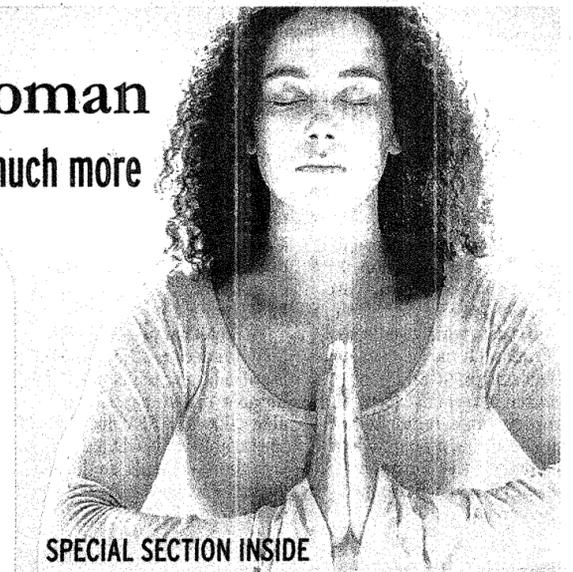


ALL-AREA BASKETBALL
Wayne's Daniel Hill on boys first team, page B2

Hometown Life Woman
Yoga explosion, cool umbrellas and much more



SPECIAL SECTION INSIDE

THURSDAY
April 1,
2010

The Observer & Eccentric
Newspapers
Volume 45
Number 89
\$1.00

WESTLAND
OBSERVER
online at hometownlife.com

AROUND TOWN

Closings

Westland city offices and the 18th District Court will be closed on April 2 for the Good Friday holiday. Homebound meals will still be delivered on Good Friday. The Bailey Center and William Faust Library will be open on Good Friday; however, both the recycling center and the Historical Museum will be closed on Saturday and Sunday, April 3-4, for Easter.

Nominations

There is still time to submit nominations for 2010 First Citizen, co-sponsored by the *Westland Observer* and the Westland Chamber of Commerce, and Business Person of the Year, sponsored by the chamber. The First Citizen is honored for community service while the Business Person of the Year is recognized for a combination of professional excellence, staying power and community involvement.

The awards will be presented at the Spring Awards program Thursday, April 22. The deadline for nominations is 4 p.m. Friday, April 1. For nomination forms and complete criteria, visit www.westlandchamber.com or call (734) 326-7222.

