETH CHYNOWETH BOERSMA

Also known as Liz, Babe, Chy, Gram, Grammy, Grandma, Grama B, GG and Aunt Liz, age 98, died peacefully on July 24, 2009 after a brief illness. She was born June 22, 1911 in Calumet, MI and lived there in "God's country" until she went to college. She earned both a B.A. and M.A. in English from the University of Michigan. She taught English and was a class advisor at Godwin Heights High School in Grand Rapids, where she met her husband, Bill. They were happily married for 55 years until his death in 1996. She is survived by her daughters, Bethany (Donald) Gordon and Kristin (Raymond) Abraham and son, Nicholas (Ritchie) Boersma, 9 grandchildren: Deborah, Grace Gordon, Daniel Gordon, Melissa (Doug) Donselar, Amy (John) Appleberg, Heather (Mark) O'Kelley, Scott (Kristy) Boersma, Will (Anna) Abraham, Genevieve (Robert) Lee, and Megan Abraham, 16 great grandchildren, 6 great, great grandchildren, several nieces and nephews and a brother in law and several sisters in law all of whom were a source of great joy to her. She was preceded in death by her parents, two brothers, and a grandson, Steven. In her younger years, she was a volunteer at Mary Free Bed Hospital where she read to pediatric patients. She was also active in P.T.A., served as a Camp Fire Girl leader and also as a den mother for the Cub Scouts. She played church hymns and songs from the 40s on the piano, enjoyed teaching Sunday school with her husband and for many years helped organize the annual Operation Santa project at Cascade Christian Church. She loved to read. Besides the Bible, her favorite devotional book was John Baillie's, A Diary of Private Prayer. She was a master of the word game "Upwords" and delighted in doing the daily word puzzle, Jumble, in the paper. But her passion was sending frequent notes of encouragement which she called "Hugs through the mail" to family and friends. Her daily letter writing ministry to others also provided her with an ongoing sense of purpose. When you needed someone to pray for you, Liz was who you called as everyone felt and believed she had a direct line to the Lord. The pride in her children, grandchildren, great grandchildren and great great grandchildren was immense and she considered them the biggest blessing she and her husband, Bill, shared. In later years she considered the residents at Raybrook Estates II where she and Bill moved in 1993 to be like family. Going to breakfast each Tuesday, completing board puzzles and shopping on Thursday with her Raybrook "family" were highlights of her week. Her life was a testament to her strong faith in Jesus Christ her Lord and Savior. We were so blessed to have this godly lady in our lives!!! Friends may visit the family at Metcalf & Jonkhoff Funeral Services 4291 Cascade Road S.E. Grand Rapids, MI on Thursday July 30 from 2-4 pm and 7-9 pm. There will be a memorial service to celebrate her life at 1:00 pm on Friday July 31 at Raybrook Chapel in Raybrook Manor 2121 Raybrook St. S.E. Grand Rapids, MI. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations in memory of Elizabeth Boersma may be made to these 3 Grand Rapids facilities: Cascade Christian Church, 2829 Thornapple River Drive, S. E., Eastminster Presbyterian Church, 1700 Woodward S. E. or Raybrook Estates, 2105 Raybrook S.E. The family is being served by Metcalf & Jonkhoff Funeral Service, 4291 Cascade Rd SE at Kenmoor, E of I-96. www.metcalfandjonkhoff.com



