

THURSDAY
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2009

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Newspapers

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75 CENTS

Westland Chamber going green - Strictly Business, B9

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AROUND TOWN

It's a pit stop

This weekend, NASCAR fans will be headed for the Irish Hills and the Michigan International Speedway for the CARFAX 250/400

If you don't have a ticket to the races, you can catch a bit of NASCAR racing in Westland 5-8 p.m. Saturday, when the retired Jack Daniels race car will be making a pit stop at the Texas Roadhouse, 36750 Ford. Race fans can get up close and personal with the former Richard Childress Racing car and register to win prizes.

Every guest will receive a NASCAR Hero Card and have the opportunity to get their picture taken with the car.

The event is free of charge. Texas Roadhouse is on Ford west of Wayne Road.

Donate points

Now that people have started amassing points with curbside recycling, Westland city officials are providing another option in how residents spend their RecycleBank rewards. They will now have the ability to request RecycleBank apply points as cash donations to a variety of nonprofit organizations through its "Donations Program."

"I am excited about the expanded local rewards program, giving residents the option to donate their RecycleBank Points to local charities and nonprofit groups, such as the Wayne-Westland School System, Westland Community Foundation or the Salvation Army," Mayor William Wild said. "You probably wouldn't have thought a few short months ago the empty pizza box and plastic containers in your garage would someday contribute to a worthy cause. Now that's recycling."

Wild is asking any interested 501(c)(3) nonprofit groups and charities that may be eligible to partner with RecycleBank in order to receive rewards donations from residents. Visit the city's Web site at www.cityofwestland.com for more information.

In order for a nonprofit organization to be selected for screening and ultimate approval for the program, it needs to have IRS-approved 501(c)(3) status and its mission must align with the charitable work for the environment, health and medical, children and education, social services and animal care.

Plan ahead

Considering the current economy, have your retirement plans hit a brick wall? Have you thought about how Social Security fits into your overall retirement strategy? Do you even have the most up-to-date information about Social Security?

If you're looking for answers, then plan on being at a retirement planning program at 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 20, at the William P. Faust Public Library, 6123 Central City Parkway, north of Ford Road, Westland.

A public affairs representative from Social Security and a financial adviser will offer some sound advice on getting your retirement plans back on track and move your financial life forward at the free program.

For more information, call the library at (734) 326-6123 or go online to the library Web site at www.westlandlibrary.org.

W-W waits, wonders about school aid bill

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

More than a month into the new budget year, school officials around the state are wondering when and if lawmakers will be able to reconcile their differences between themselves and Gov. Jennifer Granholm in coming up with a new state School Aid Act.

According to Wayne-Westland Schools Supt. Greg Baracy, "There hasn't been a whole lot of movement" of late.

"As we are being told, it could be September or October before the bill is passed," Baracy said in response to a question from Trustee William Gabriel. "As you know, we are required to pass a balanced budget by July 1, but we don't know what

the bill will look like or if revenue will be attached. Most likely, there will be no new revenue."

Wayne-Westland officials have been watching what's happening in Lansing closely because the more than \$6 million in enhanced funding it receives is in jeopardy. The money was axed in the governor's proposed bill. The district has been getting the money to make up for

millage discounted when Proposal A took effect in 1994. If officials unable to convince lawmakers to put it back in the bill, it could plunge the district into deficit.

Baracy told the school board this week that the state's per-pupil funding will remain frozen and reiterated that the state will use a majority

Please see **BILL, A2**



Wayne-Westland Community Schools bus drivers Sandy Leopardi (left) and Ed Fischer show off the awards they received in the Wayne County School Bus Driving Championship. Leopardi placed first while Fischer was third in the competition.

BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

'Old Yeller'

W-W bus drivers tops in skills competition

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Ed Fischer isn't ready to give up driving a school bus anytime soon, at least not until he's the Wayne County school bus driving champion.

But Sandy Leopardi has news for Fischer, it's going to be a while before that happens. Leopardi, the two-time champion, isn't ready to give up driving "Old Yeller" just yet.

"I love driving a school bus," the Westland resident said. "I love my job and the best part is my Walker-Winter students. Whenever I get bumped off the route for a while and come back, they tell me, 'Don't leave us.'"

Wayne-Westland was among 11 school district to have teams at the regional competition, held in May at Northville High School. In addition to Leopardi and Fischer finishing in the top three, the team scored its fourth consecutive first-place finish in the regional competition.

"Sandy and Ed have been in the top four for several years. They've been the top scorers to lead off the team for five years," transportation director Scherice Roark said. "This is a great team

building event that puts a more positive light on transportation."

The regional competition includes a 25-question written portion that tests the driver's knowledge of state law and an oral pretrip test in which drivers must point out and say 90 different things they must check before driving the bus in eight minutes.

The competition doesn't end there. Drivers put their bus driving skills to the test, doing such things as parallel parking and maneuvering through a diminishing clearance in which the bus is driven between to arms which narrow from eight inches from the wheels to two inches.

"You have to be perfect, you can't hit the cones because that would be like hitting a car," Roark said about the parallel parking. "The object is to get zero demerits. If you get 50, you're done."

Leopardi and Fischer drive the flat-nosed transit buses. For the regional competition, they used buses from Plymouth-Canton because Wayne-Westland's buses have a shorter wheelbase. At state competition, the twosome were the only

Please see **DRIVERS, A2**

Labor Day crackdown targets drunken drivers

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

If you drink and drive, you could end up under arrest.

The Westland Police Department is joining law enforcement agencies around Wayne County in stepping up drunken driving enforcement in

advance of the Labor Day holiday. Beginning Friday, Aug. 21, extra police officers will be on the road between 10 p.m. and 5 a.m. to crack down on impaired driving.

"We'll have two officers work every night, looking for drivers operating while under the influence," said Westland Police Sgt.

Ron Kroll. "We've had a success rate of 90 percent when we do this with our officers making about 18 good arrests."

The extra patrols are part of the national drunken driving "Over the Limit. Under Arrest" campaign. The end-of-summer crackdown, funded by federal traffic

safety funds administered by the Office of Highway Safety Planning, will put officers in 55 Michigan counties on the streets to look for impaired drivers through Labor Day.

"Last year, more people died

Please see **CRACKDOWN, A2**

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3-Day team steps out to find cure for cancer

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

It's hard to imagine associating awesome with walking 60 miles in three days, but that's the word Jamie Downing uses in talking about the Michigan Breast Cancer 3-Day that kicks off early tomorrow morning at The Henry Ford in Dearborn.

"It's an awesome felling to know you're helping people and to see the community response," said the Westland resident. "Everyone is so proud of what you're doing."

This is the second year Downing has participated in the 3-Day. She's part of the Saving Our Breast Friends team made up of her aunt, Tonya Downing of Allen Park, and friends Star Dorsey of Brownstown and Danielle Fischer of Westland. Dorsey walked with Downing last

BREAST CANCER 3-DAY

The Breast Cancer 3-Day will start with the opening ceremony at 6:30 a.m. Friday at The Henry Ford in Dearborn. The walk will wind its way through western Wayne County, ending up at Washtenaw Community College in Ann Arbor where a closing ceremony will be held at 4:30 p.m. There will be public cheering stations set up along the route so people can show support and encourage walkers. The locations are:
• Friday, Aug. 14 - 10 a.m. to noon at Save a Lot, 8244 N. Merriman, Westland, and noon to 6 p.m. at the

Mid 5 Center on the southwest corner of Five Mile and Middlebelt in Livonia.
• Saturday, Aug. 15 - 9:45 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Kellogg Park at the intersection of Ann Arbor Trail and Main Street in downtown Plymouth and 11:30 a.m. to 5:45 p.m. at Newburgh Plaza on the southeast corner of Six Mile and Newburgh in Livonia.
• Sunday, Aug. 16 - 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Main Street between William and Ann streets in Ann Arbor.

For more information about the Breast Cancer 3-Day, go online to www.the3-day.org.

year and Fischer is participating for the first time this year after helping with fund raising last year.

The four women had to raise

\$2,300 each through donations and fund-raisers like bowling benefits and selling trinkets in

Please see **3-DAY, A2**

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DRIVERS

FROM PAGE A1

transit drivers among the 42 contestants.

At regional, Leopardi scored 641 out of a possible 700. Last year, she was "phenomenal," amassing the highest score ever in regional with 649, according to Roark. She has won the regional competition two years running and placed eighth in this year's state competition.

Fischer, a Wayne resident, finished fifth last year and moved up to third in regional this year with a score of 577. He ended up finishing 14th in the state contest.

Leopardi started with

the district in June 2002 and Fischer in March 2003, both as substitute bus drivers. According to Roark, the district's bus drivers start as subs and are hired as positions become available.

Leopardi had worked as a waitress and bartender for years before going back to school. She was trying to decide what she wanted to do when a friend suggested bus driving.

"My friend told me I was great with kids and thought it would be perfect for me," she said.

Fischer had been in the printing business for 25 years when he was laid off. He went to truck driving school and did that for a while before moving over to driving a school bus

because the job offered "long-term benefits and security."

"I like it mostly because of the kids," said Fisher, who's married and the father of four children.

Leopardi also is married and has three children.

Both agree that the worst time of the year is winter, especially when they have to go out and clean off their buses, but the good times are when you have a child who challenges them but by the end of the school year is giving them a hug.

"Every day is different, you drive and get to enjoy the day," Fischer said. "When you're in the bus, you're the boss."

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CRACKDOWN

FROM PAGE A1

in impaired driving crashes in August than in any other month. The timing of the crackdown also coincides with Michigan's heavy summer travel season when more people are on the road," said Kroll.

Alcohol-involved crashes tend to be more serious than nondrinking crashes and inju-

ries more serious for drivers and passengers who have been drinking.

In Michigan, a motorist can be arrested for drunken driving with .08 blood alcohol content or higher. A drunken driving conviction can be costly with penalties, including court costs and fines, increased car insurance rates, legal fees and \$2,000 in driver responsibility fees.

Kroll added that as a result of a change in state law, drunken driving convictions

now stay on a person's driving record "forever."

"Before it stayed on 10 years, then dropped off," he said.

Last Labor Day weekend, 12 people died in crashes on Michigan's roadways. Four of those fatalities involved alcohol.

"This works out pretty good," said Kroll of the funding. "With cutbacks, it makes it hard to get money to do enforcement."

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BILL

FROM PAGE A1

of the federal stimulus money to fill the holes in the School Aid Fund. However, it won't be able to fill all of the holes and "millions and millions will have to be cut in categorical" to make up the difference, he said.

While the federal money had been earmarked for construction, Baracy said it's being used to shore up the School Aid Fund and stave off chargebacks and a projected cut of \$110 per pupil for the 2008-09 budget year. He added that school districts will face even tougher times when the stimulus money runs out in two years. At that time, the state will have to roll back school aid payments to handle the deficit.

Analysts have indicated that school districts could lose as much as \$600 per pupil at that time.

"Revenue is continuing to decline in Michigan," he said. "The only way out is going to have to be cutbacks and revenue enhancements. We can't cut our way out of this structural problem. It's a huge issue and bold steps need to be taken."

For its part, Wayne-Westland has formed a 21st Century Committee made up of residents, parents, staff and administrators to look at ways to reinvent the district while shaving some \$10 million in expenses. The committee began meeting in June and is schedule to bring its report to the school board next year.

"We might be better off than some, some might be better off than us," Baracy said. "We have

to face reality. We have to work together to save ourselves."

Residents can keep tabs on what the committee is doing by visiting the district's Web site at www.wwcsd.net, where minutes of the committee meetings and PowerPoint presentations made to it are posted.

School board Secretary Martha Pitsenbarger told her colleagues that she believes Wayne-Westland is one step ahead of other districts by forming the committee.

"We need more people to become aware of what's happening," she said. "I'm glad to see we've set things in motion to make that happen. It's sad to see the state of our economy, but we still have kids who need an education. Hopefully, things won't be so dismal in the future."

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AROUND WESTLAND

Family Fun

Westland Convalescent and Rehab Center will be transformed into a family-friendly Free Summer Fun Fest 3:30-7 p.m. Friday, Aug. 14. Enjoy hot dogs, hamburgers, ice cream as well as a moonwalk, games, and clowns visit. In addition, some lucky patrons will take home cool prizes including a gas grill, children's bicycles, restaurant gift cards, even gas gift cards. Proceeds of this event will benefit The Senior Alliance. Westland

Convalescent and Rehab Center is at 36137 W. Warren Road between Wayne Road and Central City

Parkway. For more information, call (734) 728-6100 or visit them online at www.westlandcc.com.

Bowling fund-raiser

The Methodist Children's Home Society will hold a bowling fund-raiser Saturday, Aug. 20 at Oak Lanes, 8450 Middlebelt, between Ann Arbor Trail and Joy in Westland. The

cost is \$20 per person and includes three games of no-tap bowling, shoe rental and pizza. For more information, call Mia at (313) 531-7462, by e-mail at mwalk@mchsmi.org or online at www.themethodistchildrenshomesociety.com.

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.

Hazardous waste

The Wayne County Department of Environment is holding a Household Hazardous Waste Collection day in the City of Westland.

The Westland event is scheduled for 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

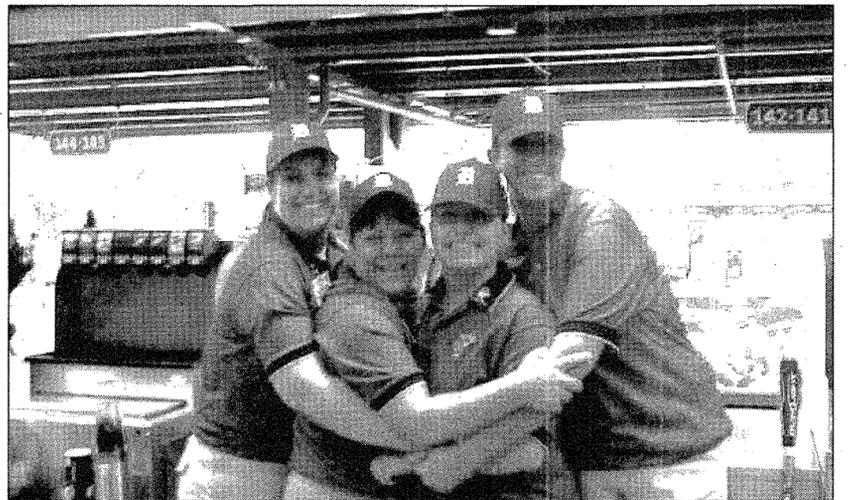
Saturday, Aug. 22, in the lot behind J.C. Penney at the Westland Shopping Center, Warren Road and Nankin Boulevard. Household generated waste will be collected from any Wayne County resident.

For more information, contact the Wayne County Department of Environment at (734) 326-3936.

Blood drive

The Westland Jaycees and the Westland Rotary Club have partnered up to host a blood drive 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 4, at the Bailey Recreation Center, 36551 Ford, Westland. Donors must be at least 17 years old to donate.

Those who are age 21 and older will be entered to win a 20 month lease on a 2010 Mercury Milan and donors age 17 and older will be entered to win four Cedar Pointe tickets plus a \$50 gas card. Everyone will receive a free T-shirt from the American Red Cross. To sign up for a blood donation appointment, call Mary McGaw at (734) 748-8515.



Among the fund-raisers Tonya Downing (from left), Danielle Fischer, Star Dorsey and Jamie Downing did to raise money for the Breast Cancer 3-Day this weekend was run the Big League Grill during a Detroit Tigers game at Comerica Park.

3-DAY

FROM PAGE A1

front of the Wal-Mart store to take part in the walk. They were able to get a match of the money they raised from Quest Diagnostics, freeing them up to fund-raise for another team, Downing said.

The Breast Cancer 3-Day benefits the Susan G. Komen for the Cure and the National Philanthropic Trust Breast Cancer Fund. Last year's Michigan walk raised more than \$7 million while nationally, the Breast Cancer 3-Day

Series, which took place in 14 cities nationwide, raised more than \$110 million through donations, contributions and sponsorships. Of that, more than \$79 million, representing 72 percent of funds raised, was invested in breast cancer research, education and community health programs.

The team members have been training by doing walks around Canton's Heritage Park. While she didn't train as much as she did last year, Downing said she's ready to do the 60 miles.

"I trained my butt off last year. I didn't do as much this year, but I'll do OK," she said.

"We've been working on this since last year. We signed up for this year at last year's walk."

While she had no problem completing it, she does admit she had an "are you serious" moment when, at the last pit stop on the second day, Dorsey pointed out that they had another 45 minutes to walk.

"I had to walk at my pace, I couldn't have done it at their pace," Downing said. "I encouraged them to walk faster and they told me they couldn't keep up because I'm tall. I'm 5-foot-10, Star's 5-foot-3. She really pulled that one on me."

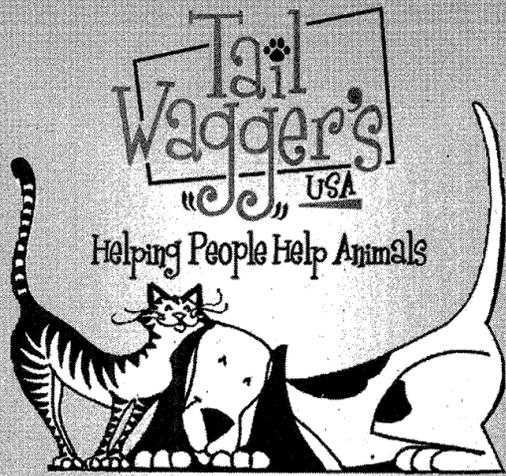
Downing has made a few changes to her walking plan for 2009. Last year, the walk was in September, but with it being moved to August, she has bought dry gear to stay cool. She's also bought a good pair of shoes.

Downing decided to do the walk because of several aunts of her husband who had breast cancer, as well as an uncle who had throat and neck cancer.

As for how long she will do the walks, Downing is "committed to do this until my feet fall off."

"Maybe this will take us one step closer to cure one cancer or one step closer to curing all cancers," she said.

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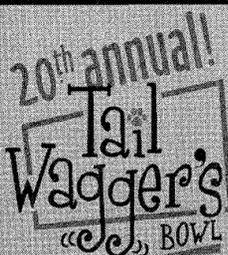
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*if necessary. **Information available on the web page after August 20.

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Teen pens a new chapter with 2nd book

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Canton teen Taylor Joseph has had a whirlwind summer. She's learning to drive. She is 16, after all. She's spending a little time with friends. Oh, and she's promoting her second novel.

Taylor's new book and first mystery, *Allison Investigates* (Four Star Publishing, \$12.95), hits bookstores in September. It tells the 202-page story of an inquisitive teen and aspiring detective who, along with three friends, is thrust into a subculture of skateboarders and organized crime while investigating a neighbor's stolen car.

Step aside, Nancy Drew. Taylor visited police stations and car dealerships to research her new novel. Unlike her title character, though, Taylor isn't interested in becoming a detective.

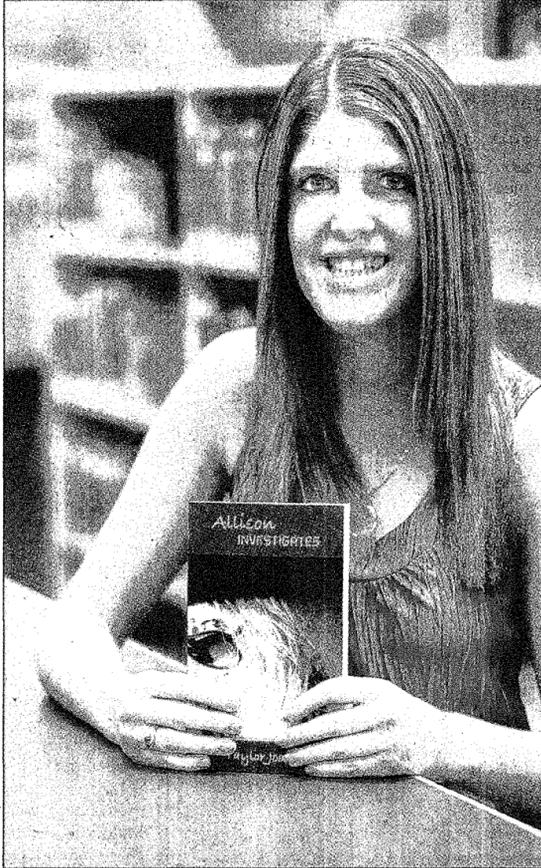
"I just thought it was something I wanted to write about," she said, sitting Thursday afternoon outside the Canton Public Library. "I like being creative."

Taylor's latest book is billed as a fast-paced adventure that takes Allison and her friends from their teens to young adulthood in the most memorable summer of their lives.

The novel follows Taylor's debut, *The Crossing*, which has sold several thousand copies and tells the story of a 12-year-old Mexican girl's struggles to escape poverty and cross the border into the United States. It can be bought at major bookstores or on amazon.com.

Taylor, who will be a junior at Salem High School this fall and is the daughter of Larry and Monica Joseph, promoted *The Crossing* with book signings in 12 states. She appeared on 15 radio programs and has made a television commercial promoting literacy, although she needs more sponsors before it will air.

One school system in Plano, Texas, invited Taylor to speak to eight schools in two days. "They treated her like a queen," Larry



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Author Taylor Joseph of Canton has penned her second book, a mystery about an inquisitive teenager thrust into the world of skateboarding and organized crime.

Joseph said.

Taylor spends most Saturdays and Sundays writing, so she doesn't have much spare time. Still, she enjoys what time she can squeeze in with friends to play sports. She also has a Web site, www.taylorjoseph.com.

Taylor started taking writing seriously when she was only 8 years old. "She's always been artistic and creative," Joseph said.

Even before *Allison Investigates* hits bookstores, Taylor already has nearly finished her third novel about a powerful king who has everything but peace, after his wife dies giving birth to a third child. The Joseph family, which also has a 14-year-old son, Evan, is negotiating with a New York agent who may become involved in publishing the next book.