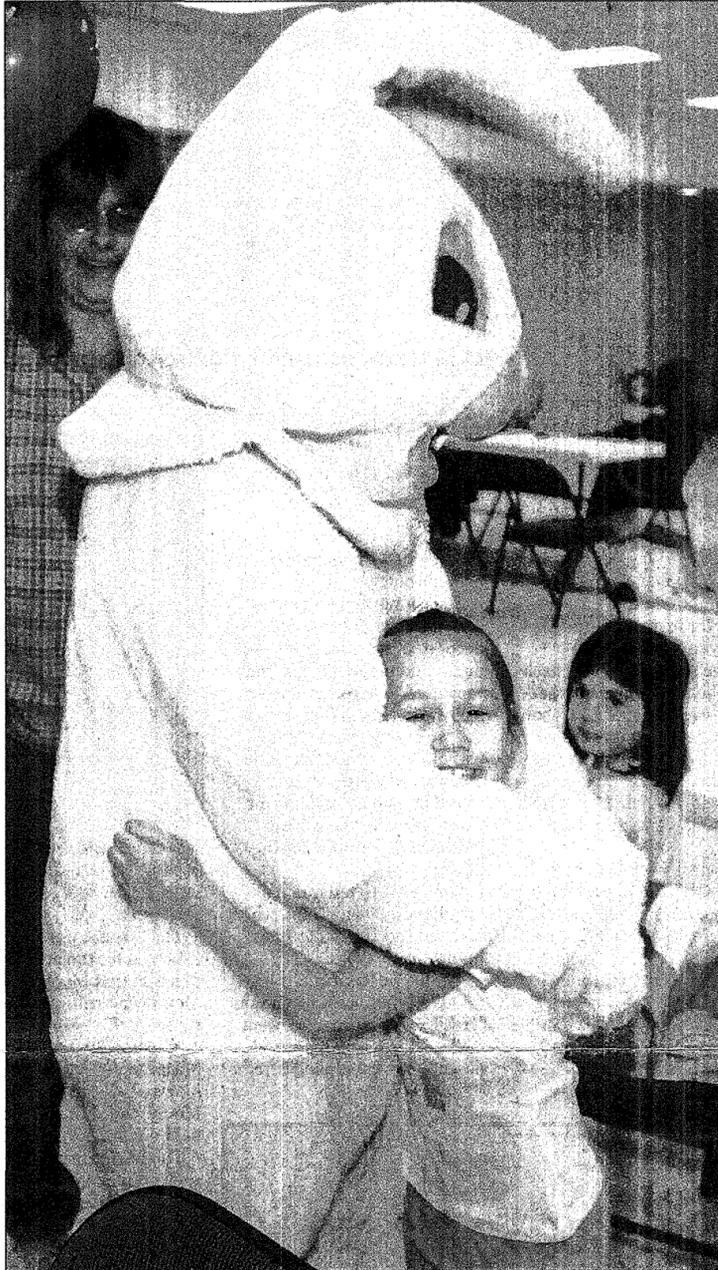
Alumni game

Tickets are now on sale to see the Red Wing Alumni take on the Westland Wild Wings 7 p.m. Saturday, April 10, at Mike Modano Arena. All proceeds from the event will go towards restoration of Central City Park. Mayor William Wild will join a team of city officials and residents to compete against members of the Detroit Red Wing Alumni Association.

Tickets for the game are \$10 for adults, \$5 for children and children 3 and under are free. For ticket information, call (734) 722-7620.

Price increase

Effective Thursday, April 1, the single copy price of the *Observer* will be \$1. The *Westland Observer* provides the best and most comprehensive coverage of community news, schools, sports, local business and local advertising. We sincerely appreciate your readership and look forward to serving you in the future. Call (866) 887-2737 for convenient home-delivered, money-saving rates.



Amber Costigan hugs the Easter Bunny when he hopped by to see youngsters at Easter Delight Night for kids at Bailey Recreation Center Monday.

Bunny business: Kids get crafty for Easter

BY SUE MASON
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

What's six feet tall has long ears and wears a white fur coat?

Ask any youngster at the Bailey Recreation Center and their answers would be the same: the Easter Bunny.

And Mr. Bunny was certainly the center of attention when he stopped by Monday for the Easter Delight Night for kids at Bailey Recreation Center.

"I'm going to give him a hug," said

Abigail Alexander, 3½, dabbling purple on a ceramic egg she was painting.

"I'm going to give him a high five," added her brother Colin, 4½.

The youngsters were among a group of children who joined Shirley Moore of Kidtime Ceramics for an afternoon of arts and crafts and a visit with the Easter Bunny, provided courtesy of the Westland Civitans.

"I do this every year for five years,"

Please see **EASTER, A2**

Board of Review: 640 challenge assessments

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Even though Westland property values dropped 16 percent in 2010, 640 residents appealed their assessments to the Board of Review — just slightly under the number who challenged their assessments last year.

"It was a little lighter than last year — not a huge difference. We actually had a few openings," Westland Assessor James Elrod said. "We always get a few calls after the board meets, and I feel bad, but there is nothing I can do. We advertise all we can and everywhere we can a month ahead of time."

Last year, Westland saw a 17-percent drop in property values and 650 appeals were filed with the Board of Review. For many people trying to get their assessment lowered, Elrod said they are mistakenly comparing their property values with foreclosure sales.

"All you hear and read in the news is foreclosure sales. People confuse a foreclosure price with a sale price and it sticks in their mind," Elrod said. "That becomes their perception of the true market value."

Elrod estimated 70-80 percent who came before the Board of Review on over-assessment appeals presented supporting information that was primarily based on foreclosures. Many of those appealing their assessments were satisfied once the system was explained, he said.

Under state law, the State Equalized Value or assessment is to be 50 percent of the amount for which the home would sell. As result, the assessment would have to challenge based on comparable sales — not foreclosures, which are treated as anomalies.

Unlike the SEV, the taxable

Please see **APPEALS, A2**

Spots still available for Relay for Life teams

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Groups of friends, co-workers or family members — how Relay for Life teams form is as varied as their methods for raising money.

Teams are continuing to register for the 10th annual Westland Relay for Life American Cancer Society fund-raiser, which will be held Saturday and Sunday, May 22-23.

"We had a couple of new teams this week. We've got 32 teams. We had 35 teams last year and we're getting a lot of new teams this year," said Kelly Lawrence, relay chairperson. "It's really been good. We're hoping for 40 teams."