MURRAY C. TRIPLETT

Passed away Saturday July 18, 2009 at Hemet Valley Medical Center in Hemet, CA. Murray Charles Triplett was born November 14, 1919 in St. Joseph, MO. He lived in Wilmette, IL where he graduated from New Trier High School in 1937. Murray graduated from Purdue University in 1941 with a BS degree in Mechanical Engineering. Completing ROTC, he served the US Army's ordnance department through World War II achieving the rank of Captain. After the war he awarded the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (MBE) by Lord Halifax, representing the British Government. Murray graduated from the Chrysler Institute with a Masters in Automotive Engineering. He spent 39 years with the Chrysler Corporation including several as Resident Engineer at the Clairpointe Plant in Detroit and a seven-year assignment in England where he served as Director of Pilot Operations. He lived in Birmingham, MI until retiring in 1980. Murray then worked for the Boeing Commercial Airplane Company in Wichita, KS where he lived until relocating to Green Valley, AZ in 1989. In his younger years, Murray was an avid skier and golfer. He had life long passions for travel, photography, bridge and raising and showing roses. Murray was a member of the First Baptist Church of Birmingham, MI for over twenty years. Murray was preceded in death by his wife Barbara who, after 53 years of marriage, passed away in 1995, his son Layne, mother Hazel, father Hugh, brothers Harlow and Dennis, and sisters Natalie and Joyce. He is survived by wife Jean of Hemet, CA, daughter Linda King (Clyde) of Las Vegas, NV, son Roger of Birmingham, MI, daughters-in-law Jane Triplett of Peoria, AZ and Pamela Triplett of Portage, MI, brother Hugh (Marjorie) of Lake Bluff, IL, sisters-in-law Thelma Triplett of Richland, WA and Pat Triplett of Barrington, IL, grandchildren Kristin Shank (Darrell) of Tustin, MI, Kevin King of Las Vegas, NV, Nathan Triplett (Sarah) of East Lansing, MI, Colin Triplett of Ann Arbor, MI, great grandchildren Derriek, Dillan and Kasey Shank of Tustin, MI. Murray was loved and will be greatly missed by Jean's extended family including brothers Dewitt, Martin and Knox McCloy, children Kerry, Lois, Linda, Janet and Fred McKay. A memorial will be planned at a later date and interment will be at the Green Valley Mortuary and Cemetery in Green Valley, AZ.

LAURA T. INGHAM

Born December 21, 1931. Passed away July 31, 2009. Proud mother of seven children. She will be missed dearly. Final resting place, Grand Lawn Cemetery



DAVID E. PETERS

Age 29, of Bloomfield Hills, MI passed away on Tuesday July 21, 2009. He graduated from Birmingham Groves, attended MSU and Wayne State majoring in Psychology. Those who were touched by him understand that life is defined on how we impact others. His genuine smile, intelligence, and charisma influenced many. David loved music, jamming on his guitar. He always lived in the moment. He loved talking about philosophy, psychiatry, and the meaning of life. David and his song will live on through the memories and impact he had upon others. David is survived by his loving parents, Dr. Michael and Jan Peters and his older brother Eric, five nieces & nephews many family and friends. Memorial date is still to be determined. Memorial tributes to Gleaners Food Bank or The Detroit Rescue Mission. A.J. Desmond & Sons 248-549-0500 view obituary and share memories at www.DesmondFuneralHome.com

JOHN EUGENE SEARLS

July 26, 2009, age 88. Loving husband for 62 years to the late Helen. Caring father of Kim McGuire, Nicki West (Paul), and the late Pamela L. Seale. Grandfather of John Meier, Katrina Gerace, John Seale, and Jillian McGuire. Great grandfather of Pearl Ann Gerace, Davey and Timmy Meier and John Beck Seale. Funeral services are private. A. J. Desmond & Sons (248) 362-2500. View obituary and share memories at www.DesmondFuneralHome.com

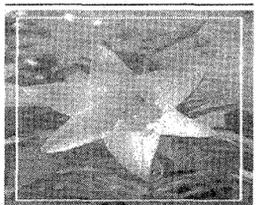
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In Memory Of



In Memory Of DR. KURUVILLA ZACHARIAS

Passed away August 2006. In my heart I know it's true. I was surely blessed with you!
Miss you so, dear! Mariann



NEIGHBORS

Adult readers' picks run the gamut in summertime

BY JULIE BROWN
O&E STAFF WRITER

From "beach books" to weightier tomes, area adults like their summertime reading.

Rebecca Havenstein-Coughlin, department head for adult services at the Canton Public Library, reports Janet Evanovich's *Finger Lickin' Fifteen*, a mystery, is popular this summer.

"I know people get hooked on her. She's very funny," said Havenstein-Coughlin, who is hooked on Evanovich's Stephanie Plum private investigator series.