Taylor said she wanted to thank all the teachers across the country who have invited her to their classrooms to talk about her

SIGNING DAY

• **Who:** Taylor Joseph, 16, of Canton

• **What:** She'll sign copies of her second book, *Allison Investigates*

• **Where and when:** 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 19, Barnes & Noble Booksellers, northwest corner of Six Mile and Haggerty in Northville; 2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 26, Borders in Canton, on Ford Road between Sheldon and Lilley.

books and to promote literacy. "It's a very important issue," she said.

She still isn't sure if she will make a lifelong career out of writing. "Only if I become a best-seller," she said, smiling. Otherwise, she may become a nurse.

That is, after she learns to drive.

Driver pleads no contest in fatal accident

A Livonia man will be sentenced in September after pleading no contest to charges he drove while drinking and killed a pedestrian walking along Joy Road on Westland's north side.

Wesley Thomas Sanborn, 22, faces a sentence of 18 months to 15 years for the Aug. 3, 2008, death of Gary Brown, a 27-year-old Livonia father of two.

Sanborn's plea agreement came Monday before Wayne County Circuit Judge Michael Hathaway who had rejected as too lenient an earlier plea offer that would have sentenced Sanborn to one year in the Wayne County Jail and

five years probation.

Hathaway had given Sanborn the option of a 2- to 15-year prison sentence under a new plea agreement or going to trial.

"I'm glad this one is over," Westland Police Officer Jack McIntosh said. "If it had gone to trial, it would have ended differently. There could have been a lot more jail time had he been found guilty. This was good kid who made a mistake."

Sanborn was accused of driving drunk shortly before 5 a.m. Aug. 3, 2008, and hitting Brown, also described as drunk, along a stretch of Joy Road east of Newburgh,

police have said. He was accused of hitting Brown with a Chevy Blazer, leaving the scene and returning several hours later, where he was spotted and stopped by Westland police.

Brown had been seen shortly before his death by newspaper delivery driver Jason Suarez, who said he saw Brown walking drunk in the middle of Joy Road, not far from where the accident happened.

Sanborn had told police that he was receiving a telephone call and a text message around the time of the accident and that he believed he had hit a mailbox.

Tickets now on sale for Dine and Dash

BY SUE BUCK
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

You can dine, you can dash and you can do it in your own vehicle or in a school bus during the fifth annual Garden City Chamber of Commerce Dine and Dash restaurant rally Tuesday, Sept. 15.

Five Garden City restaurants — Albert's on the Alley, Amantea's, Rogala's, Sports Venue and McDonald's — will participate in the event that runs 6-10 p.m.

It's easy to take part — just buy a ticket in advance. Tickets are the yellow Dine and Dash T-shirt that must be worn during the event. The shirts come in sizes from medium to 3XL.

"The ticket includes complimentary appetizers from the participating restaurants,

transportation and an evening of fun," chamber Director Amelia Oliverio said. "There will also be a surprise entertainer. Guests are responsible for purchasing their own beverages, and tips are appreciated."

A portion of the proceeds will go to the Garden City Rotary Club.

Major sponsors for this event include Garden City Public Schools, Metropolitan Lincoln Mercury and TDS Metrocom. Supporting sponsors are Lona's Pizza, Mr. B's Pet Salon, Comfort Keepers, Orin Jewelers and the Gold Tones.

New this year is the Best of Taste award, sponsored by the *Garden City Observer* and the Chamber of Commerce. Diners will be able to vote for their favorite restaurant by casting their vote in ballot boxes that

will be on the school buses. The winning restaurant will get to display the Dine and Dash Best of Taste plate until the next Dine and Dash, Oliverio said.

"We're calling it the Lord Eats Plate, like hockey's Lord Stanley Cup," she said. "They'll get to hoist the plate."

Ticket prices remain the same as last year — \$20 for adults, \$18 for senior citizens, \$10 for children age 10 and under and \$75 for a group of four people. All tickets must be purchased in advance and are available at the chamber office, 30120 Ford Road, Garden City.

For more information, call the chamber at (734) 422-4448 or check out the chamber Web site at www.gardencity.org.

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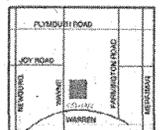
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PUBLIC SAFETY

No cash, robber takes woman's cell phone

Armed robbery

Police are looking for a suspect in connection with the holdup of a 44-year-old Westland woman in the parking lot of the Westland Medical and Dental Office at 8191 N. Wayne Road Aug. 10.

The woman told police she and a 25-year-old friend were walking from Woodcrest apartment complex to Marco's Party Store on Wayne Road when the teen approached them with gun

drawn. The woman said the suspect placed the gun to her neck and demanded all of her money. When she told him she had nothing, he searched her pockets, then took her cell phone and fled into the apartment complex.

The woman and her friend described the suspect as a black male, age 15-16. He was wearing black shorts with a red stripe and no shirt.

Break-in

Police officers found cigarette lighters knocked off a counter onto the floor inside a BP gas station at 31350 Michigan Ave. Aug. 11. Officers entered the building through a hole in the glass in the front door after receiving a general motion alarm. There were no witnesses and police could not find anything that was used to break the glass.

Larceny

A resident of the 1600 block of Selma was looking out his living room window Aug. 6 when he saw a black male ride across his neighbor's lawn on his bicycle. The homeowner told police the bike had been taken from his open garage. The bicycle, a blue Schwinn mountain bike, was valued at \$200.

Strong arm robbery

The mother of a 16-year-old Redford youth flagged down police along North Wayne Road just after midnight Aug. 11 to report that her son had been robbed by three black males.

The youth told police he had just been paid and was walking south on Wayne Road near Central City Parkway when the three suspects, described as teenagers, on a bicycle approached him. One teen wrapped his arms around him and when he failed to tell him what he had in a sock, he was thrown to the ground by the teen and held while a second youth took the \$135 out of the sock.

He told police he tried to get up several times, but the teen continued to hold him down. He sustained some scraps on his side.

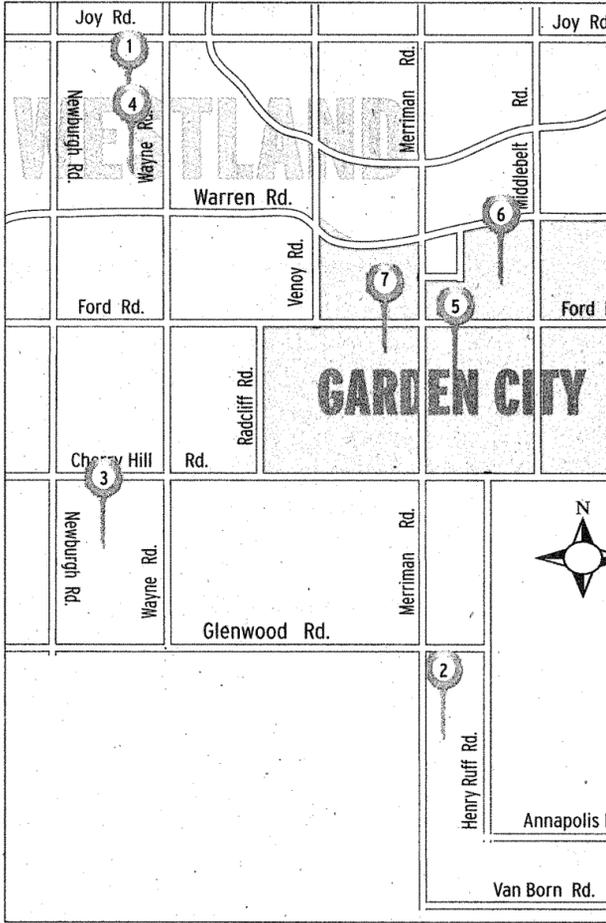
Break-in

A resident in the 900 block of Easley Drive told police that someone apparently pried open the locked door sometime between noon Aug. 7 and 8 a.m. Aug. 10 and removed a snowblower and gas-powered edger.

Residents of a home on the 32000 block of Fairchild came home after being out of town for four days to find that someone had entered their garage through an open window and stole a mountain bike and set of golf clubs. The incident happened between July 7 and July 9, but was reported to police on Aug. 5.

Larceny from a vehicle

A tenant at the Pointe West Apartments told police Aug. 5 that someone had taken a baby stroller he had stored in the trunk of his car. He believed the suspects entered through the passenger door which had a broken lock cyl-



inder and used the interior release to gain access to the trunk.

A resident in the 31000 block of Capri Terrace told police that someone had entered his unlocked vehicle during the night of Aug. 4 and removed a large black briefcase containing his bank statements, divorce papers and passport. The case had been in the back seat of the vehicle.

A woman told police someone entered her unlocked car while it was parked in the driveway overnight Aug. 3-4 and removed the face plate to her radio.

Larceny

A resident of Pear Street report-

ed her laptop and two digital cameras were stolen from her deck on Aug. 5. The woman told police she had gone inside briefly and when she returned the items were gone.

Larceny

An Inkster resident told police that her iPhone was taken by a woman at the Toys R Us store, 34800 Wayne Road, Aug. 4. The woman had left the phone sitting on the counter at checkout. When she realized her phone was missing, she returned to the store where the cashier told her that another woman standing in line picked up the phone and said it was hers.

4 men rob poker players of cash

Armed robbery

The police are investigating an incident which occurred at an apartment in the 31200 block of Pardo.

When a police officer was investigating a traffic stop about 2:30 a.m. Aug. 7 at Merriman and Pardo, he was informed by men driving by in another vehicle that they were robbed inside an apartment on Pardo by four black men.

They told police the men entered the apartment building through an open back door and that two men entered the apartment and robbed them while a third man stood guard in the doorway.

According to the police

report, there were two professional poker playing tables inside the apartment and that professional tournaments are sometimes held there and that it takes \$200 per person to join in the games.

Five men, who were from Garden City, Livonia and Dearborn Heights, allegedly were robbed of \$200-\$800 a piece.

GARDEN CITY COP CALLS

Stolen auto

A woman who lives in the 30500 block of Krauter said that her 2000 Ford Contour was stolen sometime before 9:30 a.m. Aug. 9. She described the vehicle "unsecurable" and said that a key was broken off in the ignition.

Attempted stolen vehicle

Someone tried to steal a 2008 Chevy Impala before 1 p.m. Aug. 9 in the 31000 block of Krauter. The car was unlocked and it appears someone had tampered with the steering column.

Property damage

Someone damaged a three foot by three foot window at Detroit Auto One, 27777 Ford Road., Aug. 11.

Retail fraud

A man entered the Walgreens store at 31415 Ford Road about 2 p.m. Aug. 9 and stole three, six-packs of five-hour energy drinks. An employee told police the man stuffed the packages, priced at \$14.99 each, in his shorts pocket and left without paying for them.

The suspect is described as bald and unshaven, wearing a white T-shirt and black denim shorts.

- By Sue Buck



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Shelter hops to find homes for bunnies

BY BRAD KADRICH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

David Brown of Ann Arbor loves rabbits. He also likes to give back to the community.

So, when he met Jill Pernicano and Dominique Moroz, founders of the Midwest Rabbit Rescue, back in 2005, he discovered a way he could do both.

Now, Brown is a member of the shelter's board of directors and volunteers on a nearly daily basis for MRR, the non-profit dedicated to rescuing and adopting out at-risk rabbits.

"I don't know where it comes from, but I've always loved animals, and in particular rabbits," said Brown, the retired CEO of Kaiser Optical Systems. "I love rabbits, and I love contributing to the group. I like volunteering with small groups who can really make a difference."

MRR isn't the biggest operation in the world. It operates on a budget of \$50,000 a year, raised from private donations and fund-raisers, and depends on staffing from some 80 volunteers, including a core group of about 25.

The shelter currently houses about 100 rabbits, with others in foster care. The mission, according to board member and uber-volunteer Lisa Powell, is simple.

"We want to bring in rabbits that need homes," said Powell, who has volunteered 2-3 hours a day for the shelter since losing her job as a corporate attorney. "We want to educate people about adoption versus buying a rabbit from a pet store."

Officials at MRR believe rabbits are the third-most popular household pet, after dogs and cats and not counting fish. According to Brown, studies show there are some 5.5 million pet rabbits in the U.S.

MRR depends on volunteers like Brown and Powell, who acknowledges she "knows every rabbit" in the place. Powell, who has been volunteering for MRR for just over a year, said her husband found the shelter after she got laid off at work.

Powell, who already owned a rabbit, said she dove right in. And she's not the only one; she estimates volunteers turn in some 1,100 hours a month.

"I needed a project, so I jumped in headfirst," Powell said. "I really think our core group is as dedicated as any group of people I've been around. They're excitement pushes me."

MRR workers think the public knows little about rabbits, particularly as pets. For instance, Powell said, rabbits are "easily litter trained," and are very social animals, which is why they recommend adopting them in pairs.

"They get a lot of companionship together," she said. "I started with one, and I had to get him a buddy."

MRR benefitted from a fund-raiser at a local comedy club last month, and has scheduled a charity poker fund-raiser starting Friday at the Shark Club in Canton.

Such events, Brown said, help MRR raise money in out-of-the-box ways.

"It's a way to reach beyond our usual support," Brown said of the charity poker gig. "These

events usually have their own followers."

The shelter appears to be working. Brown said MRR has adopted out some 750 rabbits over the last four years. That's happy news to the board and to the shelter's volunteers.

"It's really gratifying when a rabbit gets a home," Brown said. "Most of the rabbits in here would have died. It really

is a second chance."

Midwest Rabbit Rescue is located at 882 N. Holbrook in Plymouth. The shelter hosts open houses noon to 4 p.m. every Saturday and Sunday; open other times by appointment only. For information on donating or volunteering, see the group's Web site at www.rabbitrr.org

bkadrich@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-8899

FUND-RAISER FOR RABBITS

- What: Midwest Rabbit Rescue fund-raiser
- Where: Shark Club, 42070 Ford Road, in Canton
- When: Aug. 14-17 (6 p.m. to 2 a.m. Friday and Monday; 5 p.m. to 2 a.m. Saturday and Sunday)
- More info: Call (734) 844-7665

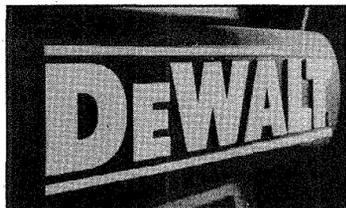
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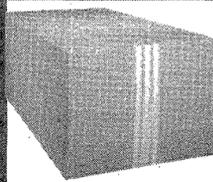


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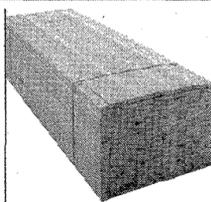
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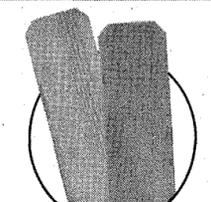
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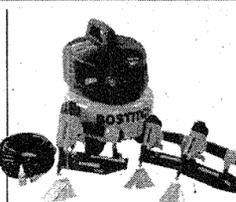
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6-Gallon Air Compressor Nailer Kit
•3-tool kit included #253002



Lisa Powell holds Denier, a rabbit resident of the Midwest Rabbit Rescue shelter in Plymouth's Old Village. The shelter holds a fund-raiser this week to try and raise money to run the \$50,000-a-year shelter. For more on the fund-raiser and on Midwest Rabbit Rescue.

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Details on our policies and services: Prices may vary after 8/17/09 if there are market variations. "Was" prices in this advertisement were in effect on 8/6/09 and may vary based on Lowe's Everyday Low Price policy. See store for details regarding product warranties. We reserve the right to limit quantities. *Ask for 10% Off your first single receipt in-store purchase charged to your new Lowe's Accounts Receivable or Lowe's Business Account when you open your new account in any Lowe's store and make your first purchase between 8/12/09 - 8/17/09. Coupon must be presented at time of purchase and cannot be used in conjunction with any other coupon or discount. This coupon is good for a single receipt purchase of any in-stock or Special Order merchandise only up to \$5000 (Maximum discount \$500). Coupon is not redeemable for cash, is nontransferable and cannot be replaced if lost or stolen. Void if altered, copied, transferred, or sold through any on-line auction. Limit one coupon per household or business. Not valid on sales via Lowe's.com, previous sales, purchase of services or gift cards. Offer must be requested at the time of purchase. Offer is subject to credit approval. Coupon valid for one time use only. Offer is not valid for accounts opened prior to 8/12/09. Excludes Lowe's® Consumer Credit Accounts, Lowe's® Project Card® Accounts, and all Lowe's® VISA® Accounts. While Lowe's strives to be accurate, unintentional errors may occur. We reserve the right to correct any error. Prices and promotions apply to US locations only. ©2009 by Lowe's®. All rights reserved. Lowe's and the gable design are registered trademarks of LF, LLC. (090891) 001/090891/06c

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ACHIEVERS

Amber Morneau of Westland, a freshman elementary education major, has been selected by Northern Michigan University to participate in the Student Leader Fellowship Program. The SLFP is a two-year program that focuses on leadership development and community service.

The daughter of Tom and Rhonda Morneau, Morneau will participate in fall retreats, a leadership theory and practice class and Skill Builder! workshops. In the first year, fellows are matched with community mentors. Participants then plan, organize and implement a community service

internship to complete the program.

Bethany McEwen of Westland, the daughter of Timothy and Jill McEwen, received her master's degree in visual arts education in May from Spring Arbor University in Spring Arbor.

Man pleads guilty to sex charges

BY DARRELL CLEM
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

A former Canton man has pleaded guilty to charges he sexually assaulted young boys and took more than 100 pictures found by police in his Sumpter Township home.



Pindzia

Frederick Allen Pindzia, 59, faces sentencing Aug. 27 by Wayne County Circuit Judge Bruce Morrow after pleading guilty Monday to three counts each of first- and second-degree criminal sexual conduct involving a boy under 13 years old, six counts of child sex abuse activity and one count of

distributing obscene material.

Pindzia, described by police as a former youth mentor and Boy Scout leader, could face penalties ranging up to life in prison on charges involving boys 8 to 15 years old.

Canton police announced the latest developments 13 months after they executed a search warrant in July 2008 at Pindzia's home in Sumpter Township, acting on information from a teenage boy who said Pindzia sexually assaulted him several years earlier.

Pindzia lived on Marlowe Street in Canton when some of the criminal sexual activity occurred.

When the allegations arose last year against Pindzia, then-Canton police Sgt. Rick Pomorski had

commended one young boy who reported the sexual assaults.

"I have to give the victim a lot of credit," Pomorski said. "It can be very difficult at times to do the right thing, so I give him all the credit in the world."

On Tuesday, police Sgt. Mark Gajeski said the boy told a school counselor who initially contacted Westland police. They, in turn, contacted Canton authorities.

Police seized more than 100 photographs and video tapes in Sumpter Township, and authorities said some of them dated back to 1999 when Pindzia lived in Canton.

Pomorski had said police "believe he established a pattern of criminal activity."

dclcm@hometownlife.com | (313) 222-2238

**CITY OF WESTLAND
NOTICE OF MEETING**

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

Case #1690R, Site Plan Approval for Proposed Kroger Fuel Station, Parcel #031-99-0013-706, Northwest Corner of Ford Road and Central City Parkway, Jack Knowles (Rick Ragsdale).

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a meeting of the City of Westland Planning Commission will be held at City Hall, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan at 7:30 p.m., September 1, 2009.

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

Adam Hammons, Chairman
WESTLAND PLANNING COMMISSION

Publish: August 13, 2009

OE0866590-293

**LIKE NUMBERS?
there are a pile
of them in
today's SPORTS section**



Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property.

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, **PS Orangeco, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc.** will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage located at 20080 Allen Rd. Trenton, MI 48183 (734)479-5442 8/28/2009 at: 10:00 am. Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due. Personal property described below in the matter of:

- | | | |
|------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 105 | Steven Dale Trimble | boxes, TV, tool box |
| 137 | Joseph Kovacs | vehicle - Ford Mustang VIN |
| 350 | Robert Anthony Villella | boxes, bags, tires |
| 623 | Robin Wizinsky | boxes, bags, totes |
| 919 | Aaron Cusmano | boxes, bags, totes |
| 926 | Teresa Kamin | mattress |
| 1013 | Linda Shuttleworth | bags, grill, chairs |
| 1018 | Gary Jedenasty | boxes, bags, totes |
| 1100 | Mary Faraj | totes, tools, golf clubs |
| 1119 | John Parfrey | golf clubs, cabinet, tool box |

Publish: August 13 & 20, 2009

OE08668550-245

Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property.

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, **PS Orangeco, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc.** will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage (formerly Shurgard) located at 24920 Trowbridge St., Dearborn, MI 48124 (313) 277-7940 8/28/2009 at: 1:00 pm. Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due. Personal property described below in the matter of:

- | | | |
|------|------------------|-----------------------|
| 1102 | Wael Mokhles | boxes, bags, tv |
| 1112 | Angelique Nelson | boxes, bags, totes |
| 1138 | Yancy Davis | boxes, bags, totes |
| 1196 | Brittany Riley | boxes, bike, dresser |
| 1326 | Lisa Bynum | bags, totes, toys |
| 1412 | David Childers | boxes, bag, totes |
| 1440 | Barbara Houston | boxes, totes, sofa |
| 1468 | Linda Riley | boxes, bags, mattress |
| 1548 | Tyrone Johnson | boxes, bags, desk |
| 1552 | Marion Sinclair | piano, stereo |
| 2124 | Linda Robinson | boxes, totes, tv |
| 2298 | Tamika Hister | boxes, bags, dresser |
| 2302 | Kimiko Doakes | tv, sofa, love seat |
| 2354 | Rinaldo Barnes | boxes, mattress, tv |
| 2478 | Rokena Harry | totes, chairs, table |
| 2492 | Earl Giles | boxes, bags |

Publish: August 13 & 20, 2009

OE08668547-244

Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property.

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, **PS Orangeco, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc.** will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage located at 3650 Enterprise Dr. Allen Park, MI 48101 (313) 441-3117 8/28/2009 at: 12:00 pm. Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due.