Joining the event will be teams from Stevenson Middle School, ACO Hardware and

the U.S. 12 Bar. Other teams include Wayne Memorial High School, the family of Alissa Jennings, Parkside Credit Union and the Reddy to Live a Liddle with members of the Reddy family.

Lawrence hopes the 24-hour event, which is held in Jaycee Park, will raise well over the more than \$100,000 raised in 2009.

The theme for this year's relay is Celebrating More Birthdays. During the event, teams commit to having someone walking on the track throughout the 24 hours, symbolizing that cancer never sleeps.

Much of the fund-raising is done ahead of the event, but teams also raise money during the event with attractions,

Please see **RELAY, A2**

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Thomas Kelly: Loved public service

BY LEANNE ROGERS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

In an era when the term "career politician" is most likely to be used as a pejorative, Thomas Kelly was remembered for his love of public service.

A six-year state representative for the 17th District that included Garden City and a Wayne council member for 19 years, Mr. Kelly, 74, died in his sleep March 24. He and his wife Bridget had been planning to leave that morning for a train trip to Colorado.

"Tom was one of the nicest human beings I ever met, he and Bridget both. I was so shocked when I heard he had died," said Richard Fernandez, a long-time friend and director of the Nankin Transit Authority on which Mr. Kelly served for many

years.

Mr. Kelly was a big supporter of Nankin Transit, which provides transportation to area seniors and handicapped individuals.

"Tom always supported the underdog. He was very active — there is hardly anything in (the city of) Wayne that he wasn't involved in," said Garden City Councilmember Jaylee Lynch, who first knew Mr. Kelly as a fellow member of the Wayne Rotary Club.

A native New Yorker and a proud Irishman, Lynch recalled Mr. Kelly always having a twinkle in his eye. A teacher retired from Wayne-Westland Schools, Mr. Kelly had an Irishman's love of language and a good yarn but he had no problem being succinct when he wanted to make his point.

"Tom Kelly was a man of few words but there was no doubt in your mind where he was at and what he was thinking when he said those few words," Lynch said.

Mr. Kelly served on the Wayne council from 1983 through 1994 when he was elected state representative. A Democrat, he served as a state representative until he was term limited in 2000 and returned to the city council in 2001 serving 2009 when he didn't seek reelection last year.

"On the city council, Tom served on the ethics committee and developed the ethics policy that is followed by all elected and appointed officials and city employees," Lynch said.

During his time in Lansing, Mr. Kelly consistently tried

Please see **KELLY, A2**

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APPEALS

FROM PAGE A1

value for properties, the actual amount used for taxation, is capped and can only increase annually 5 percent or the rate of inflation, whichever is less.

Proposal A has been in effect since 1995 and was enacted in response to soaring property taxes. It didn't anticipate declining property values or a drop in the Consumer Price Index, which dropped 0.99 percent in 2010.

"When Proposal A was written, we were looking at 12-percent tax increases a year. They were worried about people being taxed out their homes," Elrod said. "They didn't think of downsides. How can values drop 16 percent and taxes still be higher?"

That can happen when the SEV has decreased, but there is still a large gap between that number and the capped taxable value. The SEV becomes the taxable value when a property changes hands, so the gap would be wider the longer it is owned.

Lower property values equal lower revenues for the city, Wayne-Westland Community Schools and other taxing units. The value of Westland residential property is \$1.26 billion, down from \$1.27 billion in 2009.

"I can't wait for assessments to go up. I would feel better even if we had a zero increase because that would mean we are coming out of this and values are stabilizing," Elrod said. "We don't determine the market, we just measure it."

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RELAY

FROM PAGE A1

games and sales of food, drinks or various items.

Teams and individuals can sign up or make donations online at www.relayforlife.org/westland.mi.

Upcoming fund-raisers include:

• Alyssa's Angels will host a bowling fund-raiser Saturday, April 17, at Mayflower Lanes,

26600 Plymouth Road, between Inkster Road and Beech Daly in Redford. Check-in at 9 p.m., with bowling at 9:30 p.m.

The cost is \$20 per person and \$15 per child age 13 and under. Included are three hours of unlimited bowling (9 Pin No-Tap), shoe rental, two slices of pizza and pop and live music. There will also be door prizes, 50/50 raffle, basket raffles and cash bar. Call (313) 937-8420 for more information.

• The Relay for Life team from Independent Carpet One Floor & Home is selling pink ribbon welcome mats for \$29.99 as part of its fund-raising effort. The welcome mats are rubber-backed, washable, extremely durable and can go inside or outside. Stop by Independent One, which is located at 1400 N. Wayne Road, Westland, or call (734) 729-6200 for more information.