"James Patterson's *Swimsuit* is getting a lot of press," she said of that fiction title involving a murderer. "There's a lot of interest in that."

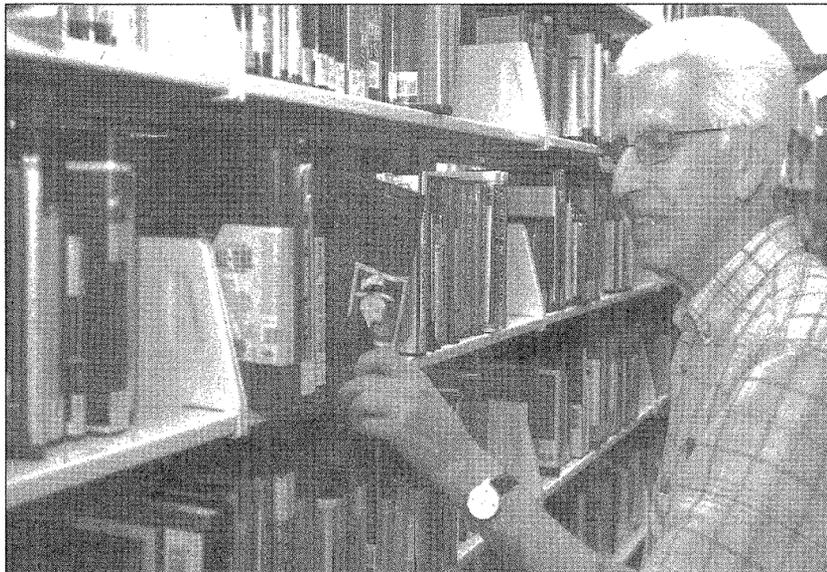
She agreed summer's a good time for fun reading, with more than 1,000 adults in Canton's summer reading program. "I think a lot of people are taking staycations," Havenstein-Coughlin said. "Sometimes people look at summer as a time to do a little more light-hearted reading."

On a more serious note, Malcolm Gladwell's *Outliers* is circulating well at Canton. That nonfiction work focuses on what makes a high achiever different.

For fun, Canton readers often pick comedian Chelsea Handler's *Are You There, Vodka? It's Me, Chelsea*.

Local readers tend to follow national trends in picking best sellers, she said, "and probably pick up some paperback best sellers as well."

An author who's an Oak Park native, Michael



Bob Cormendy of Westland picks a book at the William P. Faust Public Library of Westland. Reading's a popular pastime with many adults in the summer.

Zaadorian, wrote *The Leisure Seeker*, also popular and with a lot of Michigan references. "It's a delightful little work of fiction," said Havenstein-Coughlin, adding it's not a light-hearted read.

REDFORD READS

Kim Potter, director of the Redford Township District Library, also recently read Evanovich's *Finger Lickin' Fifteen*. "Her books are just so funny," Potter said of the series. "I tend to go to the new book section."

She recently read *Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society* by Mary Ann Shaffer. That's not a typical choice

for Potter, who likes mysteries, but it was a good story. Mostly told through letters, it takes place in 1946 and tells of life on Guernsey, a British island, during the German occupation.

Redford library staffers have talked about starting an adult summer reading program and hope to do so next year. Potter's colleague Brooke Somerville, a librarian, reports these popular titles at Redford:

For fiction at Redford, it's *Finger Lickin' Fifteen* by Janet Evanovich, as well as *Living Dead in Dallas* by Charlaine Harris (book 2 in the Southern Vampire mys-

tery series, featuring telepath Sookie Stackhouse. This is the book currently being featured in season 2 episodes of the HBO program *True Blood*.)

My Sister's Keeper by Jodi Picoult is regaining popularity because of the current movie version, starring Cameron Diaz and Abigail Breslin. In that story, the Fitzgeralds conceive daughter Anna to be a donor match for their oldest daughter, Kate, who has leukemia. Anna loves her sister but the medical procedures she endures to help Kate have caused her to hire a lawyer to gain medical emancipation and control over her own body.