Personal property described below in the matter of:

- | | | |
|------|--------------------|----------------------------|
| B075 | Tina Borczak | boxes, bags, dresser |
| B080 | David Beveridge | boxes, bags, safe |
| B091 | Nakia Mathis | chairs, mattress, sofa |
| B117 | Shannon Turrill | boxes, TV, chairs |
| B152 | Trina Moore | boxes, bags |
| B165 | Darren Jackson | boxes, bags |
| B185 | Tabita Latham | boxes, dresser, totes |
| B257 | Petrice Johnson | boxes, bags, mattress |
| B267 | Dale Marie Griffin | boxes, bags, record player |
| B269 | Chris Edmonds | dresser, mattress, mirror |
| C002 | Sandra Queen | boxes, totes, sofa |
| E037 | Penney Morgan | boxes, bags, chair |
| F009 | Terrance Rucker | boxes, bags, TV |
| F049 | Aikesiah Carter | stove, bags, refrigerator |

Publish: August 13 & 20, 2009

OE08668552-244

**CITY OF WESTLAND
NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION**

On August 18, 2009, the Westland Police Department will conduct a public auction of impounded, abandoned vehicles. The auction will begin promptly at 11:00 am at Westland Car Care, 6375 Hix Rd., Westland, MI, County of Wayne, where the following vehicles will be offered for sale to the highest bidder:

YEAR	MAKE	BODY STYLE	COLOR	VIN
1994	Pontiac	Grand Prix/4 Dr	White	1G2WKS525RF207471
1998	Buick	Regal/4 Dr	Black	2G4WF521XW1540587
2003	Chevy	Cavalier/2 Dr	Silver	1G1JC12F137255036
1997	Dodge	Intrepid/4 Dr	Brgndy	2B3HD46FSVH635871
1997	Cadillac	Eldorado/2 Dr	White	1G6ET1291VU617473
1997	Mercury	Sable/4 Dr	Lt Blue	1MELM53S9VG611377
1990	Ford	Ranger PU	Blue	1FTCR14T6LPB17736
1996	Toyota	Corolla/4 Dr	Brgndy	1NXBA02E1TZ355993
1992	Chevy	Silverado/PU	Black	1GDC14Z9NZ126285
1994	Olds	Bravada/SW	Black	1GHDT13WXR0707595
1990	Saab	900/2 Dr	Blue	YS3AJ36D2L500294
1996	Ford	Econoline/Van	Blue	1FTJ334H4THB27856
1997	Mercury	Mountaineer/SW	Blue	4M2DU552VUJ51716
2000	Hyundai	Sonata/4 Dr	Gray	KMHWF35VOYA198868
1994	Dodge	Dakota/PU	Red	1B7GL23X7RS634532
1999	Ford	Taurus/4 Dr	Black	1FAFP53S1XG248264

All vehicles are sold in "as is" condition. Bidding on all vehicles will start at the amount due for towing and storage. Vehicles may be deleted from this list at any time prior to the start of the auction.

30 DAY NOTICE OF AUCTION

Due to unknown ownership, 30 day notice is hereby given that the vehicle(s) listed below will be auctioned after September 12, 2009 unless it is claimed by the owner prior to that time.

YEAR	MAKE	BODY STYLE	COLOR	VIN
1991	Pontiac	Grand Am/2 Dr	Black	1G2NE14U9MC66648
1995	Yamaha	F6R/Motorcycle	Black	JYA3HHE08SA080265

Publish: August 13, 2009

OE08668454-245

Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property.

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, **PS Orangeco, Inc. and/or Shurgard TRS, Inc.** will conduct sale(s) at Public Storage (formerly Shurgard) located at 9300 Pelham Rd., Taylor, MI 48180 (313) 292-9730 8/28/2009 at: 11:00 am Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due. Personal property described below in the matter of:

- | | | |
|------|---------------------|---|
| 1008 | Bobby Revis | boxes, tv, table |
| 2001 | Odessa Sartor | grill, totes, sofa |
| 2031 | Larry Adams | boxes, bag, computer |
| 2051 | Talis Dugas | boxes, bags, sofa |
| 2055 | Robert Howell | boxes, totes, tv |
| 3014 | Carly Freeman | boxes, bags, dresser |
| 3037 | Ebony Moore | totes, washer, dryer |
| 4008 | Jeremy McCauley | table, dresser, Yamaha 250 VIN 509-003719 |
| 4064 | David Chambers | boxes, dresser, chair |
| 5003 | Edwin Omev | boxes, dresser, snow blower |
| 5053 | Jolyn Trojanowski | boxes, bags, chair |
| 5071 | Sheila Sargent | boxes, table, picture |
| 6085 | Ron Bemby | bags |
| 6129 | Douglas White | boxes, dresser, totes |
| 6133 | Ashley White | boxes, bags, lamp |
| 7048 | Sheila Ross | boxes, bike, sofa |
| 7082 | Jeffrey Stonecipher | totes, dresser, boxes |
| 7106 | Donna Mayer | boxes, totes, dresser |
| 9032 | Isaac King | boxes, bags, totes |
| 9062 | Isaac King | boxes, bags |
| 9074 | Troy Jackson | boxes, bag, totes |

Publish: August 13 & 20, 2009

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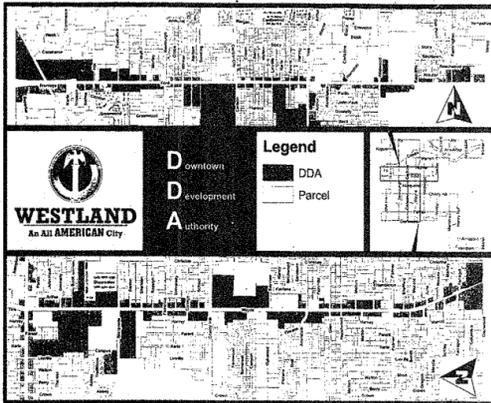
**CITY OF WESTLAND
COUNTY OF WAYNE, MICHIGAN**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON
AMENDMENT TO
DEVELOPMENT AND TAX INCREMENT
FINANCING PLAN OF THE
WESTLAND DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT
AUTHORITY**

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS IN THE CITY OF WESTLAND:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the City Council of the City of Westland, Michigan, will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, the 8th day of September, 2009, at 7:00 o'clock, p.m., prevailing Eastern Time at the City Hall, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan, to consider the adoption of an ordinance approving an amendment to the Development and Tax Increment Financing Plan for the Westland Downtown Development Authority pursuant to Act 197 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1975, as amended.

The boundaries of the development area to which the Plan Amendment applies are as follows:



Copies of the proposed amendment to the Development and Tax Increment Financing Plan, maps, plats, etc. are on file at the office of the City Clerk for inspection.

At the public hearing, all interested persons desiring to address the City Council shall be afforded an opportunity to be heard in regard to the approval of the Development and Tax Increment Financing Plan for the Westland Downtown Development Authority and all aspects of the Plan will be open for discussion at the public hearing.

FURTHER INFORMATION may be obtained from the City Clerk's office.

This notice is given by order of the City Council of the City of Westland, Michigan.

Eileen DeHart, CMC
Clerk, City of Westland

**2009 Amended Projects
Descriptions**

FORD ROAD REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT

The proposed redevelopment area within the Central Ford Road Corridor is a half-mile commercial district on Ford Road between Central City Parkway and Wayne Road Projects would include: the relocation of utilities; landscaping and beautification projects, including fountains; irrigation system improvements; facade improvements; construction of public gathering areas; parks; installation of directional signs; the construction, repair, and reconstruction of new and existing streets, including all related storm drainage, curb and gutter, water mains, sewer mains, and sidewalks; the acquisition, construction, and reconstruction of various parking facilities; easement acquisition; the installation of new street lighting; installation of bench seating tree planting and sign improvements

FORD ROAD OVERPASS BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT

The project shall consist of improvements to overpass structure, replacement of the cobra style lights and placement of new decorative lighting, entry way signage, landscaping and irrigation and the placement of banners.

FORD ROAD LIGHTING / ENHANCEMENT PROJECT

It would be desirable to continue the decorative lighting project on Ford Road west from Central City Parkway to the Ford Road Overpass. These projects would include easement acquisition; removal of cobra style lighting and placement of decorative lighting; landscaping; irrigation system improvements; installation of identification signs, entry way signs and street signs; traffic signals; and related intersection improvements.

WAYNE ROAD LIGHTING/ENHANCE PROJECT

It would be desirable to start a lighting and enhancement project on Wayne Road from Ford Rd. South to Marquette. These projects would include easement acquisition; removal of cobra style lighting and placement of decorative lighting; landscaping; irrigation system improvements; installation of identification signs, street signs; traffic signals and related intersection improvements.

MARKETING OF DISTRICT

A strategic marketing campaign will take place to attract people and economic activity to the downtown district, including but not limited to the placement of banners on street lights throughout the district, outdoor concerts, farmers markets and other public activities.

PARK AND PUBLIC AREA IMPROVEMENTS

The DDA intends to finance public portions of a proposed Municipal Complex including public parking areas related pedestrian walkways and open spaces and related public infrastructure. Improvements to park property would include sidewalk improvements; infrastructure improvements the addition of equipment, structures and outdoor furniture.

Statement of the Construction or Stages of Construction Planned and the Estimated Time of Completion and Estimate

The time schedule for construction of the public improvements for the Development Area is outlined in Appendix A.

Portions of the Development Area which the Authority Desires to Sell, Donate, Exchange or Lease to or from the Municipality and the Proposed Terms

Land may be acquired by the Authority by purchase or otherwise for the purpose of redevelopment. Land assembly for the redevelopment generally involves the acquisition of a number of parcels to provide an area of sufficient size to attract proposals for redevelopment. The Authority has not identified a specific site or sites for land assembly and redevelopment at the time of approval of the 2009 Amended Plan. Acquisition may be undertaken by the Authority, by the City or by private developer(s).

The Authority may also acquire properties on a piecemeal basis in order to accomplish the purposes of the Authority. This may include property acquisition of blighted or contaminated property or property that has been used for purposes inconsistent with the Original Plan.

Estimate of the Cost of the Development, Proposed Method of Financing and Ability of the Authority to Arrange the Financing

The estimated costs of the improvement program are outlined in Appendix A. Financing of the development projects as described in the 2009 Amended Plan will be carried out in accordance with requirements of P.A. 197 of 1975. The Authority may pay all or part of the costs of the development program described in the 2009 Amended Plan with tax increment revenues collected during the duration of the 2009 Amended Plan. In addition, the Authority may issue bonds or request the City to issue bonds on behalf of the Authority in order to pay part of the costs of the development program. If bonds are issued, tax increment revenues will be used to pay principal of and interest on the bonds as well as related costs.

Maximum Amount of Bonded Indebtedness to be Incurred

The maximum bonded indebtedness to be incurred under the original plan was set at \$3,000,000.00. That bonding limit is repealed by the 2009 Amended Plan. The maximum bonded indebtedness to be incurred under the 2009 Amended Plan to finance the projects set forth therein shall not exceed \$20,000,000.00. Capital projects may be financed from tax increment revenues received by the DDA, proceeds of various types of bond issues and other sources approved by the City and in accordance with P.A. 197 of 1995.

Duration of the Development Program

The maximum duration of the Plan at its inception was fifteen years (through June 30, 2010) The 2009 Amended Plan extends the original duration by fifteen additional years and will terminate upon the collection of the last taxes levied for the year 2025, unless this 2009 Amended Plan is amended to extend or shorten its duration.

Publish: August 13 and 27, 2009

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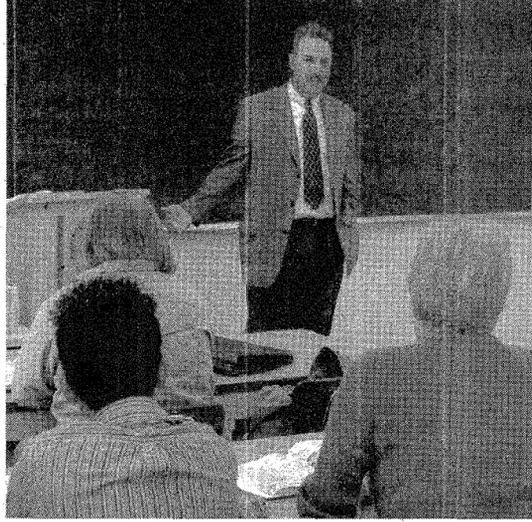
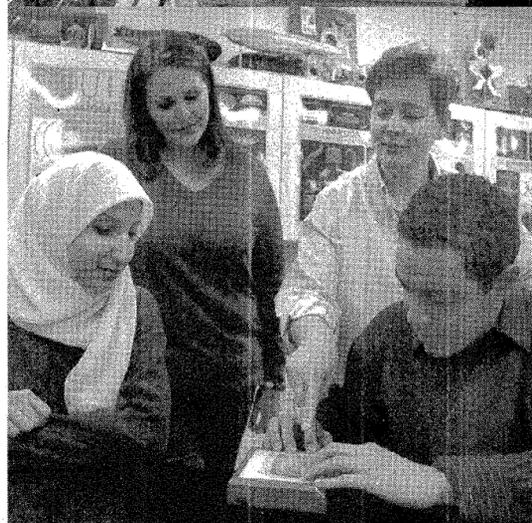
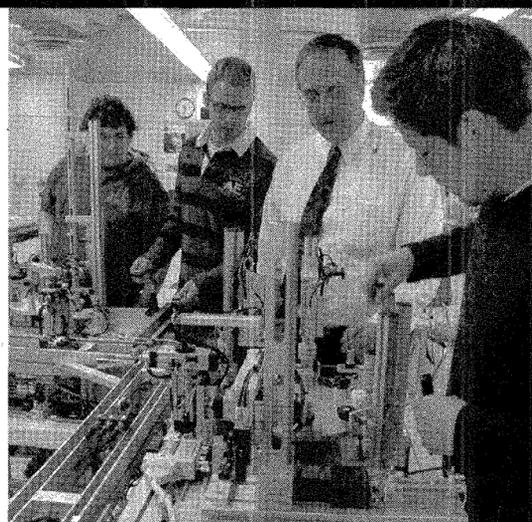
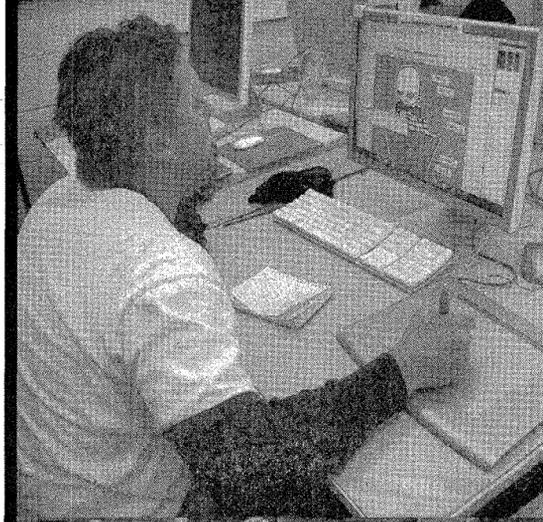
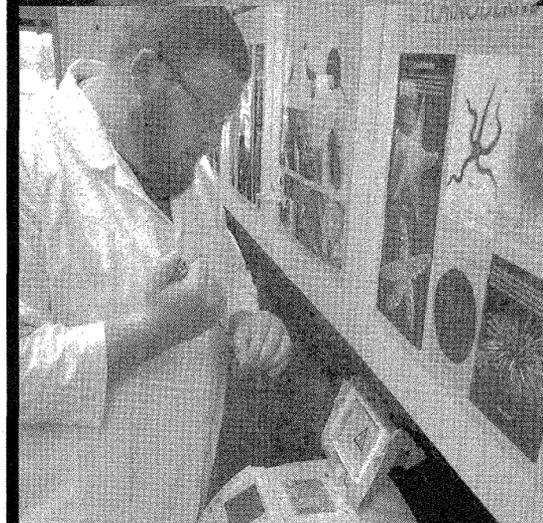
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OUR VIEWS

3-Day walkers deserve cheers

Tomorrow, some 1,000 people will set off at 6:30 a.m. from The Henry Ford in Dearborn on a three-day walk to raise money for breast cancer research. The walk will take them throughout western Wayne County as they work their way to a closing ceremony Sunday afternoon at Washtenaw Community College in Ann Arbor.

The Breast-Cancer 3-Day benefits the Susan G. Komen Foundation. It's a challenging event that attracts men and women who have been touched by breast cancer specifically and cancer in general either through personal experience or through family member and friends who have battled the disease. They participate as walkers — like Jamie Downing of Westland and teammates Tonya Downing, Star Dorsey and Danielle Fischer — or as volunteers.

Participants are challenged to walk approximately 20 miles a day for three days. It's not easy to do, but they do it because they care. And with good reason. According to the American Cancer Society's *Cancer Statistics 2009*, an estimated 1.5 million new cases of cancer will be diagnosed in 2009. Cancers of the prostate and breast will be the most frequently diagnosed cancers in men and women.

The report also notes that approximately one in three women in the United States will develop cancer over her lifetime. The leading sites for the cancer are the breast, lung, and colon and rectum.

The walkers have committed to raising \$2,300 each to walk those 60 miles. By our calculation, they're paying more than \$38 a mile to have sore feet and maybe a blister or two, to camp out each night in a tent city and to shower in semis. They want a cure for breast cancer, and so do we.

That's why we encourage people to get out and show support for the walkers by being at the different cheer stations along the route. You don't need to know who's walking by to participate. Just show up and let them know you appreciate what they're doing.

There are five stations set up along the route at different times during the 3-Day: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday at the Save a Lot, 8244 N. Merriman, Westland; noon to 6 p.m. Friday at the Mid 5 Center on the southwest corner of Five Mile and Middlebelt, Livonia; 9:45 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Saturday at Kellogg Park at Ann Arbor Trail and Main Street, Plymouth; 11:30 a.m. to 5:45 p.m. Saturday at Newburgh Plaza on the southeast corner of Six Mile and Newburgh, Livonia; and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday on Main Street between William and Ann streets in Ann Arbor.

We plan on being there, we hope you will be, too. Who knows, the money raised at this 3-Day may lead to a cure. Show your support, get out and cheer the walkers on.

ONLINE
VOICES & VIEWS

• Pill isn't complete answer

Physicals are essential. As a former elementary school principal, I am quite aware that attention difficulties are just the tip of the iceberg. ADHD children can't filter out distractions, finish tasks on-time, use their memory optimally, etc. A pill doesn't teach these skills. My wife and I opted to use cognitive training for our son, Alex. We used Play Attention (www.playattention.com) and ADHD Nanny (www.adhdnanny.com). We've been very successful with these approaches. We also changed our parenting skills with great success.

jglennon09

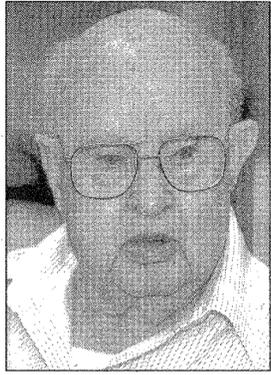
COMMUNITY VOICE

Michigan lawmakers and officials are looking at ways to balance the state budget - what do you think should be cut first?

We asked this question at the Maplewood Community Center in Garden City.



"They need to stop taking care of just the men and take our advice."
Lee Wheeler
Redford



"They should cut the waste and stop stealing our money."
Carol Whitt
Garden City



"They should cut their salaries."
Marie Timmons
Inkster



"With themselves."
Dolores Tabaczynski
Garden City

LETTERS

Pay online faulty idea

The article about the City Of Westland adding "improvements" to the Web site seems to be frightening as well as not thought through thoroughly. Anybody can tell/say how quickly companies dry up using an online service. Granted there are a few that prosper. In the case of the newspaper, Ann Arbor closed their doors for online access because of the computer (digital) propaganda machine.

The article mentions that Dan Bourdeau has the idea that using a "credit card" payment scheme "benefits" the consumer. Westland post office (in the mall) has already been slated to be possibly closed because of some "budget cuts" by the bureaucrats. Hopefully, this idea of paying online will falter so as to not add another "For Lease" or "For Sale" sign to the community.

Mayor Wild has already been in the news as keeping the Westland post office on Wayne Road saying, "we dodged another bullet there."

Let's hope the \$4.95 community fee will be offset by the \$.44 postal stamp and then perhaps Mr. Bourdeau will see what his damaging ideas are doing to the community. The word "community" is to connect the people and businesses, not the unraveling impetuous actions by a civil servant.

Chad Cox
Westland

Health care plan will fail

The U.S. Postal Service is going under because of mismanagement, abuse, waste and fraud, yet some Americans think that a government-run health insurance company is a good thing. President Obama says that he does not want to take away the choices we currently have, yet page 16 of this bill guarantees that it will make private insurance illegal to attain.

President Obama states that "Medicare is about to become bankrupt," but the truth is, Medicare has no money in its "fund" because our government used the general fund to fund everything else, so what they are really saying is that the I.O.U.'s are about to expire and they have to cover the respective assets. Medicare is \$80 trillion in the red.

This health care plan is really a health care insurance and it will be funded by the way our government funds everything, by grabbing more of our money and in the process our freedoms. Every time our government takes over anything, it goes into the red and fails.

The Cap-n-Trade fiasco is another example of government bureaucracy at work. They state that we need to reduce our dependence on foreign oil by pushing new technologies even when these technologies are in an infant stage, incredibly costly and very inefficient. They never mention drilling and extracting our own oil, they just brush on the idea of clean coal and nuclear plants never intending to work towards any of these proven cost-efficient methods.

They base their stories on old information and misguided thinking when every day yet another study reveals that global warming or climate change is a natural cycling of our earth's climate, carbon has nothing to do with it.

The Cap-n-Trade bill is sold as a way to reduce carbon emissions yet the emissions it will reduce is less than 2 percent by 2050 and seeing that carbon is not the problem and that climate change is natural, why spend all this money? China and India, two of the largest producers of carbon emissions, stated many times that they will not participate in this plan. Obama has plans to use the taxes collected on this to help fund nationalized health care.

One can see the writing on the wall. If you look between the graffiti, you can see this money going into the same general fund otherwise known as the politicians' piggy bank.

Adrian Rogers made the statement below in 1931 and it still holds true today. This should be taught to each and every student from the fourth through the 12th grades as part of a regular curriculum:

"You cannot legislate the poor into prosperity by legislating the wealthy out of prosperity. What one person receives without working for, another person must work for without receiving. The government cannot give to anybody anything that the government does not first take from somebody else. When half of the people get the idea that they do not have to work because the other half is going to take care of them, and when the other half gets the idea that it does no good to work because somebody else is going to get what they work for, that my dear friend, is the beginning of the end of any nation. You cannot multiply wealth by dividing it."