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KELLY

FROM PAGE A1

to work with members of both parties but often found his efforts rebuffed by

Republican colleagues who had an overwhelming majority in those years.

"Tom was just a great guy — even if you didn't like Tom, you liked him, if you understand what I'm saying," said Tom Lynch, Jaylee's husband

who also knew Mr. Kelly for many years. "He was just a good guy. He was for whatever was good for the community — he had no personal agendas."

Along with his elected service, Mr. Kelly also had worked for Wayne County Commissioner Kevin McNamara and in earlier years for former commissioner Bryan Amann.

"The service at the church was the most incredible service I ever attended. His sons all spoke," Fernandez said.

Mr. Kelly is survived by his wife, Bridget, and sons, Thomas, Patrick, Michael and Kevin, and five grandchildren.

Services were held at St. Mary Catholic Church in Wayne. A luncheon was held following the service, two Wayne fire trucks extended their ladders to make an arch at the entrance with an American flag at the center.

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Abigail Alexander dabs paint on a ceramic egg being held by her mother Kristen.

EASTER

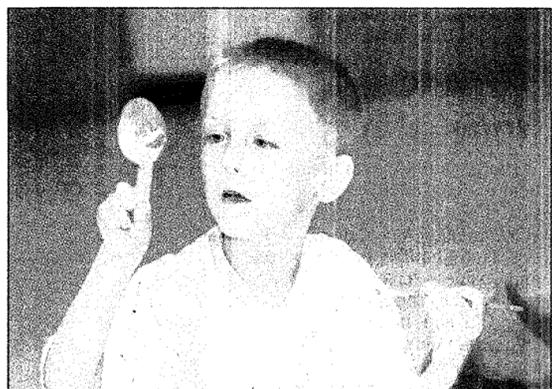
FROM PAGE A1

Moore said. "My daughters help me out."

The youngsters painted ceramic eggs, colored and decorated paper bunnies and ducks and made flowers that they used to decorate Easter baskets in preparation for the Easter Bunny's visit. There was also time for a game of Duck, Duck, Goose and a round of Happy Birthday for Colin Carnell, who wore a Birthday Boy T-shirt for the program.

"I'm going to tell him it's my birthday," said Colin, who held out five fingers to show his age.

"I think he has a one-track mind," his mother Kristen said. "He's had a busy day. We went to Java Jungle and his grandparents' twice and then here."



Colin Carnell, who celebrated his fifth birthday on Monday, surveys an egg he painted as part of the Westland Parks and Recreation Department's Easter Delight Night.

The turnout was better than expected for the program, so much so that Moore was out Monday morning buying more supplies.

"(Recreation Supervisor) Margaret (Martin) called and said we had 31 signed up," Moore said. "That's better than before."

The Easter Bunny visited each child, giving them candy for their baskets and a balloon. He wasn't even to the next table and Sawyer Spiridon was eating on a chocolate egg. "It's gone, it's all gone," the 6-year-old said.

This was the first year Elizabeth Alexander brought

her children to the program and won't be the last.

"We do a lot of crafts at home and this is nice," she said. "I think I'll do it again, if they offer it."

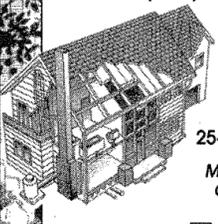
For Moore, the program is just one of many things she does with youngsters. The Canton resident teaches pottery and ceramic classes at D&M Studios in Canton as well as teaches four home school classes Fridays.

"This is nice," she said. "It doesn't cost much — \$5 and \$2 for supplies."

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CITY OF WESTLAND
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
ON 2010-2011 PROPOSED BUDGET

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the public hearing on the proposed budget for the City of Westland for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2010 and ending June 30, 2011 will be held on Monday, May 3, 2010, at 7:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers of Westland City Hall: 36601 Ford Road; Westland, MI 48185. The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.

Eileen DeHart
City Clerk

Publish: April 1, 2010

CITY OF WESTLAND
NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

On Thursday, April 8, 2010, various items of the City Westland, Department of Public Works will be sold at public auction. The auction will be held at Insurance Auto Auction 8251 Rawsonville Road, Belleville, MI, County of Wayne, at 10:30 a.m. The following items will be offered for sale to the highest bidder:

Stock	Year	Make	Model	VIN
6638397	1998	GMC	SIERRA	1GTGK24R0WE545690
6638407	1994	GMC	SIERRA	1GTD14Z8Z535979
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6638461	2000	PONTIAC	GRAND PRIX	1G2WK52J3YF350193
6638506	1997	PONTIAC	GRAND AM	1G2NE52T7VM541904

Vehicles are sold in "as is" condition. The referenced vehicles, as well as many others, may be previewed by prospective buyers on Wednesday, April 7, 2010, from 8:30 am - 4:30 pm. Vehicles may be deleted from this list any time prior to the start of the auction.