LIVONIA LIT

Livonia's adult summer reading programs have varied over the years, and are popular although less organized than the children's programs, said City Librarian Kathleen Monroe.

She chose to read Debbie Macomber's fiction, with *Summer on Blossom Street* the most recent.

"Usually, I tend to read more period historical things," Monroe said. Macomber's books are more contemporary and Monroe enjoys them.

There are several book clubs for adults at Livonia, and a key part of that library's mission is encouraging adult use and learning.

"I think it's a little bit of

everything," Monroe said of summer reading. "They revisit things they really like."

Some summer reading takes adults away from daily life, while other books focus on how-to help or coping with issues.

"There are a lot more people using the library right now," said Monroe, noting circulation's up 15 percent from last year at this time. She agreed staycations are popular, with fiction, DVDs and books on CDs circulating.

"We're here and we're still serving the public," Monroe said of the Civic Center Library and three smaller branches.

PLYMOUTH PROSE

Plymouth District Library patrons have been drawn to the adult summer reading program this summer, which, like many libraries, features drawings for prizes. Susan Stoney, public relations specialist at Plymouth, noted there's both a quick form for adult readers to rate and review a book, as well as a challenge of reading a dozen books from different genres.

"We have had good response with it," said Stoney, adding more will come in as August progresses. "People have been chipping away at that list."

Stoney and colleague Sue Patterson, an adult reference librarian, report these popular picks among Plymouth adult readers: *Finger Lickin' Fifteen* by Janet Evanovich; *The Doomsday Key* by James Rollins; *Knockout* by Catherine Coulter;

Swimsuit by James

Please see **BOOKS, A7**

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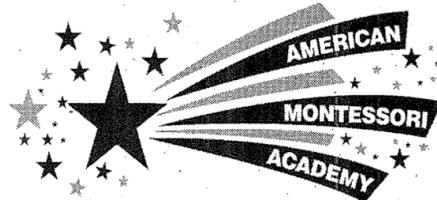
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Graceful greyhounds, pocket pals ready for adoption

If you're intent on adopting a guinea pig, hamster, gerbil rat or rabbit, the Michigan Humane Society's Small Animal Adoption Day is where you'll want to be, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 8, at its Berman Center for Animal Care, 900 Newburgh, south of Ford Road, in Westland.

MHS adoption counselors and small animal experts will be on hand to create great matches between adopters and their new furry family members.

MHS encourages responsible adoption decisions based on research and commitment, rather than impulsive decisions.

Many small companion animals generally require less of a space, time and financial commitment than cats and dogs. However, the personality traits and care needs are different for each species:

■ Hamsters and gerbils may be too small for young children, but can make nice pets for older kids.

■ Guinea pigs are bigger and can make good pets for just about all ages. The more they are gently handled, the more social they can become.

■ Domestic rats can make wonderful pets for children because they are clean, smart and tend to enjoy being handled.

■ Rabbits are intelligent, fun-loving and affectionate and can make great family pets. They need more exercise and social time with their family than many other small companion animals.

Adoption fees range from \$3 for hamsters to \$15 for guinea pigs. Rabbits may be adopted for \$30, which includes the spaying or neutering of rabbits



Members of Greyheart Greyhound Rescue and Adoption pose with adoptable dog at the 2008 Woodward Dream Cruise.



PET PROJECTS

6 months and older.

To "meet" some of the adoptable small animals, visit www.michiganhumane.org and click on "adopt." (866) MHUMANE.

CRUISIN' GREYHOUNDS

If you prefer fast dogs to fast cars, drop by Weir Manuel Snyder Ranke Real Estate's parking lot during the annual Woodward Dream Cruise, Aug. 15.

Greyheart Greyhound Rescue and Adoption will be on hand from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. with adoptable greyhounds. The firm is located at 298 South Old Woodward in Birmingham.