This is exactly where Obama is trying to lead us with his stimulus, Omnibus, Cap-n-Trade and health care reform bills that are sending spending through the roof to 32.1 percent which is five times higher than any year in history of this country and the year is just half over.

Phil Solarz
Westland

Opposes 'Cash for Clunkers'

As new car dealerships ramp up advertising to attract motorists to the showroom using "Cash for Clunkers" as an incentive, we anticipate a consumer backlash once reality replaces the hype and car owners realize that "Cash for Clunkers" is nothing more than a clever slogan for a program to spend \$1 billion of our tax dollars to fund a government-subsidized vehicle trade-in to help new car dealers sell cars.

Consumers will soon learn that they are simply trading in their vehicle and will still have to jump through all of the hoops to qualify for and purchase a new vehicle.

The much-heralded fuel efficiency and environmental benefits of purchasing a new vehicle could easily be achieved through better maintenance of an existing vehicle or trading up to a newer used vehicle. Any savings from improved miles per gallon will be lost from the costs involved in destroying and disposing of the "clunkers."

We continue to strongly oppose "Cash for Clunkers" because it prematurely destroys vehicles with many more years of useful life, denying consumers more affordable used vehicle options.

Kathleen Schmatz
president & CEO
Automotive Aftermarket Industry Association

Health care concerns

I have just finished reading your article about Rep. McCotter's position on government health care. This piece of legislation is foolishness run amok. Based on the information that over 85 percent of Americans are currently covered with insurance in various forms, and that a large portion of the uninsured are "self-insured" or not legal U.S. citizens, why must we destroy the basic fabric of health care in the U.S.? While I am not against charity (I contribute generously to help others — not like so many tightwad millionaires in the Washington elite), do these few have so much political clout that everyone else must be knocked down to some low common denominator where we all will be dissatisfied?

Our Declaration of Independence includes the phrase "all Men are created equal ..." with certain unalienable rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness." The first eight amendments to the Constitution reinforce these objectives. The phrase "men are created equal refers to the

fact that all citizens are of the humanoid species, not that every person must be identical in achieving their pursuit of happiness. If there are no differences in our lives there would be no incentive to change anything or to work towards advancing ourselves.

As we all are created at least slightly different, we seek different levels of satisfaction in our accomplishments, our living conditions and how we exert ourselves in our work efforts. We also have different ways of looking at each others' achievements. Some of us look at our neighbor's status with admiration, at others with disgust, and at still others with envy and loathing.

Health care is likewise not equal. Each one of our bodies is different and the environment that we expose it to is also different. While some people seem to be in perfect health, others seem to be constantly suffering. Is this fair? Maybe not, but we are not going to be able to change it as long as we are individuals. We cannot determine a person's health just by their appearance.

Each one of us has our own health care challenge and there is not a "one size fits all" health care service that will be able to take care of everyone. Just look at the people in Congress that are pushing to pass this unbelievably complicated Health Care Bill, they have their own "special privileged health care service" that the rest of us must pay for them. While the Constitution (Article I, Section 6) grants that representatives and senators are to be compensated for their service while in office it does not grant them special privileged status apart from the rest of the country's citizens.

Our differences are everywhere in our life. We choose different foods, we live in different types of homes and neighborhoods, we buy car insurance from any number of companies offering it and with different levels of coverage but we all still have the right to pursue a different level of happiness.

All of the things that we want that may improve the comforts in our life require making choices based on the funds we can spend on this or that choice. This is the motivator for humans to go out and work to improve their lot. If all they have to do is say to some rich uncle "gimme because I want" and they get it, why should they expend themselves.

Take that position to the next step and why should anyone work? Electricity does not move from one point in a wire to another to power the motor that drives the water pump unless there is a differential voltage between the source of the electricity and the other side of the motor. Likewise, the water will not come out of the faucet when it is turned on except that there is differential pressure from one side of the faucet to the other. Unless there is a differential nothing will move from one position to another.

Differentials motivate change. Our human nature to get something better or cheaper also drive our desires in health care. As with most problem areas in life, there are usually several possible solutions. The competition between them is settled based on several things, including the cost, effectiveness and possibly profit. Let's keep the competition path open. The specific areas that need repair or assistance should be addressed individually and then thoroughly vetted with public reviews before becoming law.

I am so amazed that our country grew from 13 states and a few thousand people into a great nation without having an overpowering government making what our parents, grandparents and great-grandparents considered personal business. Let's not destroy what our forefathers put together for our benefit for the sake of a few who do not understand the concept of a democratic republic.

Arthur Naujock
Livonia

WESTLAND
OBSERVER



Sue Mason
Community
Editor

Susan Rosiek
Executive Editor

Grace Perry
Director of
Advertising

Arhaus offers tips on table seating

With homes shrinking and the open floor plan becoming more popular, the traditional dining room is not so "traditional" anymore. The kitchen is taking its place for everyday dinners and special occasions. As a result, dining tables are designed to adapt to the occasion and seating too.

Today's dinner tables come in all shapes and sizes, and are multi-purpose; an everyday piece can be made into a dinner party for eight with the flip and twist of the tabletop or addition of leaves. Seating can be casual and then dressed up for the occasion with seat covers or slipcovers (depending on the design).

"Seating," says Gary Babcock, vice president of merchandising and fashion, Arhaus Furniture "is the most important furnishing in the space. You want guests to be comfortable so they can thoroughly enjoy the experience, which often times goes well beyond dinner and into lengthy conversation while still seated at the table."

COMFORT IS KEY

Comfort should be top of mind when selecting seating, but don't ignore personal style.

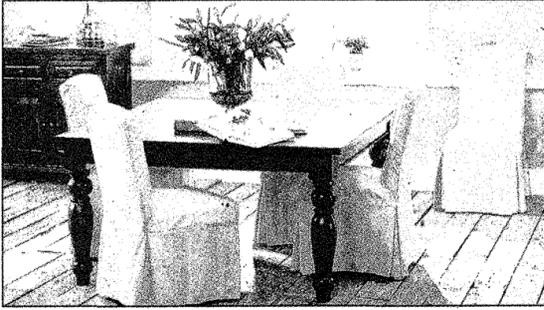
Cozy and classic is the slipcovered dining chair, called Alaina at Arhaus. Sans arms, this style is sophisticated and sumptuous with a fully padded frame — seat cushion and seat back, which is also higher for added support. Consider buying an alternate set of seat covers in a different color.

MIX AND MATCH

When selecting fabrics for special occasion covers, pick unique patterns, but ones that complement the existing color palette in the space.

"You can mix a stripe with a check or a floral print as long as it ties in your existing color scheme," Babcock says. "And, don't be afraid to mix and match different styles. This is how you'll create a unique look."

At Arhaus stores, designers pair an overly-proportioned modern dining table with classic, but similar in scale bistro chairs and they have even set a rustic wood table with six contemporary high back leather seats.



Arhaus sells "Alaina" chairs for the dining table.

FUNCTION A PLUS

Look for seats that do double duty and can be pulled from the dinner table into the living room for conversation after the meal.

"With homes shrinking," says Babcock, "multi-purpose seating is becoming a must."

Designers for the retailer often suggest classic styles like a leather bucket chair — used tableside as a captain and later as a lounge (with optional ottoman) in the living room.

"A slipcovered chair works well too," says Babcock. "Just remember, when picking covers, make sure it is a match in both spaces."

KEEP SCALE IN MIND

Consider the size of your space and the furnishings in it, particularly the table as you shop for

perfect seats. Is the table square? Round or rectangle? Is it large? Is it a more dainty design? Does the top open up to more space or does it come with leaves?

Make sure seats are not only proportioned correctly to your table, buffet and wall unit (for dinner and tableware), but also fit in and around the table.

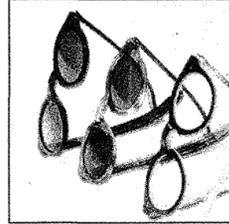
"Always allow for 24- to 36-inches between your chair and the wall or furniture behind it," says Babcock. For captain style chairs, double-check measurements as the design is typically larger in scale.

For more information, call (866) 4ARHAUS or visit arhaus.com. Arhaus has 32 store locations, including its Ann Arbor Store in the Arborland Shopping Center, 3755 Washtenaw Avenue.

BRIEFS

Dropping prices

Selective Eyewear Elements, (SEE) the country's largest family-owned boutique fashion eyewear retailer is selling a portion of its inventory, normally priced at up to \$399 for \$169-\$199, including prescription lenses. Its sunglasses collection, which runs \$129-\$329 a pair, now costs \$99 a pair.



Eyeglasses, model #1681 from Selective Eyewear Elements (SEE).

"I grew up and prospered in Michigan, and am incredibly sensitive to the problems in our local economy," stated SEE's founder, Richard Golden, pointing out that SEE's new price structure is a response to Michigan's economy.

The Michigan based company was founded in 1998 and has since grown to 26 stores from coast to coast.

"SEE has always been a great value. Our collection has always been priced at about half of what consumers would expect to pay for like quality and fashion. We've just adjusted the prices even more to do our part in making an essential item more affordable," Golden said.

SEE's collection includes an eclectic and unique assortment of eyeglasses. SEE's buying team looks for artisans who are turning out the most creative, innovative and unique designs. If it isn't "special," it doesn't make the cut.

Visit local stores in Birmingham and Ann Arbor,

It's almost here!

Sign up for the 2010 Ikea Catalog at www.Ikea.com or call the Canton store at (734) 981-6300 and choose "catalog hotline" from the list of options. You'll receive the book in the mail. The Canton store is located on Ford Road west of I-275.

Kids Day

If the kids are groaning about back-to-school shopping, take them to Parisian at Laurel Park Place in Livonia Saturday, Aug. 21.

Parisian Kids Day fun runs from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. in the children's department, with activities from Max & Erma's restaurant, Zap Zone Extreme, Borders Express, Livonia Family YMCA, Lightning Speedway, Pump It Up, Just Baked Shop, D&M Art Studios, Michigan Youth Flag Football, Tail Waggers USA, Sweet Dreamzzz Inc., and Boys & Girls Club of Southeast Michigan.

Companion Pet Rescue will have pet adoptions on hand.

Mom and Dad will find bargains Aug. 21-22 at the Parisian Kids Day promotion. If they spend \$25, they get 20 percent off; for \$50 get 25 percent off; \$75 nets a 30 percent savings.

Laurel Park Place is located at 37700 West Six Mile, Livonia. (734) 462-1100

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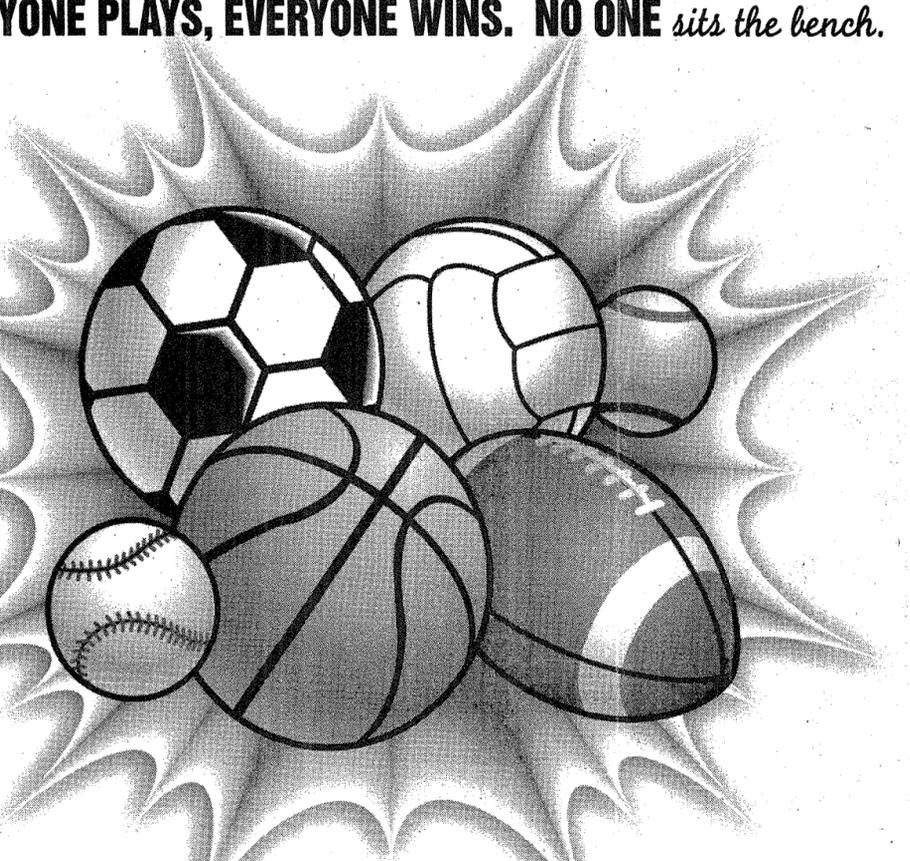
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Soccer Leagues

Peewee Co-Ed

Sept. 19-Nov. 7	Birth dates	
Erie U4	8/1/05 - 7/31/06	\$40, \$60
Ontario U5	8/1/04 - 7/31/05	\$40, \$60
Michigan U6	8/1/03 - 7/31/04	\$40, \$60

1/2 hour practice followed by 1/2 hour game on Saturdays.
Requirements: \$15 Reversible red/blue jersey, size 3 ball, and shin guards.

Instructional Co-Ed

Sept. 19-Nov. 7	Birth dates	
Superior U7	8/1/02 - 7/31/03	\$45, \$65
Huron U8	8/1/01 - 7/31/02	\$45, \$65

One practice per week. Saturday games. All players receive a team shirt. Requirements: Shin guards and size 3 soccer ball.

WSSL League

Sept. 12- Oct. 31	Birth dates	
BU9/GU9	8/1/00 to 7/31/01	\$75, \$88
BU10/GU10	8/1/99 to 7/31/00	\$75, \$88
BU11/GU11	8/1/98 to 7/31/99	\$75, \$88
BU12/GU12	8/1/97 to 7/31/98	\$75, \$88
BU13/GU13	8/1/96 to 7/31/97	\$75, \$88
BU14/GU14	8/1/95 to 7/31/96	\$75, \$88

Volleyball League

Sept. 18- Nov. 1 Girls (ages 9-12) \$55, \$83
1 hour practices are on Monday or Tuesday 6-7pm
Games are on Friday 6-9pm
T-shirts will be provided. Requirements: Knee pads. Game locations are at the Livonia YMCA Field House and Plymouth YMCA.

Baseball League

Sept. 15 - Oct. 22

TBall (ages 4-6)	\$45, \$59
Day: T	
Time: 6-7pm	
Coach Pitch (ages 7-8)	\$45, \$59
Day: Th	
Time: 6-7pm	
Requirements: \$15 reversible red/blue jersey, glove & hat provided for T-ball and Coach Pitch	
Kid Pitch (ages 9 - 12)	\$55, \$70
Day: Th	
Time: 6-8pm	

Participants must have a current YMCA Full Facility or Program membership.
Parent volunteers coach all teams.
Requirements: \$15 reversible red/blue jersey. Glove and hat provided.

Basketball League

Sept. 19-Oct. 31 Ages 5-6

Rookies	\$35, \$50
---------	------------

1/2 hour practice followed by 1/2 hour game, Saturdays in the Upper Fitness Studio.

Winners (7-8)	\$52, \$70
Champions (9-10)	\$52, \$70
Wolverines (11-12)	\$52, \$70
Spartans (3-14)	\$52, \$70

1 practice per week and games are on Saturday in the YMCA Field House.
Requirements: \$15 reversible jersey/tank. Red/blue for Rookies, Blue/white for Winners-Spartans.

Father/ Daughter Flag Football Leagues

Sept. 17- Oct. 24 Ages 10 & Up \$64, \$96
Day: Th
Time: 6-7 pm
3 weeks of skills, four weeks of league play
Location: Soccer fields, east of Bentley football field on 5 mile and Hubbard.
Price: \$64/\$96 for both participants.
Child must have membership and is the registered participant. Ages 10 and up.
Shirts for both participants will be provided.

Tennis Leagues

Suburban Travel Team Leagues Fridays runs September-May

Register now- contact Deanna for more details.
Adult Fall Tennis Leagues run September-May. Singles and Doubles; Men's and Women's.

Women's 3.0 Singles
Day: TH
Time: 11AM- 12:30 PM

Women's 3.0 Doubles
Day: T
Time: 6 - 8 PM
Day: W
Time: 9 - 11 AM

Women's 3.5 Singles
Day: M
Time: 7:30- 9 PM

Women's 3.5 Doubles
Day: T
Time: 12 PM- 2 PM
Day: TH
Time: 6- 8 PM

Women's 4.0 Doubles
Day: TH
Time: 9 - 11 AM
Day: W
Time: 8 - 10 PM

Women's 4.5 Doubles
Day: T
Time: 9 - 11 AM

Men's 3.0 Doubles
Day: M
Time: 9 - 11 PM

Men's 3.5 Doubles
Day TH
Time: 8- 10PM

Men's 4.0 Doubles
Day: T
Time: 8 - 10 PM

Mixed Doubles
Day: F
Time: 8- 10 PM

Early Bird Leagues
Day: Varies
Time: 6 or 7 a.m.
Men's singles 3.5 and 4.0 levels.

Prices are listed as - \$Facility member/\$Program member. Participants must have a current YMCA Full Facility or Program membership. Parent volunteers coach all teams.

Circle the league you are interested in joining and bring the Registration Form to the Livonia YMCA.

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MON TUE WED THU FRI
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Age _____ Birthdate _____ Gender _____ Uniform/Shirt Size _____ Jersey # _____
Credit Card # _____ Exp. Date _____

Parent/Guardian: I hereby certify the registered participant is of normal health and capable of participating safely in any YMCA program. I hereby grant permission to participate. I agree to hold the YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit harmless should an injury occur during program participation. The YMCA has my permission to publish, for any reason, my child's picture of image taken during YMCA program participation. Furthermore, I understand that the YMCA does not stress competitive play.

Signature _____ Date _____

THURSDAY
August 13,
2009

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SPORTS, FILTER, FOOD & WINE

SECTION B
(*)

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Mallon has new role for Solheim Cup



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Meg Mallon (right) shares a laugh with Mercy student photographer Maddy Asta at the 19th annual Meg Mallon golf outing Monday at Western Golf & Country Club. Asta's job was to photograph each foursome with Mallon.

BY DAN O'MEARA
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

It's still golf, but it's a different perspective from that which Meg Mallon is accustomed.

Instead of being a player, the veteran of 23 years on the LPGA Tour will be an assistant captain for the U.S. team in the Solheim Cup next week.

"It will be kinda fun to see it from this side," she said. "I'll be far more nervous as an assistant captain than I ever was as a player."

"When I'm playing, I can focus on the next shot and what I need to do. This time I'm worried about pairings and players rather than my golf game."

Mallon was in town Monday at Western Golf & Country Club in Redford for the 18th annual golf outing that bears her name and benefits her alma mater, Mercy High School.

She leaves Friday for Chicago and the week-long Solheim Cup in which the Americans are favored to beat the Europeans.

Mallon's job, and that of fellow assistant cap-

tain Kelly Robbins, is to help team captain Beth Daniel, but most of her work is already done.

The duties of an assistant captain "are a lot more than you think," Mallon said, adding it was a two-year process of planning and preparing.

She had a lot to say in selecting the U.S. team, because she was the only one of the three still on the tour.

"It's a big effort for the captain," Mallon said. "We're trying to make her life and that of the players as easy and seamless as possible."

"During the week of the event, we're also two more sets of eyes if Beth needs to make any changes to the group."

Besides fulfilling her role with the Solheim Cup team, the past year was a difficult one for Mallon, who dealt with the death of her sister, Tricia, from cancer and injuries that limited her playing time.

After withdrawing from a tournament last July with a shoulder injury, Mallon didn't play the rest of the year.

Please see **MALLON, B2**

SIDELINES

TV show taped live

The public is invited to attend a live taping of the *From Glory Days* TV show at the Woodward Stage in Ferndale during the Woodward Dream Cruise Saturday.

The show is based on Farmington Hills author Kurt David's book *From Glory Days - Successful Transitions of Professional Detroit Athletes*.

The TV show features former Pistons, Tigers, Red Wings and Lions, focusing on their transitions from pro sports and what they're doing now.

David's guest Saturday will be former Lion and NFL Hall of Famer Lem Barney. The show will be taped at 2 p.m. David and Barney will sign copies of the book afterward.

The Woodward Stage is located on Woodward Avenue, two streets north of Nine Mile Road.

O&E golf postponed

Last Saturday's Observer & Eccentric Women's Golf Open at Livonia's Whispering Willows was suspended shortly after it began because of rain and lightning.

The tournament has been rescheduled for Saturday, Aug. 22, according to Whispering Willows golf pro Paul Worley.

Last call

The Motor City Pirates U-13 KVBSA independent travel baseball team will be having open tryouts from 10 a.m. to noon Sunday at their home field, UAW Local 735, located at 48055 Michigan Ave., Canton MI 48188. For more information, contact Head Coach Angelo Lanava: alanava@wowway.com or (734) 395-3355.

Hole-in-one club

Fox Hills in Plymouth was the site of six hole-in-ones during July.

On July 11, Ed Valliere of Grand Rapids used a wedge on the 88-yard No. 10 hole at the Strategic Fox.

The Golden Fox hosted aces by Brighton's Steve M. Zerws (on July 20) and Kentucky resident Todd Fischer. Zerws, 52, used an 8-iron on the 144-yard No. 3 and finished with a score of 83. Fischer's ace was on the 170-yard No. 12; he used a 5-iron for his shot.

Also scoring an ace at the Golden Fox was Canton's Renae S. Kelly on July 18. She used a driver on the 105-yard No. 14.

Canton's Patrick Lukasik, 56, scored a hole-in-one on July 19 at Fox Classic-Lakes No. 2. He used a 5-iron to ace the 162-yard hole and finished with a score of 93 for the day.