Terms and Conditions will be applicable to any item sold. Registration fees apply.

Publish: April 1, 2010

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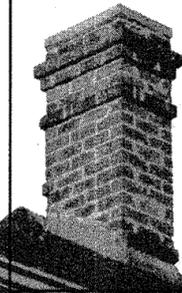
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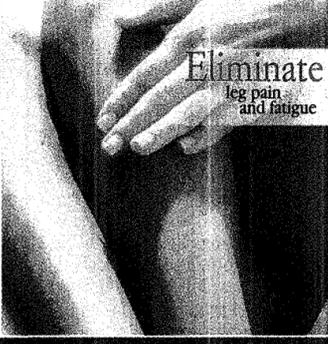
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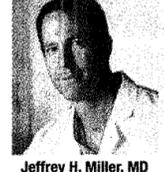


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AROUND WESTLAND

Flower sale

The Wayne Ford Civic League will be selling Easter plants Friday-Sunday, April 2-4. Look for the plant sale at the 7-Eleven at 1826 S. Merriman, 31385 Joy and 8791 N. Wayne Road, Mobil gas, 1810 S. Wayne Road and Sunoco, 37400 Ford.

The group also will sell Mothers Day hanging basket plants Saturday-Sunday, May 8-9.

Author visit

Come meet Ryan Potter, author of the young adult novel, *Exit Strategy*, 7-8 p.m. Wednesday, April 21, in Meeting Room B of the William P. Faust Public Library.

Potter is a graduate of John Glenn High School, and many of the locations used in the story were inspired from locations in Wayne and Westland. He will discuss his new novel, taking questions, and sign copies of the book afterward.

Sign up for the event at the library's reference desk. Copies of the book will be made available behind the reference desk prior to the event. Both teens and adults welcome. For more information on Ryan Potter, go online to www.exitstrategy17.com.

The William P. Faust Public Library is at 6123 Central City Parkway, north of Ford. For more information, call (734) 326-6123.

Garage sale

Ss. Simon and Jude Parish will hold a garage sale 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, April 9, at the church, 32500 Palmer, east of Venoy. There will be a \$2 bag sale at 3 p.m., and all large items also will sell for \$2 at that time.

For more information, call Mae Bray at (734) 722-8209.

Holiday hours

Westland city offices and the 18th District Court will be closed

Good Friday, April 2. The Bailey Recreation Center and William P. Faust Public Library will be open on Good Friday, however, both will be closed on Sunday, April 4, for Easter.

The library, recycling center and the museum will be closed on Saturday, April 3.

Bank On It

National City Bank will present four classes aimed at teaching participants how to budget, earn credit and even invest 6-7 p.m. on four Mondays - April 19 and 26 and May 3 and May 10, in Meeting Room A of the William P. Faust Public Library, 6123 Central City Parkway, north of Ford.

The class is for kids ages 12-18. In part one, participants will learn about budgeting. Part two is checking accounts, part three credit, and the final class is on investing. Sign up at the reference desk and bring a calculator. It's recommended participants attend all four classes because the concepts build on each other. For more information, call (734) 326-6123.

Yoga classes

The Bailey Recreation Center is offering ongoing sessions of yoga classes for anyone 13 years and older. The classes are 7:30-8:30 p.m. Thursdays or 11:30-12:30 p.m. Saturdays. The next sessions will begin April 1. The cost for a four-week session is \$20 for Westland residents and \$25 for non-residents.

Yoga is a combination of physical exercises with deep, relaxed breathing designed to improve strength, flexibility and relaxation. All levels of ability are welcome. You do not need to be strong, flexible, in shape, or relaxed for this yoga class but attendance will improve these qualities and probably many more. If you are already strong then yoga will help improve circulation and allow for improved recovery time and muscle flexi-

bility. Increased aerobic capacity from the deep breathing practice is an added advantage.

For more information, call (734) 722-7620.

Toy-Collectible Show

Head to the Hellenic Cultural Center, 36375 Joy, between Wayne Road and Newburgh, Westland, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Sunday, April 11, for a Toy and collectible show.