Visit Greyheart on the Web at www.greyheart.org

BARK AT THE MOON

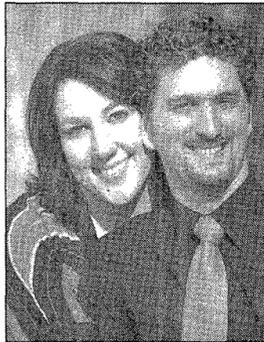
Have fun with your dog and help the Friends of Canton's

Dog Park at its fund-raiser, 6:30-9 p.m., Friday, Aug. 14, in Heritage Park, located west of Canton Center road and south of Cherry Hill Road.

Heritage Park Ball field #2 will be fenced in to simulate an off-leash dog park. Donations will be accepted. For more information, call (734) 394-5310.

The Friends of Canton's Dog Park and Canton Leisure Services have teamed up to raise the \$50,000 needed to create the park. It will be located adjacent to the Bartlett-Travis House at 500 N. Ridge Road.

MILESTONES



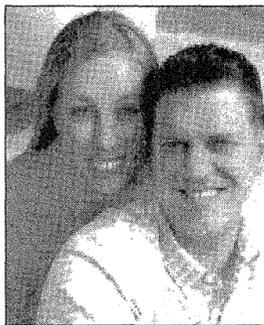
Weessies-Allan

Stephanie Lynne Weessies of Farmington Hills and Ahmad Mikel Allan of Dearborn announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Thomas and Karen Weessies of Farmington Hills, is a 2009 graduate of Wayne State University. She plans to attend graduate school in 2010.

Her fiancé, son of Emaddine and Valerie Allan of Dearborn, also graduated from Wayne State University in 2009 and plans to attend graduate school in 2010.

A July 2010 wedding is planned at Wellers' of Saline.



Gruska-Schwochow

Kimberly Anne Gruska and Andrew Schwochow announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, daughter of Gary and Sally Gruska of Livonia, graduated from Eastern Michigan University with a master's degree in computer information systems.

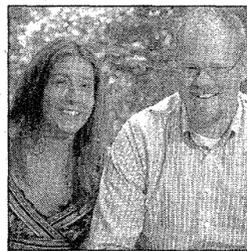
Her fiancé, son of Jerry and Judy Schwochow of Willard, Ohio, graduated from Ohio State University with a degree in psychology.

An August 2009 wedding is planned in Plymouth.

Amanda Mae Ross and Thomas Edward Godward Jr. announce their engagement.

The bride-to-be, of Farmington Hills, is the daughter of Spencer and Donna Ross of Westland. She graduated from John Glenn High School in 2001 and Kettering University in 2005. She is a project engineer for Nissan Technical Center North America.

The groom-elect, of Farmington Hills, is the son of Thomas and Janet Godward of Poland, Ohio. He graduated from Poland Seminary High School in 1998 and Kettering University in 2003. He is a senior engineer for



Ross-Godward

Badenoch LLC.

An October 2009 wedding is planned in Farmington Hills.

BOOKS

FROM PAGE A6

Patterson; *The Physick Book of Deliverance Dane: a novel* by Katherine Howe; *My Sister's Keeper* by Jodi Picoult; *The Help* by Kathryn Stockett; *Dead and Gone* by Charlene Harris; *The Neighbor* by Lisa Gardner; *Wedding Girl* by Madeleine Wickham; *The Shack* by William P. Young; and *First Family* by David Baldacci.

The release of *The Time Traveler's Wife* film (the author is Audrey Niffenegger) this month will likely lift that book's circulation, Plymouth staffers report, just as the film version of *My Sister's Keeper* did.

WESTLAND WORDS

Marilyn Kwik, department head for adult services at the William P. Faust Public Library of Westland, is enjoying Barbara Nadel's *The Ottoman Cage*, a mystery set in Turkey in modern times. She agreed James Patterson's *Swimsuit* is popular with readers this summer.

Patterson wrote popular books with co-authors, she said, including *Run for Your Life* with Michael Ledwidge and *The 8th Confession*, with Maxine Paetro, the latter a part of the Women's Murder Club Series.

For fiction, Westland readers like *The Help* by Kathryn Stockett. "They're looking for easy readers, something that doesn't take up a lot of their time," said Kwik, noting adults have more time to read in summer. Another popular fiction pick at Westland is *The Shack* by William P. Young.