On July 18 at Fox Classic-Lakes, 72-year-old Brian Stouffer of Ann Arbor collected a hole-in-one. He used a 9-iron to ace the 115-yard No. 5 hole and finished with a round of 115.

Fishing club meeting

The monthly meeting of the Huron Valley Sportfishing Club will be at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 20, at American Legion Post 200, located at 11800 Michael Street, Taylor (take Brest Road west off Telegraph Road to the hall).

The featured speaker will be C. J. Baker, charter captain and Silver Streak representative. He will discuss the science of and bring in the newest UV activated spoons and spinner blades for display and purchase.

Food and drinks available, along with 50/50 and fishing tackle raffles.

For more information, e-mail rmontre@juno.com.

Red-hot reps

First practices fuel competitive fires for Observer-area gridders

BY THE OBSERVER SPORTS STAFF

After weeks of informally lifting weights and perusing the playbook, area high school football players officially got going Monday on the first day the Michigan High School Athletic Association permits formal team practices.

Despite furnace-like temperatures, squads coolly made their way through the myriad conditioning and football drills as preparations continue for season openers in two weeks.

Coaches remain optimistic that 2009 could be the year. But first, their teams had to get through the week. So far, so good.

Following is a recap of how some of the sessions are progressing:

CANTON

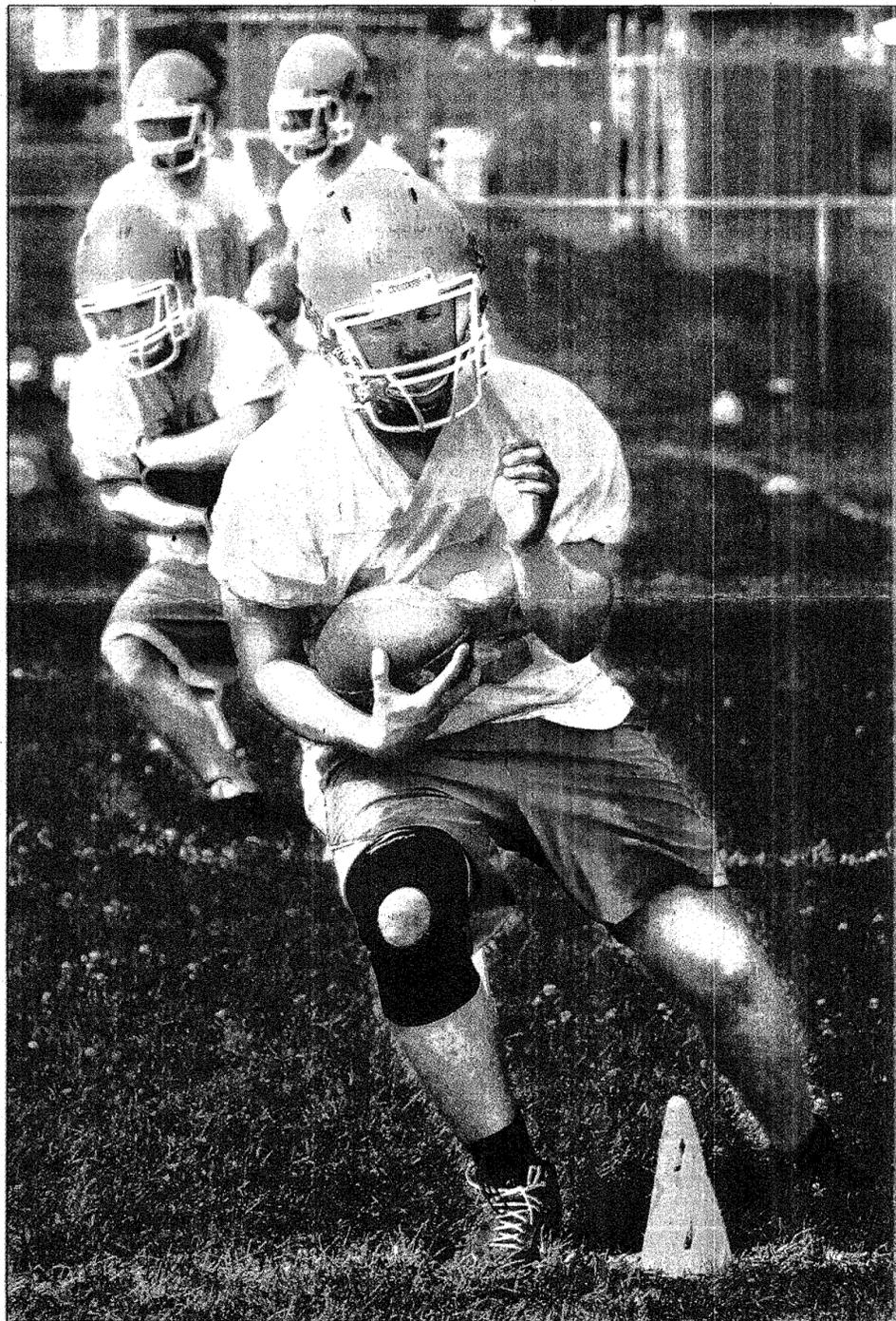
Storms and scorching heat on the eve of official high school football practice didn't dampen enthusiasm at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park as Canton's Chiefs opened practices.

"Everybody looks good with no pads on," said veteran Canton head coach Tim Baechler, following Tuesday's session. "So we'll start learning more about a few of our positions, a few of our players on Thursday."

Today is when the Chiefs will don shoulder pads and begin full-contact drills, with 15 days to go before the Aug. 28 season opener at Brighton.

Baechler said both the Monday and Tuesday practices focused first on defensive basics and then moved over to going over various offensive formations.

Please see **FOOTBALL, B3**



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Canton varsity football coach Tim Baechler talks to his players about upcoming drills during Tuesday's practice at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park.

Garden City griddier Greg Emery runs through offensive drills during the first couple of days of practice. The Cougars will open the 2009 regular season Friday, Aug. 28, at Dexter.

Michigan Rams split pair in AABA tournament

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The Michigan Rams' promising start to the All-American Amateur Baseball Association Tournament took a slight left turn Tuesday afternoon as Martella's Pharmacy of host Johnston (Pa.) held on for a 2-1 triumph at Point Stadium.

Pitcher Ryan Zamiskie tossed a three-hitter as Martella's improved to 2-0 in 16-team, double-elimination 20-and-under tournament.

The Rams, coming off an impressive 14-4 opening-round win over the Toledo (Ohio) Monarchs, fell to the loser's bracket at 1-1.

Zamiskie went all nine innings, striking out five and walking only two while hitting a batter.

"He (Zamiskie) did a nice job," Rams

manager Rick Berryman said. "He changed speeds, kept ball away and we had 13 ground ball outs. But we could have hit the ball better and kept the ball in play."

Pinch hitter Pat Kohl drove home Mike Pelekanos, who had doubled, with the game-winning run in the seventh inning to break a 1-all deadlock.

Chris Rasky's RBI single scoring Colin Harrington, who also doubled, gave Martella's a 1-0 lead in the top of the third, but the Rams answered in the bottom of the third when Madonna University's Nick Plinka (Livonia Stevenson) reached base on an error and scored on Brett Mazmanian's single.

In the bottom of the seventh inning, the Rams were poised to take the lead, but Aaron Cieslak was tagged out at home trying to score from third on a

wild pitch by Zamiskie.

"The ball bounced back off the backstop perfectly to the catcher," Berryman said. "I saw another game tonight at the Point and I saw five or six that didn't bounce that way."

Rams starter Brady Cooper, who went 7.1 innings, took the loss for the runners-up in the Livonia Collegiate Baseball League, who fell to 2-4 overall. Cooper struck out eight, walked one and allowed eight hits before being relieved by Ryan Abraham, who struck out three in 1.2 innings.

The Rams played again at noon Wednesday at Roxbury Park in the loser's bracket against New Orleans. Visit www.hometownlife.com.

RAMS 14, MONARCHS 4: Catcher Brett Mazmanian, out of Kankakee (Ill.) Community College, went 4-for-4,

including a double, with six RBI and two runs scored Monday as the Michigan Rams rolled to a seven-inning mercy rule victory over the Toledo (Ohio) Monarchs in the opening round of the AAABA tournament at Johnstown's St. Michael Field.

The Rams, who lost two of three exhibition games to the Monarchs this summer, jumped out to an 11-2 advantage through three innings and never looked back.

Mazmanian had plenty of support offensively as the Rams chased Monarchs starter Kacy Dwornik (Bowling Green). Toledo also committed four errors.

Lead-off batter Aaron Cieslak, who started the game with a double up the gap, went 2-for-4 with two RBI and

Please see **RAMS, B2**

MALLON

FROM PAGE B1

"My sister was ill and in December I went to Pennsylvania to stay with her and help her, which put my game in the background," she said. "I put my priorities in order, and my family has always been my first priority."

"My sister and I were close. She was No. 5 (in a family of nine kids) and I was No. 6. She was my idol growing up. I was glad I could spend the last three months with her."

Mallon returned to playing golf at the end of April; however, she suffered a back injury during a tournament in New York and has been trying to get back on track.

"It's been a very inauspicious beginning to the year,"

she said. "Some times you have to take what life gives you and deal with the rest."

Mallon will restart her playing career in two weeks at the Canadian Open. She has played in five events this year and hopes to get in six more by the end of the year.

"It's not the kind of year I wanted," she said. "I work on conditioning; unfortunately, my body yelled at me a bit. I had to get back in shape. Then I didn't get my rhythm back, and I didn't play as well."

Mallon, who has won 13 tournaments and is among the all-time top money winners on the tour, isn't contemplating retirement yet.

"I've always told myself I'd play as long as I was healthy and competitive," she said. "I haven't been the last four

years now, but there have been some extenuating circumstances whether it was my healthy, my sister's or my mom's."

"I still have the desire to work at it. Every athlete says they'll know when it's time, but I haven't quite gotten there yet."

Mallon, who moved from Arizona to Florida in 1999, is still fond of her home state and was looking for a summer home in northern Michigan this week.

"This is my home," she said.

"In 2004-05, we were hit by three straight hurricanes in Florida, and I thought, 'I need to be in Michigan these months.'"

"Plus, I'll be closer to my family, and I have a lot of friends who go up there for vacation. And why not? It's a

great vacation place.

"Wherever I've gone — all over the world — you can't get much better than Michigan in the summertime."

Mallon has been loyal to Mercy, returning each summer for the event that had raised \$620,000 for the school prior to this year.

"They make it so easy for me," Mallon said of the people at Mercy. "I just come in and do the event. My brothers, John and Paul, have done so much. Without them, it would be hard to do, not living here. They don't have kids who went to Mercy, but they've treated it as a labor of love."

"I had such a wonderful experience at Mercy High School, and the friends I have for life are ones I made at Mercy. It's the easiest and most fun day I do."

RAMS

FROM PAGE B1

three runs scored to spark a 13-hit Rams attack.

Left fielder Steve Anderson, a Northville High grad and tournament pickup from the LCBL member Blue Knights, also went 2-for-4 with two RBI. Jason Forster chipped in with two hits, two RBI and two runs.

Ryan Abraham also scored three times, while Kyle Vesey crossed home plate twice. Joe Barnes also contributed an RBI. Winning pitcher Tom

Hansen, a left-hander from Madonna University, went all seven innings, allowing four runs on four hits to pick up the win. He struck out four and walked six.

"He (Hansen) was not necessarily wild, but the umpire had a weird strike zone and they (the Monarchs) walked seven, too," Rams manager Rick Berryman said. "He threw 115 pitches. It was a gutsy performance and it keeps a lot of our other pitchers fresh that we can save down the line for the tourney."

"It was a good start for us. We did not make any errors."

Check out the bargains at area garage sales inside today's Classified section

TEE TIME *Your local golf guide*

Shaking It Off

How to forget about a bad shot and finish with a great score

By Susan Smiley

No matter what level of golfer you are, chances are you've made a bad shot at some point during a recent round — the errant drive, the chip that falls short of your target, or the planned layup shot that goes "kerplunk" right in the middle of the water hazard.

There is no reason that a bad shot — or even a bad hole — should spoil a good round of golf. The trick is learning to mentally shake off the negative and focus on the positive. Keep in mind the bad shot is over, done, finished. Now it is time to step up to your ball and make a great shot.

"I know that a lot of times, I've been able to beat people in the long run not because I was more talented than my opponent but because I had a

positive attitude," said Randy Erskine, PGA Professional at Great Oaks Country Club in Rochester. "My attitude was better even though my talent was not better. There are a lot of people with less talent who produce because of their attitude toward golf. And that goes right to other things in life too."

Erskine's dad taught him from a young age to always think of the glass half full. Growing up, he read several books about positive thinking and over the years he has applied what he learned to his golf game.

Recently, Great Oaks CC hosted the 93rd Michigan Women's Amateur and the champion, Britney Hamilton (Lake Orion), came from behind to get the win. During the final round of match play, she was down three holes to her opponent at the turn. Hamilton,

who is also a positive thinker, told herself to just relax and play her game on the back nine.

Her strategy worked well and by the time she got to the 17th tee, she only trailed by one. Despite hitting her ball in the water, she won the hole and then sunk a long putt on 18 to win the tournament.

"After I hit into the water, I thought I still had a chance," Hamilton said. "I thought if I could hit my next shot well, I had a good chance to win the hole."

That's the kind of thinking that wins championships — and makes golf a whole lot more enjoyable.

Most golfers, Erskine said, have expectations that are much too high. No one is ever going to win every single tournament that they enter. And no one is going to have a great score

every time they tee off. So stop being so hard on yourself!

"People have to have realistic goals," said Erskine. "Goals are only accomplished 25 percent of the time. So you should shoot your handicap only 25 percent of the time. Once you realize that, it helps you to forget about the bad shot or the bad hole or even the bad round."

Another thing Erskine often reminds his students; you can only control your own game and what you are doing. No one can control how their opponent is going to play.

"If you play your best and you still lose — which has happened to me many, many times — you just have to shake your opponent's hand and feel good about your own game that you went out and played as well as you could on that day," Erskine said. "If

you beat yourself up, that is very bad for your golf."

In fact, Erskine will not tolerate negative talk from his students. There is to be no self-bashing during the golf lesson.

"When my students start talking in a negative fashion, I hold my hand up because I just don't allow that," Erskine said. "It helps them to stay positive and it helps me. You get a whole lot more accomplished when you come into a lesson with a positive attitude."

"Now sure, you are going to have bad times. Everyone does. If you know they are coming, it is not as hard to accept when it does."

Susan Smiley is the Member Services Manager for the Golf Association of Michigan.

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FOOTBALL

FROM PAGE B1

The coaching staff gave players as many water breaks as necessary to cope with the 90-degree temps. But stifling heat wasn't about to be any kind of excuse for not getting after it during drills and sprints.

"It's like that for every kid in the state, they're not acclimated to this heat yet," Baechler explained. "It's not their fault."

"... the poor kids, Mother Nature played a trick on them. They've been working hard and they're in shape, but not for 90 degree heat."

As for water consumption, the players were urged to drink 10 to 12 "big glasses" after leaving practice, Baechler said.

SALEM

Later on Tuesday afternoon, first-year Salem head coach Kurt Britnell presided over a crisp Day 2 of drills and instruction.

"On the hip, through the shoulder, that's what I want right there," said Britnell to senior quarterback Jake Peterson, working on his rollouts.

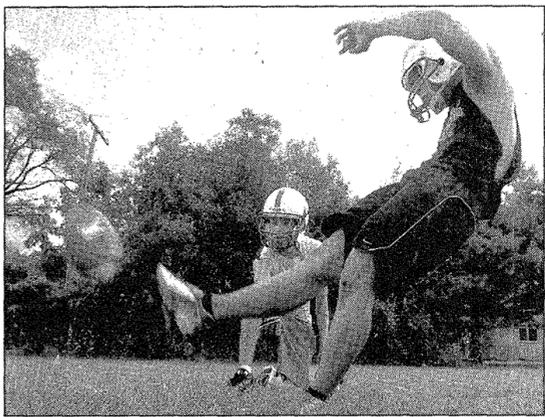
A few minutes later, Britnell — a former Salem quarterback himself — kept the pace going during drills where Rocks' tailbacks worked on hitting gaps with speed.

"Let's go, reps, reps, reps," he said.

During a rare break in the practice, Britnell reiterated the importance of a fast pace.

"We want to keep everything up-tempo, non-stop and stay to the time frame we have and within that time frame we're coaching them on the fly," Britnell said. "It's just to get an up-tempo pace so they get used to that."

Britnell, who was offensive coordinator at Plymouth before taking over the Canton helm, is eager to get the 2009 season going on Aug. 28 against the neighboring Wildcats.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton place-holder Chris Merbler steadies the football as Nick Dibendetto practices kicking field goals on Tuesday.

Of course, the first "opponent" of the year was the heat.

"Heat is not a concern," he continued. "Our managers are constantly walking around giving them water, they're always getting H2O during practices."

PLYMOUTH

Not too far from the Rocks, early afternoon practice got going for the Plymouth Wildcats.

"We're just trying to work hard and get better every day and every practice," said assistant coach Terry Sawchuk. "We're working on all phases of our team."

Sawchuk said the team's preparation for the season opener against Salem is not curtailed by the intense heat and humidity endured during the opening sessions.

"It seems like it's always hot this time of year," he emphasized. "You just have to keep educating your kids on how to hydrate the night before and stay hydrated all through the day, work with the trainers."

Plymouth players are told to gulp tons of water all day, and a gallon of the stuff at night — along with at least one Gatorade "to replenish those electrolytes."

The Wildcats, under the helm of head coach Mike

Sawchuk, also are looking forward to getting the season started in just over two weeks against Salem.

"They're over there working hard," Terry Sawchuk said. "So it will be a heck of a game."

COVENANT

The greatest concern on Day 1 for head coach Darren Blockett and his staff at Redford Covenant was numbers.

Eleven players, enough to field just one side of the football, took part in the opening day of practice as the Spartans look to improve on their 5-4 ledger of a year ago. That roster number is down considerably from the past two seasons when 19 players suited up in 2008 and 25 in 2007.

"Our school is down in students overall, so we're doing sort of a co-op with (Detroit) Consortium trying to get our numbers up," explained Blockett.

The youthful Spartans who did practice encountered some sweltering conditions as the thermometer Monday afternoon topped out at 87 degrees.

"They were hot, but we gave them plenty of water breaks," Blockett said. "Of all the days to get hot. But they fought through it."

One bright spot on the day

— Blockett said the Spartans may have found their quarterback to lead them in '09.

THURSTON

The first couple of days can be a little agonizing for coaches, as well as players, as repetitiveness often takes center stage in setting up formations, making adjustments and finding the right timing in running productive plays.

Redford Thurston head coach Bob Snell is a long way from declaring his Eagles are playoff bound, but just one day of practice brought some smiles usually reserved for much later in the practice sessions.

"We were pretty crisp, and that's not a usual thing," Snell said. "Most of the time we're pretty spent just trying to get everyone in position."

Heat proved to be a concern, but Snell and the coaching staff averted any health issues by serving up plenty of water breaks.

"It was nasty because we hadn't been conditioning in this type of heat all summer," Snell said. "That's the worst if you're not used to it."

GARDEN CITY

Ground zero with an equal opportunity to perform is where every member of Garden City's football team found itself Monday for the opening day of practice.

"We're getting a lot of reps in and looking at different kids," said Cougars head coach Mike Salter. "Everybody is starting with an equal chance to go out there and get playing time and contribute."

The Cougars will be eager for a turnaround this year as the 2008 season produced just two victories. Salter said how quickly the Cougars pick up schemes in running the base offense and base defense will go a long way in determining just how successful the team can be in '09.

"It takes time, but the quicker they pick it up, the better we can be," Salter said. "There's a

lot of teaching going on now. We started slow, but things picked up nicely and we had a much better practice."

REDFORD UNION

What a difference a day makes?

Just one day after struggling to gain any continuity, head coach Miles Tomasaitis saw a completely different performance from his youthful Panthers.

"Monday we sucked, and Tuesday we didn't suck as bad," Tomasaitis summed up. "Some things I felt we should have done, and done pretty well, we didn't. Then all of a sudden it just clicked and we moved forward very nicely."

"The heat wasn't really as bad as it was supposed to be and that probably helped," he went on. "But we gave them plenty of water and plenty of breaks."

Tomasaitis will look for continued progress as the Panthers look to bounce back from a difficult '08 season that produced four victories in nine starts.

NORTH FARMINGTON

Monday is offensive day for the Raiders, so they were installing the bread-and-butter plays of the offense on the first day, according to coach Todd Schultz.

"You get kids in helmets, get them to the right spots and see they're working hard and doing their assignments," Schultz said. "That's pretty much the key when you don't have pads on. We were happy with the guys. They knew their stuff and were hustling."

"It was a good day to get working in the heat, because we haven't had any all summer and we'll be strapping on the pads Thursday."

"It was a good start. We weren't happy with the way the season ended last year. It's another chance to start anew."

FARMINGTON HARRISON

John Herrington began

his 40th season coaching the Hawks when practice started Monday. He's the only head coach they've had since the school opened in 1970.

"I've got a lot of coaching help; I delegate more authority and they're doing a good job," he said.

"As far as it getting harder, maybe a little bit on the legs when you're out there for 5-6 hours, but I get excited about (coaching)."

"You try to put kids in the right positions and try to get the most out of their talent. Every team is different, so it's always fun."

"In the morning, we worked on offense, and I was pleased with the way the offensive line seems to be coming around. The defense is a little behind, but it's the first day. The defense is not going to look good until we get in pads."

FARMINGTON

It was a long first day for the Falcons, but they accomplished a great deal, according to coach John Bechtel.

"There was a lot of organization involved," he said. "We passed out equipment first thing in the morning. The kids had their first meeting at 10:15. Then we had lunch and another meeting."

"In the afternoon, we practiced; then we had another meeting and another practice. The kids were here from 8 in the morning til 9 at night, but we got an awful lot done and a lot in."

"There was a lot of learning going on. We try to get as much content and form in as we can before real football starts Thursday. That's what we try to accomplish, and I think we met our goals."

"The kids are here four weeks before school starts and that's not easy. It shows great commitment on their part to be out there when it's summer and they have a lot of other options. It's a real credit to the players when their buddies might be sitting by the pool."

Annual Mary Angela Run set for Aug. 16 at OCC Orchard Ridge

The Mary Angela Run committee is preparing for its seventh annual event to honor and remember Mary Angela DiGiovanni.

This year's event will benefit Angels' Place, a non-profit which provides housing and services for people

with developmental disabilities. The run will start at 9 a.m. Sunday, Aug. 16, at the Oakland Community College Orchard Ridge Campus in Farmington Hills. The event offers chip-timed 5K and 10K runs and a one-mile fitness walk and

children's run. 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. Her family has pledged that her life will continue to reach out and help others. The standard entry fee of \$25 or

\$50 for a Mary's Angel sponsorship, which includes a Mary's Angel T-shirt and recognition on event signage. Participants may register in advance or Sunday beginning at 7:30 a.m. For more information or to register, visit www.angelsplace.com.

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Garage Sales
7110

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FARMINGTON HILLS HUGE GARAGE/YARD SALE - 21121 Collingham, 2 bks W of Botsford Hospital. Aug. 13-16, 9am-6pm. Lots of baby clothes, furniture, misc. Priced to sell!

FARMINGTON HILLS Multi-Family Sale - 8/13-14-15, 9am-5pm. Building Supplies, Antiques/Collectibles & more! 21990 Cass, Farmington Hills (South of 9 Mile Rd).

FARMINGTON HILLS Multi-Family 3363 Hawthornshire between 8 and 9 Mile, Farmington Rd. and Colfax. Thurs. (8/13)-Sat. (8/15), 9-?? Skis, TVs, bookcase & coffee table, household items, clothes, toddler bed, toys & more!

FRANKLIN Estate/Garage Sale. House full, everything must go! No reasonable offer refused. Something for everyone. Top much to list Wed. Sat. 10am-5pm. 30355 Rosemond. 1 block east of Inkster, north side of Northwest Hwy.

GARDEN CITY Friday and Saturday, 10am-5pm. 6912 Fairfield St. Household items, clothes, toys, furniture.

Garage Sales
7110

GARDEN CITY HUGE GARAGE SALE THIS SATURDAY 8am-4pm. August 15th, 29299 Fyrd Rd., next to Orin Jewelers. Furniture, Kitchen Ware, Collectibles, Electronics & More! Don't Miss it! Great Stuff! 248-496-8068

LIVONIA - Aug 13-14, 9-3pm; Aug 15, 9-12pm. Books, toys, golf clubs, bar stools, household & more. 18448 Renwick W of Levan, N of 6 Mile.

LIVONIA - Everything priced to go! Aug. 13-15th. 9-4pm. 36132 Ladywood, btwn 5 & 6 Mile, off Levan. Household items, jewelry, brand new kid's toys & games and much more!

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PLYMOUTH Garage Sale August 13th and 14th, 9am-4pm. 49255 Hunt Club Ct. in Fox Pointe Subdivision East of Ridge, between Powell and N. Territorial. Baby items, including crib, glider rocker, brand name baby clothes through 3T. Also, seasonal items and teaching materials.

PLYMOUTH HUGE Sale Aug. 14-15, 8am-6pm. Decor, baby, antiques, DVDs, crafts, sports cards, electronics, household and much more! 10017 Spies Ct.

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REDFORD Huge 3-Family Sale. 26850 Lyndon, 8/14-8/16, 9-5. Collectibles, crafts, comic books, furniture, toys, baby items & MUCH MORE!

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WESTLAND Aug 14-16, 9am-3pm. 7292 Haller, off of Warren Rd, btwn Middlebelt and Inkster Rds. Dishwasher, furniture, weight bench, household goods and more!

WESTLAND Huge 6 Family Yard Sale. Sat & Sun, 9-5. 173 Harvey, N of Cherry Hill, W of Wayne. Baby/kids items and more.

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AUG. 13-19

Bethany
West and Downriver chapters team up for a ride on the Detroit River with the Portofino Boat Cruise, 8-11 p.m., Aug. 14. Tickets are \$30. Call Kathy M. at (734) 513-9479. Bethany West's Monthly Breakfast Meeting, 9:30 a.m., Aug. 15 at Leon's, 30149 Ford Road, south side (next to Tim Horton's) in Garden City. All separated, divorced and singles welcome; for details call Kathy M. at (734) 513-9479.

Family film
See "Lion King" at dusk, Aug. 14, at Bethel Baptist, 29475 Six Mile, Livonia. (734) 525-3664; www.betheloflivonia.com

Vacation Bible school
Boomerang Express, an Australian theme program, runs 6-8:15 p.m., Aug. 17-20, at Nativity United Church of Christ, 9435 Henry Ruff at West Chicago, Livonia. The program is for children who are preschool age through 6th grade during the 2008-2009 school year. Call to register (734) 421-5406.

AUG. 20-26

Book bag giveaway
2-5 p.m., Aug. 23, at Plaza Lanes, 42001 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth. Way of Life Christian Church is sponsoring the outreach. Backpacks with school supplies will be given to the first 100 children who register. Registered children also may bowl. Their parents and other adults may bowl for \$5. The price includes shoes. For more information call Ron Spencer at (734) 697-6107.

ONGOING

AWANA
Every Wednesday night Faith Bible Church offers an AWANA program for children from kindergarten through fifth grade at Faith Bible Church, 23414 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills. Drop children off or stay for a Bible study offered to parents from 7-8:30 p.m. For more information, call (248) 426-0096.

Classes/study

■ **New Life Community Church**, 42200 Tyler, Belleville, offers a jobs seminar, 8-9 a.m., Fridays, a reading program for students in grades K-12 and martial arts instruction, both at 10 a.m., Sundays. (734) 846-4615

■ **Orchard United Methodist Church**, 30450 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills, is hosting a Tai Chi Class by Sam Purdy, Wu Style Tai Chi. This meditative form of Martial Arts is designed to reduce stress and is great for over-all health memory and balance. Everyone is welcome from beginning to experienced participants at any time. Classes continue every Monday. Cost per class depends on number of participants. For information or to reserve your space, call (248) 701-1587 or (248) 626-3620. Visit www.orchardumc.org for updates.

■ **Adult and English as a Second Language** literacy classes are available for those who want to improve reading, writing and English conversational skills. Open to age 18 and over. Trained tutors available for day or evening.

For information, call Merriman Road Baptist Church in Garden City at (734) 421-0472.

Leave your name and phone number and someone will contact you.

■ **Scripture studies**, from 7-8:30 p.m., Mondays in the lower level of Our Lady of Loretto Church, Six Mile and Beech Daly, Redford. Call (313) 534-9000.

■ **Learner's Bible study**, 7 p.m., Mondays, in Room A101, at Ward Presbyterian Church, 40000 W. Six Mile, Northville. Call (248) 374-5920.

■ **Learn Qigong**, the ancient form of Chinese energetic medicine - a safe and effective way to rid the body of toxic pathogens and years of painful emotions - at Livonia Unity, 28660 Five Mile. Classes include: Monday movement Qigong, 7-8:30 p.m.; Thursday Qigong meditation, 10-11:15 a.m., and Friday Therapeutic Qigong, 7-8:30 p.m. Call (810) 813-4073 for more information or send e-mail to gary@energeticarts.org.

■ **Bible study**, 4 p.m., first and third Thursdays, at St. Michael the Archangel Church, located at the southwest corner of Plymouth and Hubbard Roads. The informal classes are open to all interested persons regardless of religious affiliation. To register, call (734) 261-1445, Ext. 200.

■ **Bible talks**, 4 p.m., Sundays at the Friendship Center, 1119 Newburgh, Westland. Call (734) 728-9157.

■ **Emmanuel Lutheran Church** in Livonia invites adults with developmental disabilities and special needs to attend a new Open Arms Bible class the second Monday of the month at the church, 34567

Seven Mile, between Farmington and Newburgh roads, Livonia. The class will include songs, Bible lessons, crafts and activities, prayer, snacks and fun. Contact Judy Cook at Emmanuel, (248) 442-8822 or e-mail to elc-ed@arounddetroit.biz.

■ **Tuesday Ladies Bible Study** from 9:30-11:15 a.m. Tuesdays, at Detroit First Church of the Nazarene, 21260 Haggerty, north of Eight Mile. \$15 registration fee includes interdenominational study materials. Child care available for children through age 5. Call (248) 348-7600.

■ **A study/discussion group** focuses on relationship with God and that of other religious groups and philosophical and scientific issues that might impact faith, at 10:30 a.m., Wednesday, at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 26701 Joy. A group at 10:30 a.m., Thursday examines early writings not included in the Bible as well as other versions, extensions and controversies concerning Christianity. Led by interim pastor Larry Hoxey. (313) 274-3820.

Concerts
■ **Rush Hour concert series** continues every Tuesday with gathering and refreshments at 5 p.m., concert 5:30-6 p.m., featuring performances by local and national jazz artists at Metropolitan United Methodist Church, 8000 Woodward, Detroit. Free. Visit www.metroumc.org.

Fellowship dinner
Dinners will resume Sept. 18 at St. James Presbyterian Church, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford. Cost is \$8. Call (313) 534-7730.

Films
10 a.m. Wednesday Kids Matinees and 4 p.m., Saturday family movie, at Kenwood Church of Christ, 20200 Merriman, Livonia. Guitar Praise game precedes the film on Saturday. Children in second grade or younger can play prior to the film; those in third grade and up can play after the movie. Pizza will also be served following the movie. All events are free. (248) 476-8222

Hall rental
■ **Volkmar Hall** located in Good Hope Lutheran Church, 28600 Cherry Hill, between Inkerster and Middlebelt roads, Garden City, is available for rent. For information, call (734) 427-3660.
■ **St. James Presbyterian**, 25350 W. Six Mile, Redford. For information call the church at (313) 534-7730

Prayer
■ **Music, singing, prayer** at 7 p.m. Thursdays at St. Edith Church, 15089 Newburgh, Livonia. Enter through entrance #2, at the back of the church. For more information, call Grace at (734) 464-1896, Shirley at (734) 464-3656, or Geri at (734) 464-8906.

Friendly Garden City welcome pleases pastor, her family

BY JULIE BROWN
O&E STAFF WRITER

The Rev. Pam Beedle-Gee, new pastor at First United Methodist Church of Garden City, preached her first sermon at the church July 5.

Beedle-Gee started her new post July 1, coming from Grosse Pointe United Methodist Church, where she was an associate pastor. She's a graduate of Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary in Evanston, Ill., with master's of divinity and master's of Christian education degrees.

For her undergraduate work, Beedle-Gee studied at Wayne State University, earning a bachelor's degree in social work.

She's married to John Beedle-Gee, and the couple has six children in a blended family ranging from 44 down to 21.

"I was definitely called to the ministry," said Beedle-Gee, who's living with her family in the Garden City parsonage.

She had her children, and her youngest daughter was 4 when she began the ministry process, "when God started working on me."

"I think God prepares you for the job," she finds God prepares you for where you're sent. "I certainly think that I have gifts God's been developing in me throughout my lifetime." Younger pastors have gifts for ministries they're sent to as well, she said.

She did some college work, and studied more at WSU when her children were young. She raised kids and went back to school again for ministry.

First United Methodist Church of Garden City has 304 members. "We really need young families. We would like to invite young families to come and be a part of our community."

She's still learning about



The Rev. Pam Beedle-Gee is the new pastor of First United Methodist Church of Garden City.

the church. "The sky's the limit. There's so much we can do." She's listening to a lot of new ideas, thinking about the future and keeping the church vital.

"That's really what my focus is at this point. It's a great time for new people to come and join us in those efforts."

The church didn't do vacation Bible school this year, and its pastor and others would like to look at that for the future. Children and youth are far more savvy now, Beedle-Gee finds. "How we teach them can't be the same old rote memorization methods. We need to really think about that as we plan ministries with them and for them."

She's a quilter in her free time, and has nine grandchildren and one due close to Christmas. "So we're expecting almost literally a Christ child for Christmas. We put a lot of value on family."

She also gardens a bit. They're still "living in the land of cardboard" as they unpack and settle into their new home. Grosse Pointe also has a lot of mom and pop stores, like Garden City. The convenience of malls and large stores is appreciated, especially by her

college-age daughter. "Everyone here has been really, really friendly." Needing a new doctor or knowing where to buy groceries, they've gotten answers.

"Everybody has just been so friendly and open and hospitable." They went to an ice cream social at the nearby Maplewood Center for local seniors. "We had a great time. We've explored the (Garden City) park a little bit, which is absolutely lovely."

"We've only been here a little while and we're still unpacking." They're not close to the lake anymore, and miss that. "Each community has its own special feel about it."

People wave on the street, which she likes. "Not every community is like that. That's just very, very special."

Her congregation is accepting of a woman pastor. "I don't have to fight some of those stereotypes that other women pastors have to fight. I do know it's still out there."

Some women clergy have to "earn our bars, or earn our credentials." Beedle-Gee recalls church history in which Jesus started church with women in homes.

"Women were the ones in charge of the homes." Men didn't lead until after the time of persecution, when the role became more public.

"People forget women were the ones who got the church going in the beginning."

She spent six years at her last church, and hopes for a nice long stay in Garden City, "that the people here and I will be able to do some good work together. Hopefully, we'll be here for awhile."

Services are at 10 a.m. Sundays with Beedle-Gee preaching weekly, and all are welcome. The church is on Merriman at Maplewood, between Warren and Ford roads in Garden City.

8/13/09

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WILLIAM J. BURTON
Age 85, August 10, 2009. Beloved husband of Mary. Dear father of Daniel (Joanne), Richard (Marianne), Renee (Karl) Myrand, Thomas (Tracie) and Curtis (Carol). Grandfather of Jeff, Lisa, Anthony, Marie, Sarah, Jennifer and Zack Burton and Lauren Myrand. Great-grandfather of Hannah and Joey Burton. Brother of Theresa Boucher, Shirley Bower and Annette Maxwell. Visitation Thursday 5-9pm and Friday 1-9pm with a 7pm Scripture Service at the John N. Santeiu & Son Funeral Home, 1139 Inkster (between Ford and Cherry Hill). In state Saturday 9:30am until 10am Mass at St. Raphael Catholic Church, 31530 Beechwood (at Merriman, 2 blocks north of Ford). www.santeiufuneralhome.com

MARY JOSEPHINE MARTIN
Age 93 formerly of Farmington Hills passed away August 6, 2009 in Harbor Springs, MI. She was born July 17, 1914 in Kansas. She was an artist and homemaker. Mrs. Martin is survived by her children Gregory, Jonathan, and Susan (Larry) Thurston; four grandchildren; eight great grandchildren. She is predeceased by her husband Charles. A family memorial service was held Tuesday at Oak Chapel at Oakland Hills Memorial Gardens cemetery in Novi, MI.

MARK LOUIS TRUJILLO
52 years old, passed away in Scottsdale, Arizona on July 4, 2009. A dear friend, son, and brother, Mark is the son of Rose Ann and the late John Trujillo of Redford Twp., Michigan. He is survived by his mother Rose Ann, and his siblings: Annette, John, Joan, Linda, Gail, Gary, Gerard, Beth, Tim, Mike, Jeff, Marie, Mary Jo & Tom, and by his dearest and closest friend, Roger Bobcean. A life ended all too soon, Mark, we love you and we will miss you. A memorial service will be held for Mark on August 15, 2009 at 12 pm at St. Priscilla's Church in Livonia, Michigan.

ELSIE L. NYYSTI
Age 81 of Farmington Hills passed away July 28, 2009. Dear wife of the late Tenho; loving mother of Margaret Zakrisson, Robert, Caroline (Paul) Riddell, Marcia (Thomas) Bozek and the late Richard. She is also survived by 8 grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren and 1 great-great-grandchild. Private funeral services were held at the Glen Eden Memorial Park Chapel; Reverend Art Ritter presided. Memorial contributions may be made to Meadowbrook Congregational Church, 21355 Meadowbrook Road, Novi, MI 48375
Heeney-Sundquist.com

MARIE C. FERRAS
August 10th, 2009, age 86 of Westland. Dear mother to Dan (Karen), Jim (Lori Miles), Cathy (George) Paskauchas, and Robin (Pat) Mulroy. Sister to Robert Johnson. Loving grandmother to nine and nine Great Grandchildren. Memorial mass at St. Mary Catholic Church of Wayne, Saturday, August 15th at 11am. Cremains will be buried at St. Hedwig Cemetery after Mass. Family request memorials to Right to Life or American Life League. Please view memorial and send tributes to: www.uhfh.com.

DOROTHY L. COLLINS
Age 75, of Warren, August 2, 2009. www.SimpleFuneralsInMichigan.com

NANCY E. HARRISON
Of Livonia, died August 8, 2009, age 83. Beloved wife of Leo. Dear mother of Pam (Scott) Socia, Kimberly and John. Grandmother of Nicole, Scotty, and Tommy. Dear aunt of Fay, Helen, Shirley and Dale. Cousin of Chuck Edwards, Sharon and Sue. Visitation Manns-Ferguson Funeral Home 17000 Middlebelt (S. of 6 Mile) Wednesday 2 to 8 p.m. Services Thursday at 11 a.m. Memorials suggested to American Lung Association. Share a memory at www.mannsfuneralhome.com

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Faithful flock to church grotto for prayer and reflection

BY DIANE GALE ANDREASSI
CORRESPONDENT

A small statue nestled in a manmade grotto at Our Lady of Good Counsel Roman Catholic Church is drawing visitors day and night.

The image of Our Lady of Lourdes sits atop a mound of stones tucked into what looks like a cave opening, overlooking a waterfall and above rows of candles lit by believers asking for God's favor. Construction began in December and it was dedicated two months ago.

The grotto was built at the request of a parishioner who recently visited Lourdes, France where Jesus' mother is said to have appeared to a 14-year-old peasant girl, Bernadette Soubirous, 151 years ago.

Our Lady of Good Counsel pastor the Rev. John Riccardo said the woman "experienced a powerful encounter" and asked if a grotto could be built at the church on North Territorial and Beck in Plymouth Township.

"I said, 'I don't have the money' and she said, 'What if I gave you the money?' And other folks came forward and made it possible totally by donations," Riccardo said.

At the same time, a group of his parishioners were going on a pilgrimage to Lourdes.

"Countless miracles happen of extraordinary testimony of spiritual and physical cures," Riccardo said, adding that people wait for hours to approach the grotto in France. "We built a grotto so people



Kathy Malloy of Plymouth Township touches the water falling in the grotto and blesses herself.

can come here and to remind them of what happened there."

Today, between six million and eight million pilgrims from around the world visit Our Lady of Lourdes in France. Bernadette was canonized as a saint following numerous miracles accepted by the Catholic Church.

"The real miracle is to have our eyes open to really understand what God has done in Jesus and that His love is so great and that we can be in a deep and profound relationship with Him and experience eternal life with Him," Riccardo said.

Recently a group of people gathered, as they do most mornings, after 8 a.m. Mass at Our Lady of Good Counsel to say a rosary, a group of prayers recited while meditating on various times during Jesus' life on earth.

"When I pray here it's a delicious prayer and I get fed

every time," said a woman who asked to remain anonymous.

"The Blessed Mother and Jesus open the scriptures in a way that you never know," she added.

Laura Sovel, who led those who gathered in prayer, said the grotto is a "powerful witness of our Blessed Mother's intercession that people brought from their treasure to honor her and give us a place to bring our prayers and petitions to find quiet time with the Lord. It's such a peaceful place to pray."

Holy water from Lourdes, France — as well as other places where the Blessed Mother is said to have appeared — has been added to the waterfall at the grotto. In fact, the statue was brought back from Lourdes by the parish's pilgrims.

"The power of prayer continues to go on," explained Kathy Malloy, a Plymouth Township resident who also attended the rosary recitation.

ST. BERNADETTE

Behind the group praying, stood a small white statue, depicting St. Bernadette, sitting among the multitude of flowers that surround the grotto. The setting is breathtaking with a stand of pines as the backdrop and a brick walk leading to the statue and waterfall.

The waterfall has a particular significance, because Bernadette was reportedly asked by the Blessed Mother to dig in the ground and drink from the water of the spring she found. At first the water



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The faithful gather at the grotto after Mass and pray the rosary.

was muddy, but the stream became increasingly clean. As word spread, this water was given to medical patients and numerous miracles were reported. During one of the reported apparitions, Mary reportedly asked for prayer and penitence for the conversion of sinners.

PLACE OF PRAYER

Riccardo said he had "two experiences" at the new grotto. He shared one: "I was there with 25 or 30 folks who had gone with me on this pilgrimage last October," he said. "We were praying the rosary and out of nowhere I heard this gentle motherly rebuke that just said, 'You are not expecting anything near enough from this.' So, I'm going to start expecting a lot from this. It's great to see the number of people who come

to pray there asking for the intercession of Mary and a deeper relationship with God.

"It's not a place of beauty, but a place of prayer. It's a fitting place for folks to do what I call wasting time with God. Good friends are people with whom you love to waste time. That's how prayer should be. I want to waste time with God and his friends the saints," he said.

The Blessed Mother has a special place for the parishioners of Our Lady of Good Counsel, because the church is named after her.

"But, we don't worship Mary, we honor Mary. That doesn't take away from God," Riccardo said. "Through no one did God do anything greater than Mary (who gave birth to Jesus). I'm always mindful of Mary's last recorded words in scripture

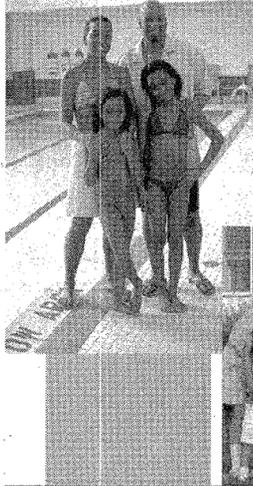
about Jesus at Cana," he said. "She says, 'Do whatever he tells you.' I pray that while people are here they will be able to hear the voice of God in a clear way in their lives. Someone used to say that Mary's greatest joy is to take our hand and place it in the hand of her son. She leads us to Jesus. There's a bumper sticker that annoys me. It says: 'Obedient women never make history,' when in fact it's because of the obedience of this woman that there is history. There would be no history if Mary had not said 'yes.' We would have no future or hope, because it was through her that Christ is born. There is no human person who had done anything that can remotely compare with the significance of Mary."