"It's about life-changing

events," Kwik said, noting it has a religious element.

Westland's summer reading program for adults is also popular, with a Do It Yourself @ Your Library theme. Patrons track what they've read and get tickets for weekly prize drawings.

Programs have ranged from fixing your PC to crafts and floral arranging. Adults have learned about researching family history this summer, as well as indoor painting from a Lowe's staffer and container gardening from Joe Barson of Barson's Greenhouse.

Programs run through Aug. 15, Kwik said, so there's still time to participate.

The library Friends and businesses like My Lady's Florist have been a big help, and Kwik points with pride to a program under way at the nearby Friendship Center on memoir writing for seniors. There's also been a library program on stretching food dollars.

GARDEN CITY

Garden City's library director, James Lenze, also reports a busy summer. "Fiction and mysteries are very popular," he said. "Our large print collection has been circulating well."

Finger Lickin' Fifteen is also much-requested at Garden City. That library's board offers a book club, and has read titles from recent years including Sue Monk Kidd's *The Secret Life of Bees* and Barbara Kingsolver's *The Bean Trees*.

Lenze agreed adults look for fun stuff this time of year. "They tend to look for lighter reading in the summer," he

WILD SUMMER DAYS

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Arthritis Today

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HAND SURGERY IN RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS

In the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis, hand surgery is salvage surgery. For the most part, hand surgeons undertake operation to repair the damage done by arthritis will do the surgery only under the condition, that if the surgery fails, the patient is no worse than before the surgery.

The first reason for this conservative approach to hand surgery is that in the hand, bone stock is limited. The bones of the hand and wrist are small compared to the bone structure of large joints such as the hip and knee. A second operation is possible in the large joints because the amount of bone is sufficient to permit the placing of another stem to hold the replacement joint in place. In small joints, the bone remaining after the first operation is not enough to anchor another replacement joint.

A second reason hand surgery enjoys limited success is because of the interaction of finger joints with the muscles that activate these joints. Years of arthritis cause these small muscles to lose muscle mass that even hand exercises cannot bring back. The effect is to make it unlikely that replacement joints, even if perfectly placed, will be able to grasp, flex or hold to the extent needed for practical functioning.

What hand surgery can do is relieve pain and improve the appearance of an awkward-looking hand.

www.drjweiss.yourmd.com

HEALTH & FITNESS

Camp offers hands-on lessons in medicine

BY SHARON DARGAY
O&E STAFF WRITER

Monica McCoskey of Farmington Hills deftly started an IV line last week. She operated and spent time in the emergency room.

She even immobilized a hand and wrist in a plaster cast. Granted, the IV needle pierced a rubber arm, the surgery was virtual, and the cast went on her own hand — which wasn't even fractured — but Monica said the medical lessons gave her a realistic look into health professions.

"I really want to be a pediatrician when I get older, or something in the medical field. I've been saying that I want to be a doctor since I was little and now I feel like I really want to be," said Monica, 12, who spent last week at Camp Scrubs, a Schoolcraft College summer day camp.

The career exploration camp is part of the college's annual summer Kids on Campus program that offers academic and "just for fun" courses in the arts, computers, science, math, chess, architecture, aerospace and manufacturing for two weeks in July.

"We used to do a class format and now we're doing camps," said Michelle Bialo, program manager. "The classes met for two hours, Monday through Thursday for two weeks. Now, instead, we're doing camps Monday-Friday for one week, but it's 9 a.m.-3 p.m. every day. It's a better opportunity to really learn the subject."

BUSY WEEK

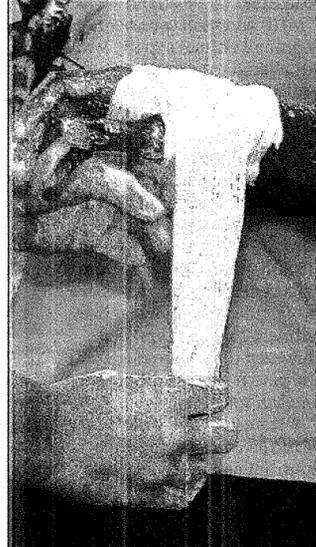
The 7-9th graders in Camp Scrubs needed every minute of the expanded daily schedule to digest all that instructor and nurse Dawn Buerkle taught them. Buerkle started teaching the course four years ago and devised a curriculum that gave campers "a little bit of exposure to multiple things."