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<p>CATHOLIC</p> <p>ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH Tridentine Latin Mass St. Anne's Academy - Grades K-8 38100 Five Mile Road Livonia, MI 48154 • (734) 462-3200</p> <p>Mass Schedule: First Fri. 7:00 p.m. First Sat. 11:00 a.m. Sun. Masses 7:30 & 10:00 a.m. Confessions Heard Prior to Each Mass Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M. OE08628544</p>	<p>UNITED METHODIST</p> <p>Redford Aldersgate 2 blocks South of Plymouth United Methodist 10000 Beech Daly 313-937-3170 Summer Schedule Worship at 10:00 am www.redfordaldersgate.org OE08628547</p>	<p>PRESBYTERIAN (U.S.A.)</p> <p>St. James Presbyterian Church, USA 25350 West Six Mile Rd. Redford (313) 534-7730</p> <p>Sunday Worship Service - 10:00 A.M., Sunday School - 10:15 A.M., Thursday Dinners - 6:00 P.M., Thrift Store every Sat. 10am-2pm Nursery Care Provided • Handicapped Accessible Rev. Paul S. Souquette OE08628548</p>	<p>LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD</p> <p>Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia, just north of I-96 734-522-6830</p> <p>Sunday Worship 8:30 & 11:00 am - Traditional Sunday Bible Class 9:45 am Early Childhood Center Phone 734-513-9413 Staffed Nursery Available Making disciples who share the love of Jesus Christ Pastors: Robert F. Boyer and Anthony M. Creeden OE08628549</p>
<p>St Genevieve Roman Catholic Church St. Genevieve School - PreK-8 29015 Jamison • Livonia • 734-427-5220 (East of Middlebelt, between 5 Mile & Jeffries) MASS: Tues. 7 p., Wed., Thurs. 9 a., Sat. 4 p., Sun 11a</p> <p>St. Maurice Roman Catholic Church 32765 Lyndon • Livonia • 734-522-1616 (between Merriman & Farmington Roads) MASS: Mon. 8:30 a., Fri. 8:30 a., Sat. 6 p., Sun 9a OE08628546</p>	<p>NEWBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH "Open Hearts, Minds & Doors" 36500 Ann Arbor Trail between Wayne & Newburgh Rds. 734-422-0149 Worship Service and Sunday School 9:15 am Rev. Marsha M. Woolley Visit our website: www.newburgumc.org OE08628545</p>	<p>ROSEDALE GARDENS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA) 9801 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, MI (between Merriman & Farmington Rds.) (734) 422-0494</p> <p>Friends in Faith Service 9:00 am Traditional Service 10:30 am Visit www.rosedalegardens.org For information about our many programs OE08628543</p>	<p>GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD 25630 GRAND RIVER at BEECH DALY 313-532-2266 REDFORD TWP.</p> <p>Worship Service 9:15 & 11:00 A.M. Sunday School 9:15 & 11:00 A.M. Nursery Provided The Rev. Timothy P. Halboth, Senior Pastor The Rev. Dr. Victor F. Halboth, Assistant Pastor OE08628547</p>
<p>CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE</p> <p>PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 45801 W. Ann Arbor Road • (734) 453-1925 Sunday School - 9:45 A.M. Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M. Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M. Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M. NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN LEARNING CENTER (734) 455-3196 OE08628542</p>	<p>ORCHARD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 30450 Farmington Road • Farmington Hills www.orchardumc.org 248-626-3620</p> <p>Worship: 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Childrens Education provided during both services Pastors: Carol J. Johns, Jim Braid, Margo Dexter OE08628541</p>	<p>LUTHERAN-ELCA</p> <p>ST. JOHN LUTHERAN, ELCA Farmington Hills 23225 Gill Rd. 248-474-0584</p> <p>SATURDAY WORSHIP • 5:30 PM Sunday Worship & Sunday School</p> <p>9:00 AM TRADITIONAL/CHORAL SERVICE 10:15 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL - ALL AGES 11:15 AM CONTEMPORARY SERVICE NURSERY AVAILABLE ERIC STENSEN, DIRECTOR OF MINISTRIES OE08628540</p>	<p>EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN</p> <p>WARD Evangelical Presbyterian Church</p> <p>40000 Six Mile Road "Just west of I-275" Northville, MI 248-374-7400</p> <p>Traditional Worship 8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 A.M. Contemporary Worship 9:30 & 11:00 A.M. Nursery & Sunday School During the 9:30 & 11:00 Hours Evening Service • 7:00 p.m. Service Broadcast 11:00 A.M. Sunday WRDT-AM 560 The Wmuz Word Station For additional information visit www.wardchurch.org OE08628544</p>
<p>EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA</p> <p>Timothy Lutheran Church A Reconciling in Christ Congregation 8820 Wayne Rd. (Between Ann Arbor Trail & Joy Road) Livonia • 427-2290 Jill Heather, Pastor 10:00 a.m. Family Worship (Nursery Available) OE08628543</p>	<p>PRESBYTERIAN</p> <p>Fellowship Presbyterian Church Adult Sunday School: 9:30 - 10:15 a.m. • Worship: 10:30 a.m. Childrens Sunday School: 10:30 a.m. Pastor: Dr. Jimmy McGuire Services held at: Saint Andrews Episcopal Church 16360 Hubbard Road in Livonia • South of Six Mile Road Nursery provided • www.fellowship-presbyterian.org OE08628511</p>	<p>EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN</p> <p>WARD Evangelical Presbyterian Church</p> <p>40000 Six Mile Road "Just west of I-275" Northville, MI 248-374-7400</p> <p>Traditional Worship 8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 A.M. Contemporary Worship 9:30 & 11:00 A.M. Nursery & Sunday School During the 9:30 & 11:00 Hours Evening Service • 7:00 p.m. Service Broadcast 11:00 A.M. Sunday WRDT-AM 560 The Wmuz Word Station For additional information visit www.wardchurch.org OE08628544</p>	<p>LUTHERAN CHURCH WISCONSIN SYNOD</p> <p>ST. PAUL'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL 17810 FARMINGTON ROAD LIVONIA (734) 261-1360</p> <p>WORSHIP SERVICES SUNDAY: 8:30 A.M. & 10:30 A.M. THURSDAY: 6:30 P.M. website: www.stpaulsilivonia.org</p>
<p>GREEK ORTHODOX</p> <p>NATIVITY OF THE VIRGIN MARY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH 39851 West Five Mile, Plymouth Twp., MI Sunday Services Matins 8:30 am, Divine Liturgy 10:00 am Rev. Fr. George Vaportis Parish Office 734-420-0131 Office Hours M-F 10:00 am - 2:00 pm www.nativitygochurch.org OE08628540</p>	<p>CONGREGATIONAL</p> <p>North Congregational Church 36520 12 Mile Rd. Farmington Hills (bet. Drake & Halsted) (248) 848-1750</p> <p>10:30 a.m. Worship & Church School Faith - Freedom-Fellowship Ministers Dr. Mark P. Jensen Rev. Mary E. Biedron OE08628587</p>	<p>EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN</p> <p>WARD Evangelical Presbyterian Church</p> <p>40000 Six Mile Road "Just west of I-275" Northville, MI 248-374-7400</p> <p>Traditional Worship 8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 A.M. Contemporary Worship 9:30 & 11:00 A.M. Nursery & Sunday School During the 9:30 & 11:00 Hours Evening Service • 7:00 p.m. Service Broadcast 11:00 A.M. Sunday WRDT-AM 560 The Wmuz Word Station For additional information visit www.wardchurch.org OE08628544</p>	<p>CONGREGATIONAL</p> <p>North Congregational Church 36520 12 Mile Rd. Farmington Hills (bet. Drake & Halsted) (248) 848-1750</p> <p>10:30 a.m. Worship & Church School Faith - Freedom-Fellowship Ministers Dr. Mark P. Jensen Rev. Mary E. Biedron OE08628587</p>

For Information regarding this Directory, please call Donna Hart at 734-582-8342 or e-mail: dhart@dnp.com

Family Fun Contest



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



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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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See cats up close and in the ring at Tonkinese show

BY SHARON DARGAY
O&E STAFF WRITER

If cars aren't your thing, try cats this weekend.

The Cat Fanciers Association's cat show, sponsored by the Tonkinese Breed Association, runs 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Aug. 15-16 at the Allen Park Community Center, 15800 White Street in Allen Park.

All-breed and specialty judges will evaluate the cats each day. Rachel Anger, a judge from Canton, describes the Tonkinese as a cross between the Siamese and Burmese, "with the addition of aqua eye color."

A "designer breed" developed in the 1960s, "is moderate in structure, loves to be a lap cat and adores his owners."

"For most Tonk owners, the real defining trait of the breed is the Tonkinese personality," she said. "A Tonk is two types of cat in one body. They play fetch, climb cat trees and fly through the house at warp speed. The second mode is cuddly and loving. They are dog-like in that they require and demand attention."

"They love riding on shoulders and may head-butt to get your attention."

An intelligent breed, the Tonkinese come in 12 different colors.

As a judge, Anger follows a set of standards when judging. She said the Tonkinese is one of the most difficult breeds to judge.

"The difficulty with Tonkinese is there should be no extremes.

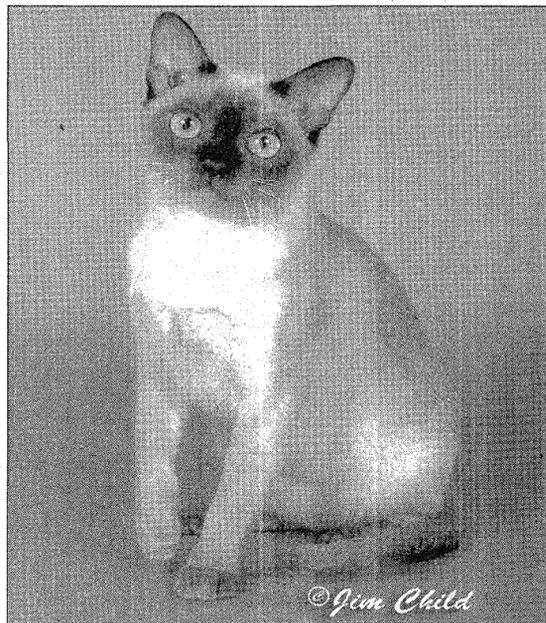


PHOTO BY JIM CHILD

GRC Wenlock Serenade, DM, is a female grand champion cat.

When you look at a Tonkinese you should see neither a Siamese nor a Burmese, but a unique moderate breed with its own look."

The show will include other breeds, such as Persians, Maine Coons, and Orientals, as well.

Exhibitors and breeders will be on hand with information, to answer questions and with a close-up view of their cats.

Visitors can watch judges in the ring or walk the exhibit all looking at felines in this benched show.

Admission is \$5 for adults, \$4 for seniors and \$3 for children. Infants and toddlers are free.

Parking is free and the hall is non-smoking.

Founded in 1906, The Cat Fanciers' Association has been devoted to the promotion and protection of all cats.

Musical raises funds for Lyric Theatre

The Madonna University Lyric Theatre presents three performances of *Forever Plaid*, 7:30 p.m., Friday-Saturday, Aug. 14-15 and 4 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 16, in Kresge Hall on the Madonna campus, 36600 Schoolcraft, Livonia.

Tickets are \$12 general admission, \$10 for students and seniors, and \$8 for groups of 12 or more. Proceeds benefit the MU Lyric Theatre.

The show, directed by Steve Krupa, will feature high school students Chris Brody, Brendan Burke, Jim Murray and Dave Wilkins. Musical director is M. Scottie Moilanen.

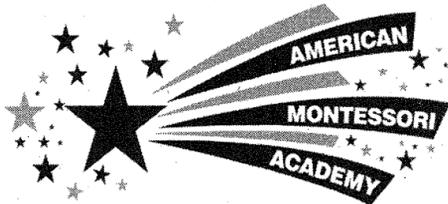
Forever Plaid is the early 1960's story of four young working class guys, each in their 20's and

at odds with the world and love, who are about to achieve their dream of becoming The Plaids, a close harmony singing group. On the way to their first gig at the airport "Fuselounge," their 1954 Mercury is struck by a bus load of Catholic School girls. Forty years later, heaven allows the quartet to return to Earth so it can put on the performance that it never gave in life.

The production includes such songs as *Three Coins In The Fountain*, *Love Is A Many Splendored Thing* and *Shangri-La*.

For more information or tickets call (734) 432-5715.

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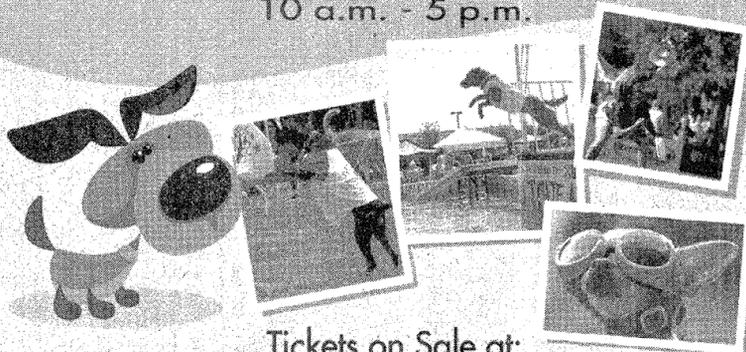
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Drive, walk or gawk your way through Dream Cruise

BY SHARON DARGAY
O&E STAFF WRITER

Love it or hate it, the 15th annual Woodward Dream Cruise — presented this year by Motor City Casino — is ready to roll.

Public and private parties are planned all weekend up and down the road, also known as M-1. Cruisers have already begun driving the route from Eight Mile to “the loop” in Pontiac and back again, offering a nightly show for the locals who station their lawn chairs and picnic blankets in parks, parking lots and adjacent green spaces.

There are a myriad ways to experience the Cruise — from behind the wheel, from the sidelines or from inside a restaurant or bar along the route.

If you’ve got a classic car, try driving. There’s no better way to both participate and observe other cruisers close-up. But be prepared for some stop and go traffic — patience is the key — and exhaust fumes. So, keep your inhaler handy if you have one.

If you’re a white knuckle driver in traffic, try begging a passenger seat from someone you know with a classic car and relax during the ride.

I’ve done it both ways, first as a passenger in my brother-in-law’s 1954 Mercury and then behind the wheel of my parents’ mint condition 1975 VW camper.

Being a passenger was pure fun. Driving was a bit more nerve-wracking — I couldn’t really gawk at other cars — but seemed to take on a more prominent role in this annual historic event.

Even if you don’t own an antique vehicle, you can cruise on Woodward. Just make sure you stay to the left, giving up the curb side lanes for the classics.

If you forget it’s Dream Cruise weekend and you unwittingly find yourself on Woodward like I did a few years ago (“Hmmm...what’s with all this traffic?”) be patient, courteous and inch your way to a turn lane. Take a north-south road like Greenfield on the west side of Woodward or Crooks on the east side of Woodward. Even mile roads get a bit congested along the Woodward corridor during the Cruise, so the best place to cross Woodward is on I-696 in the Royal Oak-Pleasant Ridge area.

DON'T WANT TO DRIVE?

Try walking the route. You’ll see cars, people, parties and entertainers and you’ll have a better chance of stopping for a bite to eat, as you make your way through the throngs of other revelers. Remember where you parked the car on an adjacent street.

My favorite walking routes are downtown Ferndale and from 11 Mile to Webster (12 1/2 mile) or 12 Mile to Normandy (13 1/2 mile). There’s plenty of action along the way, lots of places to eat, including a food court in Memorial Park on 13 Mile. You won’t have to worry about indulging because you’ll walk off the calories.

If you’d rather stay put and watch everyone else drive or walk be prepared to stake out a place along the route early on Dream Cruise day. Look for green spaces just north of 12 Mile on the west (Berkley) side of the road. Or at 13 mile at Memorial Park on the northeast corner. Try south of Lincoln (10 1/2 mile) on both sides in Royal Oak and Huntington Woods, and south of I-696 in Pleasant Ridge.

You can spend most of the day in just one community, both watching the cars on Woodward and then participating in official cruise activities. Here’s an overview:

FERDALE:

■ Join the Ferndale Woodward DreamCruise Fast Friday VIP Party 6-9 p.m., Friday, Aug. 14 at Rosie O’Grady’s, 259 W. Nine Mile. Your \$10 donation will go to FernCare, a clinic that offers free medical care to the uninsured or under-insured. Rosie’s will serve an appetizer buffet and Bricktown Station will play all evening. Get tickets at www.fernecare.org

■ The official ribbon cutting ceremony begins at 5 p.m. Friday, Aug. 14 on East Nine Mile in downtown Ferndale. Nelson House, who started the Dream Cruise as a fund-raiser for a children’s soccer field in 1995, is the guest speaker.

■ The 9th Annual Ferndale Emergency Vehicle Show is a display and a cruise of nearly 100 police, fire, military and EMS vehicles on Saturday, Aug. 15. Demonstrations include K-9 and Jaws of Life.

■ Classic Vehicle Show is held in conjunction with Cruis’n Legends of Ford on Saturday, Aug. 15. Browse the show or enter your own car into the show. It must be 25 years or older. Advance registration is \$20, available at www.ferndaledreamcruise.com. Day of entry is \$30.

■ See classic Ford vehicles at the Cruis’n Legends of Ford show on Saturday, Aug. 15. Or enter your own Ford — it must be 25 years or older — for a \$25 advance entry fee. \$30 registration on Cruise day.

■ If a Ford Mustang is your preferred mode of transportation, check out Mustang Alley Friday-Saturday in downtown Ferndale. The registration period for Mustang owners who want to show their vehicles has ended. But visitors can browse among the cars on display.

■ Live entertainment on three stages. Bands play from 3-7 p.m. Friday, noon-7 p.m., Saturday, and noon-3 p.m., Sunday on the West Nine Mile stage; a mix of performers take the stage from noon-6 p.m. Friday and noon-7 p.m. Saturday near City Hall on East Nine Mile; entertainment runs 3-6 p.m., Saturday on the Woodward Avenue stage.

■ “RetroFest” on West Nine Mile will feature Super Speed Car Racing and a Bungee Jump, along with vendors. An expanded “Kids Play Zone” will include four Tim’s Toyz moonwalks, arts and crafts, face painting and temporary tattoos. See 40 hairstyles in a bee hive hairdo contest noon-5 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 16.

For continuously updated information, visit www.FerndaleDreamCruise.com.

PLEASANT RIDGE

Brandon Calhoun opens the “Blues BBQ” at 6 p.m., followed by Big Daddy Fox and a screening of “Abbott & Costello Meet Frankenstein” at approximately 8:15 p.m., Friday, Aug. 14 in Stevenson Park, located at Woodward and Oakland Park.

ROYAL OAK

■ Guitarist George Friend and legendary stand up bass player “Pistol” Pete Mitgard perform at a kick off party Friday, Aug. 14, for the over 21 crowd at Four Green Fields, located in the Northwood

Shopping Center at Woodward and 13 Mile. Doors open at 9 p.m. Drink specials and giveaways all night. For more information call Four Green Fields at (248) 288-2088.

■ Most of the action happens Saturday, Aug. 15 in the Kids Zone in Pioneer Park, north of Normandy on the west side of Woodward, and at the classic car show and food court in Memorial Park, at the northeast corner of 13 Mile and Woodward.

■ Know Advertising’s Dream Cruise block party is a bit off the beaten path, but a perfect spot to get away from the crowd on Woodward and still celebrate car culture. Three bands will play and food catered by Holiday Market and Turkeyman, will be available for purchase. No alcohol will be allowed. The party, runs from 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 15 on West street, adjacent to Know Advertising. The company is located on 11 Mile, east of Woodward near the railroad viaduct.

BERKLEY

■ Catch the CruiseFest Parade at 6:30 p.m., Friday, Aug. 14, on 12 Mile between Woodward and Greenfield.

■ Children’s activities run from 6-9 p.m. Friday in downtown Berkley.

■ Dance with other young adults at the street dance, sponsored by the Tri-Community Coalition, from 7:30-9 p.m. Friday.

■ Bands perform 7:30-11 p.m., Friday on 12 Mile and Robina.

BIRMINGHAM

■ Classic cars will be stationed along South Old Woodward on Saturday, Aug. 15. Event day registration is open to individual cars, model year 1978 and older, after 10:15 a.m. at the registration tent at South Old Woodward and Brown. Day-of parking is \$25, based upon availability and on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information about Cruise Event parking in Birmingham, visit www.birminghamcruiseevent.com.

■ Live entertainment runs all day Saturday in the area where Woodward and Old Woodward come together, WCSX has teamed up with Washtenaw Community College and Glendale Auto Supply to help build a 1967 Ford Mustang Shelby GT500 from the ground up. Tickets are \$15, with proceeds to benefit the Salvation Army Staples Center and the National Kidney Foundation.

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP

■ See classic cars displayed at the Mercedes-Benz of Bloomfield Hills dealership on Woodward just south of Big Beaver.

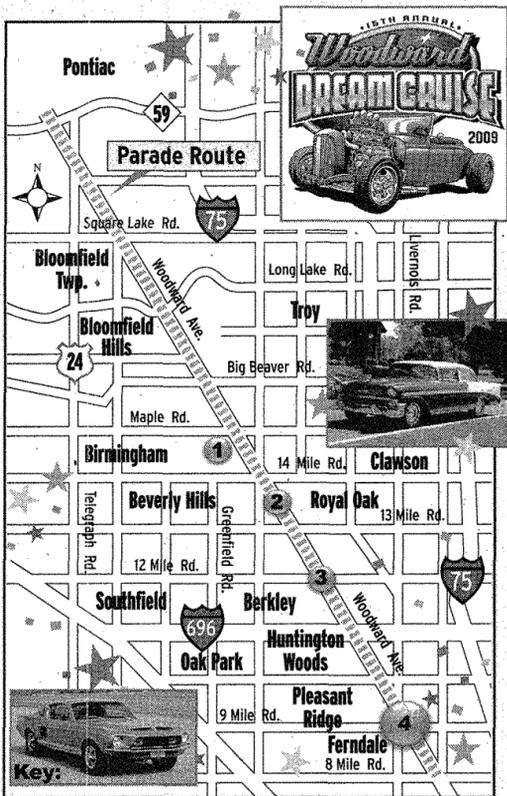
PONTIAC

■ D.J. Phil Brown spins the music for a sock hop from 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Friday, Aug. 14. Live music starts at 1 p.m., Friday, Aug. 14,

with the last band taking the stage at 9 p.m.

■ Live music continues starting at 1 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 15. Thornetta Davis takes the stage at 7 p.m., followed by Rare Earth at 9:30 p.m.

■ Visit the swap meet from 10 a.m.-3 p.m., both days on Water Street at Mill.



1. Children’s activities will include face painting and a bounce house in Birmingham.
2. Royal Oak parks offer everything from kids’ activities to food courts.
3. Twelve Mile Road in Berkley will close for day-long activities, including a classic car parade at 8:30 p.m.
4. The busiest venue of them all: The Dream Cruise kicks off in Ferndale, which also offers kids’ activities, a contest and vehicle shows.

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Harry Knowles, Ain't It Cool News

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WIN DETROIT TIGER TICKETS



WIN a "Be a Tiger for Kids" gift pack which includes:

- 2 tickets to the Detroit Tiger Game, August 18th vs. the Seattle Mariners at 7:05 p.m.
- 2 Admission tickets to the "Rock-n-Roar" Tailgate Party - 4:30 p.m. to 7:05 p.m. Meet and autograph session with former Detroit Tiger greats including Dave Bergman, Dan Petry and Dave Rozema
- 2 "Be a Tiger for Kids" T-Shirts

Meet the Hometownlife.com community street team at the following locations for a chance to win a "Be A Tiger for Kids" gift pack and other great prizes during this onsite reader promotion.

Join us Monday, Aug. 17th at this location:



BatteriesPlus.
1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
34164 Woodward Ave. • Birmingham, MI 48009
248-644-0666
www.batteriesplus.com

"Be a Tiger for Kids" benefits Cornerstone Schools

For more information and updates go to hometownlife.com

ART

Lotus Arts Gallery
Time/date: "Impression & Expressions: Exploring Modern Printmaking," through Aug. 29. Gallery hours are 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Location: 995 West Ann Arbor Trail, downtown Plymouth
Contact: (888) 889-4ART (toll free) or (734)453-5400

Northville Art House
Time/date: "Detroit - Perceived Image," the work of Darel Deneau, through Aug. 22. Gallery hours are 1-5 p.m., Thursdays-Saturdays, 1-9 p.m., first Fridays only
Location: 215 W. Cady Street, downtown Northville
Admission: Free
Contact: (248) 344-0497, or visit www.northvillearts.org

CAR, CRUISE EVENTS

Botsford Commons "Cruise In" classic car show
Time/date: 4 p.m. to dusk, Friday, Aug. 28
Location: Botsford Commons, 21450 Archwood Circle, Farmington Hills
Details: Fifth annual event, cars, free outdoor concert with big band sounds
Contact: (248) 477-7400

COMEDY

DTE Energy Theatre
Time/Date: 7:30 p.m., Friday, Aug. 21. Jeff Foxworthy, tickets \$59.50 and \$35 pavilion and \$15 lawn
Location: 7774 Sashabaw Road, Clarkston
Contact: (248)377-0100, Palacenet.com

Go Comedy!
Time/Date: Various show times Wednesdays thru Sundays
Location: 261 E. Nine Mile, Ferndale
Details: Improv most nights. Three original sketch comedies 8 p.m. Thursdays: Jeremy Conn and Garrett Fuller, both of Garden City, in their one-act comedic play, "Travel Earth Timeshares," through Sept. 24. Open mic/jam session show for improvisers is 10 p.m. Wednesdays
Contact: (248) 327-0575; www.gocomedy.net

JD's House of Comedy

Time/Date: Various show times Wednesday-Saturday evenings
Location: 25333 W. 12 Mile, inside Star Theatre complex, Southfield
Details: Stand-up shows, 8 p.m. Thursday and 8 p.m., 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday; Apollo amateur night, 8 p.m.

Wednesday

Contact: (248) 348-2420 or www.ticketmaster.com

Jazz Cafe at Music Hall
Time/Date: 9 p.m. third Thursdays
Location: 350 Madison Ave., Detroit
Details: Show Up, and Go Up, open call, free
Contact: (313) 887-8532, www.jazzcafedetroit.com

Joey's Comedy Club of Livonia
Time/Date: 8 p.m. Mondays, Open Mic; 8 p.m. Tuesdays, Local Legends; 8 p.m. shows Wednesdays, Thursdays; 8 p.m. & 10:30 p.m. Fridays, Saturdays
Location: 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia
Contact: (734) 261-0555, www.kicker-scomplex.com

Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle
Time/Date: Open Mic 8 p.m. most Wednesdays
Location: 269 E. Fourth, Royal Oak
Contact: (248) 542-9900, www.comedycastle.com

Palace of Auburn Hills
Time/Date: Frank Caliendo/Bill Engvall, Oct. 24
Location: 1 Championship Drive, Auburn Hills
Contact: (248) 645-6666 or Palacenet.com

CONCERTS

Callahan's Music Hall
Time/Date: Tommy Castro, 8 p.m. Aug. 13, \$25; 8 p.m. Aug. 14, Linda Ruth Band, \$5 at door; Spencer Bell Legacy Project Concert, 3 p.m. Aug. 15, \$15.
Location: 2105 South Boulevard, south of the Palace, Auburn Hills
Contact: www.atcallahans.com, (248)858-9508

Canton jazz series
Time/Date: 7-9 p.m. Fridays through Aug. 28, at locations along Ford Road.
Details: Doug Cassens, Aug. 14, at Super Bowl; Tumbao Bravo, Aug. 21, at Centre Village; Bugs Beddow Band, Aug. 28, at Sam's Club
Contact: (734) 394-5460

Detroit Institute of Arts
Time/Date: Friday Night Live concerts, 7 & 8:30 p.m.
Location: 5200 Woodward Ave
Contact: (313) 833-7900, www.dia.org

DTE Energy Music Theater
Time/Date: Jimmy Buffett and The Choral Reefer Band, Aug. 13; MC Hammer with Coolio and Tone Loc, Aug. 14; Crue Fest 2 with Motley Crue, Aug. 15; Randy Travis with Keith Anderson, Aug. 16; Demi Lovato with David Archuleta and Jordan Pruitt, Aug. 18; B.B. King with Robert Cray

Band, Aug. 19; The B-52s, Aug. 20; blink-182 with Fall Out Boy & Panic at the Disco, Aug. 22; Kenny G, Aug. 23; Creed, Aug. 25; Soul Asylum with Seven Mary Three and Sponge, Aug. 27; Dennis DeYoung - The Music of Styx with Rock Symphony, Aug. 28; Eddie Money with Pat Travers, Aug. 29; Lil Wayne with Young Jeezy, Soulja Boy, Drake, Aug. 30; Michael W. Smith, Sept. 4; Tesla, Sept. 5; Darius Rucker with Luke Bryan, Sept. 17

Farmington concerts

Riley Park
Time/Date: Rhythmicz in Riley Park concerts start at 7 p.m. Fridays
Location: Riley Park in downtown Farmington
Details: Billy Mack & The Juice Joint Johnnies play Rockabilly on Aug. 14
Renegade, a country music



Jimmy Buffett performs tonight, Thursday, Aug. 13, at DTE Energy Music Theater.

cover band, plays Aug. 21; and Volebeats, a legendary Detroit-area band known for its vocal harmonies, wraps up the series on Aug. 28

Contact: www.DowntownFarmington.org

Farmington Hills concerts

Time/Date: "Stars in the Park" Thursday nights through Aug. 27
Location: Heritage Park, 24915 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills.
Rain-out site, Costick Center
Details: Bomb Squad play music of the 70s and 80s Aug. 13 and Seriox and Friends offers a Motown Review Aug. 20. The series ends with Uprizin's swinging Caribbean rhythms Aug. 27. No alcohol or pets are allowed in Heritage Park
Contact: (248) 473-1857, www.fhgov.com

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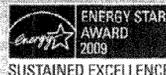


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SUSTAINED EXCELLENCE

Westland-Garden City Strictly Business

IT'S YOUR BUSINESS Q&A



After 10 years in the auto industry, Michael Lica has gone back to what he knows - carpet cleaning - and started Aqua-Chem Cleaning of Garden City.

Aqua-Chem keeps carpets clean

Observer: Tell us about your business, including the types of services and/or products you feature.

We provide high quality carpet and upholstery cleaning. **Observer:** What makes your business unique?

What separates us from the competition is our certification extends past normal carpet technician's certifications. We attend additional classes in Dalton, Ga., where the carpet is made in order to properly understand the most up to date technology and construction. I'm not only a technician but also a certified flooring inspector recognized by the Floor Covering Institute of Technical Services in Dalton, Ga.

Observer: How did you first decide to open your business?

My family has always been in the floor covering business. Prior to starting this business,

AQUA-CHEM SOLUTIONS

Business Name: Aqua-Chem Solutions
Business Address: P.O. Box 162, Garden City, MI 48135
Name and Title: Michael Lica, owner
Hometown: Garden City
Business opened: May 2009, certified in field since 1996
Number of employees: 2
Business specialty: Carpet cleaning
Hours of operation: 24/7, as needed
Phone, Website: (734) 421-7110, www.aquachemsolutions.com

I worked for Chrysler for 10 years, and as the auto industry started to spiral downward, I realized that I would be better off concentrating on what I

knew best and something that I had more control over.

Observer: How did you decide to locate in Garden City community?

I was raised in Garden City and graduated from Garden City High School in 1986. I returned to Garden City after serving 10 years in the military and raised my family here. Both of my children are graduates of Garden City High School as well. We really enjoy the community.

Observer: Do you have a funny tidbit or story to share with our readers about your experience so far as a small business owner?

I am constantly running into people that I went to school and grew up with in Garden City. I am always excited to run into old friends. My wife and I run into someone we know almost every day walking at the park or while grocery shopping. We just feel welcome here.

BUSINESS MILESTONES

SPECIAL EVENTS

Pint for a Pint

1 Donate a pint of blood and get a free pint of soft serve ice cream during King Kone's ninth annual American Red Cross blood drive Monday, Aug. 17. The Red Cross will have its mobile blood donation unit at the ice cream stand at 31051 Ford, Garden City, from 1-7 p.m. that day. There's a sign-up sheet at King Kone, however, walk-ins are welcome. In exchange for donating, people will receive a pint of soft serve ice cream - vanilla, chocolate or twist. For more information, call (734) 522-5663.

Shopping Party

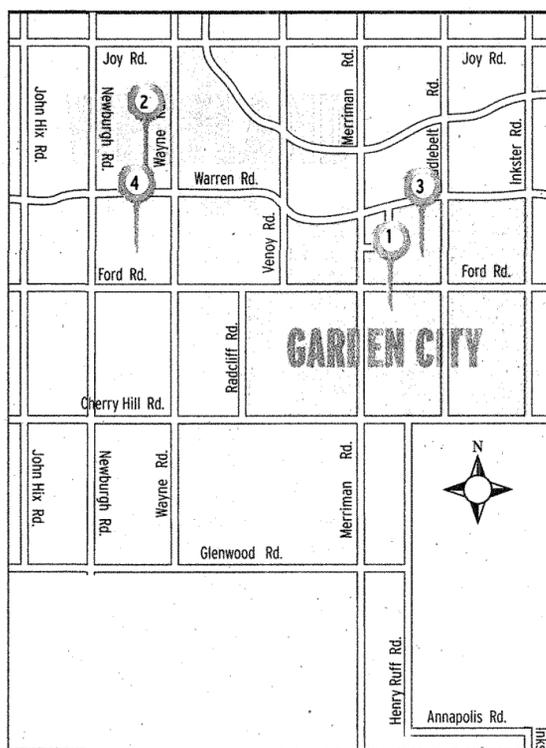
2 Invite your friends for a shopping party with live fashion show, product demonstrations and special discounts at the Girl Friends Shopping Party with Tupperware at Christopher Banks and CJ Banks at Westland Shopping Center today and Friday, Aug. 3-14. For more information, call the Christopher Banks store at (734) 261-4788 and CJ Banks at (734) 525-4996. Westland Shopping Center is at Wayne and Warren roads in Westland.

After-Hours

3 The Garden City Chamber of Commerce will host and After-Hours at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 25, at the Sports Venue Bar & Grill, 6327 Middlebelt, north of Ford in Garden City. Join members from the Dearborn Heights Chamber of Commerce for networking. For more information, call (734) 422-4448.

Health Fair

Garden City Hospital is once again hosting the annual Diabetes Community Health Fair 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 9, at the Westland Specialty Center, located at 35600 Central City



Parkway in Westland. The fair, which is free to the community, aims to educate individuals with diabetes and pre-diabetes, as well as those interested in living healthy. Guests with diabetes or pre-diabetes will be able to participate in the American Diabetes Association's Annual Foot Screening Day with screenings provided by podiatrists. Diabetes Educators will be on-site to discuss foot care information. To schedule an appointment for a foot screening, call (734) 458-4330. Appointments are recommended for foot screening only. There also will be other event demonstrations, information, low cost sports physicals, tours of the Sleep Center tours and massages.

For more information, call the Garden City Hospital Diabetes Education at (734) 458-4330.

Retirement planning

4 If your retirement plans seem to be stalled, then plan being at a retirement planning program at 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 20, at the William P. Faust Public Library, 6123 Central City Parkway, north of Ford Road, Westland. A public affairs representative from Social Security and financial advisor will offer some sound advice on getting your retirement plans back on track and move your financial life forward at the free program. For more information, call the library at (734) 326-6123 or go online to the library website at www.westlandlibrary.org.

BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS

Spiritual director

Garden City Hospital and the Patient and Family Advisory Council have selected Chaplain Donna Ware as director of Spiritual Care Services at the hospital.

Ware will be responsible for helping the hospital develop a comprehensive spiritual care program in order to meet the needs of patients and their families.



Ware

"I am really looking forward to the challenge of developing, implementing and managing the Spiritual Care Program," said Ware. "A chaplain can provide spiritual support and pastoral care to patients and their families, regardless of faith, to achieve wholeness, peace and health."

As a member of the interdisciplinary patient care team,

Ware's first step to implementing spiritual care throughout the hospital has been developing bereavement support for parents and families who have experienced a post-partum loss of a newborn or infant. She will help group members adapt their lives to learn to live with their losses.

As the program progresses, she expects the department to expand into including additional bereavement support groups, and structured policies and procedures for staff.

Ware is at the hospital 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday. She can be reached at (734) 458-7551 during business hours. She also is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week by pager at 83 504-4946.

Ware managed to overcome her struggle of poor self-worth, a troubled youth and economic poverty, by never giving up on her dreams. As a child, she knew she wanted to help people, and God's calling into ministry 10 years ago allowed her to live this dream when a

series of unfortunate events led her into hospital chaplaincy.

Her parents became ill and the flexibility of working as a hospice chaplain allowed her to care for her parents. It also allowed her to realize her ultimate call to a health care ministry.

Ware attended Schoolcraft Community College and graduated with a major in business administration. She then went on to Wayne State University, where she earned a bachelor's of art degree in philosophy. She also attended Michigan Theological Seminary and completed many college credits in theology. She currently is working on a master's of divinity at Liberty University.

Currently, Ware attends The Romulus Church of God, where she is the ministry leader of intercessory prayer. She also has worked in children's ministry, praise and worship ministry, women's ministry, Sunday school, security and hospitality ministries.



TWO NEW IHA DOCTORS. Two more ways we care.

IHA welcomes experienced doctors Tracey Sperry, DO, and Jeffrey Sweet, MD. With these additions, IHA continues its tradition of commitment to providing excellent patient care combined with convenience. Their presence will give you more of what you already love about IHA: accessibility, a dedicated team of physicians to include specialists, and the promise of providing you the best service possible. That's how IHA cares.

The IHA Internal Medicine offices of Canton and Plymouth welcome you.

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Associates in Internal Medicine - Cherry Hill
49650 Cherry Hill Road, Suite 120, Canton
734.398.7800

IHA Plymouth Internal Medicine
990 West Ann Arbor Trail, Suite 208, Plymouth
734.455.1200



IHAcares.com

CHAMBER CHAT

WESTLAND CHAMBER

The Westland Chamber of Commerce will be "going green" over the next month. To help us do that, let us know if you would like to start receiving the monthly newsletter in electronic form, instead of paper.

Since many of our chamber events are taking place in

the first part of the month, several members have not getting their newsletter in time to adjust their schedules. By receiving the information in an e-mail, members will be able to know what's coming up, along with helping to save a few trees.

If you do want to continue receiving your newsletter in print, please note that there

will be a \$10 charge added to your yearly membership renewal.

To start helping us be "green" and receive your newsletter by e-mail, please call us at (734) 326-7222 or e-mail us at westlandchamber@yahoo.com with your correct e-mail address.

Brookellen Swope
President and CEO

KNOW THE SCORE: Check out the numbers in today's Sports section

TRACEY SPERRY, DO, AND JEFFREY SWEET, MD, JOIN Mira Agrawal, MD
• Daniel Benz, MD • Cynthia Culler-Johnson, MD • Joyce Leon, MD • Mark Lindley, MD • Peter Meyers, DO • Bruce Niebylski, MD • Theresa Poppe, MD
• Jodi Lambert, CNP • Darcey Owings, CNP • Lee McDonagh, RD, CDE

Capuchin farm project serves harvest dinner

If you love locally grown and in-season produce, get your ticket now for Earthworks Urban Farm's second annual Harvest Dinner on Saturday, Sept. 12.

Earthworks Urban Farm is a project of the Capuchin Soup Kitchen in Detroit.

The event will start at 5 p.m., with a social hour in the garden, light appetizers and a garden tour.

The dinner made of southeast Michigan foods will follow at 6 p.m., at Gleaners Food Bank, a longtime Capuchin Soup Kitchen partner, at 2131 Beaufait, Detroit.

Tickets run \$15-100 on a sliding scale.

"Folks are welcome to pay what they feel it is worth, or they are able to pay," said Patrick Crouch, Earthworks program manager.

The organization encourages ticket-holders to buy an additional \$25 admission for someone who can't afford to attend the dinner.

Grace Lee Boggs, a longtime Detroit activist for sustainable communities and social justice, will be the guest speaker.

The menu will include



Earthworks supporters gather for the first annual Harvest Dinner in 2008.

dishes made from recipes submitted by many of Earthwork's partners. Organizations such as SEED Wayne, the Greening of Detroit, and the Detroit Black Community Food Security Network plan to

submit a favorite in-season recipe for the occasion.

"We will be trying to source as much as possible from our gardens, but all will at the very least be in season, and locally grown," Crouch noted.

Local chefs assisted by Earthworks' teen farmers (Youth Farm Stand) and local volunteers, will make the dinner.

Ticket information is available online at www.eskdetroit.org/earthworks



Volunteers pitch in at Earthworks Urban Farm, a project of the Capuchins.

or calling (313) 579-2100, ext 204. Or send a check by mail along with a registration form — available online — to 1264 Meldrum, Detroit, MI 48207 Write checks to "Capuchin Soup Kitchen" with the number of tickets and "Harvest Dinner" noted in the memo line. Reservation deadline is Friday, Sept. 4.

PITCHING IN

Earthworks welcomes volunteers to help plant, weed and harvest its gardens. Volunteers also teach local youth about the importance of healthy living and mentor young adults involved

in Earthwork's Youth Farm Stand program.

Other tasks include extracting and bottling honey, making jam, pouring handbalm and beekeeping.

Individuals may attend any volunteer work sessions; groups should schedule time a day in advance.

Volunteers help tend the gardens from 9 a.m.-noon Wednesdays and Saturdays (except holiday weekends) during the growing season. Adult mentors may visit the Growing Healthy Kids program from 4:45-7:30 p.m., Thursdays and the Youth Farm Stand program from 4:45-7:30 p.m., Tuesdays. The organization makes jam in October and November.

All volunteers meet at the Capuchin Soup Kitchen at 1264 Meldrum, Detroit. For more information about Earthworks Urban Farm, visit www.eskdetroit.org/EWG/index.cfm Or call (313)-579-2100, ext 204.

For more information about the Capuchin Soup Kitchen, which was founded in 1929, visit www.eskdetroit.org.

- Sharon Dargay

CITY BITES

Cruisin' for charity

Dream Cruise — Westborn Market's 2009 Champagne Cruise promises an elegant yet casual evening of chilled champagne, live music, dancing, a taste fest of delicious food from the best area restaurants and plenty of classic car watching. The event, which raises funds for Forgotten Harvest, runs 6-10 p.m. Friday, Aug. 14, at the Westborn Market on Woodward, located between 11 Mile and Catalpa in Berkley.

The event includes music by the Sun Messengers and a taste fest from Brio Tuscan Grille, The Great Lakes Coffee Roasting Company, The Henry Ford, Maggiano's Little Italy, Mitchell's Fish Market, Party Cakes, PF Chang's, The Ritz Carlton and Westborn Market.

Tickets are \$150 per person and available at www.forgottenharvest.org. Forgotten Harvest rescues more than 12 mil-

lion pounds of food annually by collecting surplus prepared and perishable food from a variety of sources, including grocery stores, fruit and vegetable markets, restaurants, caterers, dairies, farmers, wholesale food distributors, and other Health Department-approved sources. This donated food, which would otherwise go to waste, is delivered free of charge to 150-plus emergency food providers in the metro Detroit area.

Sweet option

Northville — Sweet 220 Pastries and Specialty Cakes, located at 133 W. Main, Ste. 220 (Inside Northville Square) plans to open for business this month. It will offer a variety of french pastries, cookies, macaroons, biscottis, cupcakes, whole cakes and brownies and bars. Made-to-order crepes and fresh pizza rolls and calzones will be available daily as well. The bakery caters as well. (248) 305-7900

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