"We try to touch on a variety of different medical careers they might come in contact with," said Buerkle, a former nursing student at Schoolcraft who works in oncology at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital.

She helped campers cast their own



Amani Echols, 12, of Farmington Hills (left) does a "high five" with Julia Meireles, 14, Plymouth while wearing their hand casts created at Camp Scrubs.



Camp Scrubs at Schoolcraft College in Livonia includes a lesson in applying a plaster cast.

wrists and hands Thursday, working outdoors with a bucket of water and yards of dry plaster wrap.

"We went to St. Mary's Hospital yesterday, Huron Valley ambulance came out. They started IVs and this afternoon they're going to do injections. We do lemons. It makes the classroom smell so nice," she said with a laugh, adding "One day this week we tested urine and they were all like 'Oh, that stinks!'"

The group viewed slices of the human brain during a pathology lesson at the hospital; practiced CPR, and tackled simulated knee and hip surgery, among other procedures.

"They got to do laparoscopic surgery. They used real instruments and got to watch the (monitor) screen and pulled out fake tumors. They've gotten quite a variety of activities."

CAREER PLANS

Vikas Venugopal, 14, of Northville, assessed his cast and decided it needed a few more layers to keep the wrist immobilized.

"This is my first time here," he said. "I kind of want to be a doctor when I grow up, a pediatrician. So I thought a medical camp would be useful. It's a really cool field."

Alan Williams, 11, of Plymouth Township, previously took video game and Web design camps at Schoolcraft, but Camp Scrubs fit perfectly with his career aspirations.

"I want to be a pediatrician, so I need to learn how to do casts," he said.

Emil Meireles, 11, of Plymouth, said the trip to the hospital operating room "was cool because that's where the surgeons are" and that's his dream profession.

For Monica McCoskey, getting into the popular summer camp was almost as tough as matriculating at medical school.

"It seems a lot of people like it because I tried to get in for three years."

This year's Camp Scrubs cost \$199. Look for next year's Kids on Campus brochure in early summer or visit www.schoolcraft.edu.



Lauren Easterbrook, applies plaster to Maggie Adzina, 13, Plymouth

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Project seeks to curb hospital readmissions

Botsford and Providence Hospitals are among 15 health centers in Michigan that will participate in a three-state collaborative project aimed at reducing hospital readmissions.

The targeted "rehospitalizations," are unplanned and not scheduled, but are clinically related to the initial admission. The pilot project, named State Action on Avoidable Rehospitalizations (STAAR), seeks to reduce 30-day rehospitalization rates (patients who are hospitalized again within 30 days of discharge) by 30 percent.

It will focus on improving patient care transitions — moving a patient from hospital to home care or another care setting — through enhanced patient communication and timely follow-ups after hospital discharge.

"Michigan hospitals realize that the recovery process has only just begun when patients leave our facilities and return to their lives," said Spencer Johnson, president of Michigan Health & Hospital Association, (MHA). "How patients transition from hospital care to their home or long-term-care facilities is key to the effectiveness of their treatment. By identifying and working to reduce avoidable rehospitalizations, Michigan hospitals will benefit not only our patients and communities, but other states will be able to learn from this initiative."

The pilot project hospitals have pledged to commit significant staff time, resources and leadership. Each hospital will focus on enhancing assessment of post-discharge needs, teaching and learning for patients by the acute-care team, communication at discharge between the hospital and the provider assuming care for the patient, and timely follow-up after hospital discharge.

Hospitals in Michigan, Washington and Massachusetts are participating in the STAAR project and Michigan's efforts are being coordinated by Michigan's Quality Improvement Organization, based in Farmington Hills, and MHA, in Lansing.

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