There will be pop culture, TV/movie items, games, comics, action figures, non-sport cards, new and antiques, hallmark, NASCAR, posters, Hot Wheels, video/music to buy, sell or trade. Win spendable money. Refreshments will be available.

Admission is \$2, kids under age 12 free. Early in at 9 a.m. is \$5. For more information, call Gary at (734) 525-3712

Road Rally

Kick out the jams at PsychSystems ACTS Annual Road Rally Friday, April 23. This year's theme is Detroit Rock City!

At the end of the evening the teams meet at the final destination where prizes are handed out to the winning teams. This is PsychSystems ACT main event to raise financial aid for local organizations that support people with developmental disabilities, including AUTISM SPEAKS, Friends of CLS, the Wayne Center Christmas Fund and the Wayne County Autism Society. All entry fees will go to the PsychSystems ACTS Charitable Fund.

The road rally begins at 4:30 p.m. at Goudy Park at the corner of Sims and Wayne Road, in Wayne.

The entry fee is only \$10 per person before April 1, or \$15 per person after April 1. People can register as a team or as an individual at www.psychsystemsonline.com. Mail entry forms to 35640 Michigan Ave., West, Wayne, MI 48184.

GARDEN CLIPPINGS

Blues and Muse

Maxwell's Art and Treasures is hosting Blues and Muse XIII Saturday, April 3. It's a night filled with a variety of live music and poetry. It's a chance for people to come up on stage for the open MIC and spoken word. Or just sit back and enjoy the talented performers on stage.

As always, local artists work will be on display and for sale. Stroll around the antiques and collectables. Enjoy great food during the intermission and meet new people. It all starts at 7 p.m. and goes until it ends. Admission is just \$5.

Maxwell's is located at 32416 Industrial at the corner of Hubbard. For information, call (734) 427-5300, Ext. 7, or go online to www.maxwellsartandtreasures.com for a complete list of upcoming events and art and music classes that are available. This event is sponsored by Maxwells Art and Treasures and Surround Audio Service of Garden City.

Sweet time

The Friends of the Straight Farmhouse are hosting "Cloud Nine Desserts with Bev" at 7 p.m. Friday, April 23, Straight Farmhouse, 6221 Merriman, north of Ford, Garden City.

Bev England will demonstrate how meringues are the perfect base for a wide variety of delectable desserts. There will be plenty of taste testing. England learned cake decorating at the Snyder School of Cake Decorating. She traveled in classes with the chefs at The Grand Hotel, Williamsburg, Va., The New Orleans Cooking School, Belgium and France.

Tickets cost \$7 and are available at the farmhouse. For more information, call (734) 838-0650 or go online to www.sfhonline.org.

Saturday Night Light

This month's installment of Garden City Presbyterian Church's Saturday Night Light

on April 17 will feature the Jake Body Band.

The group isn't just a band, it's a ministry that tells the story of how God saved their lives over and over. Their music is a crossover from country to Christian to pop and even gospel.

Saturday Night Light will be at 7 p.m. at the church, 1841 Middlebelt south of Ford. Admission is free. For more information, call 7421-7620 or go online to www.gardencity-presbyterian.org.

Garage Sale

All are welcome to come and shop 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday, April 8, at the garage sale at St. Dunstan Parish, 1515 Belton, south of Ford, Garden City.

Clothing, dishes, books, toys and more will fill the sale tables. There will be a \$2 bag sale in the final hour. The sale is a parish event, sponsored by the Rosary Altar Sodality. For more information, call (734) 425-6720.



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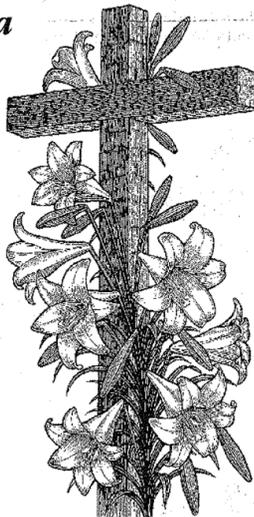
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Kim Carnicom, M.A., CCC-A, Masters Degree in Audiology

PUBLIC SAFETY

Wallet reportedly taken from top of candy box

Larceny
Police were called to Ford Wayne Auto, 35404 Ford, March 29 when a Belleville man reported his wallet stolen. When officers arrived, the victim's son directed them across the street to the Mobil station where his father was with a possible suspect. The victim told police that the man who had just exited the Mobile station was the suspect.

The officers pursued the suspect, a Detroit man, who fled the gas station and continued running east through the Red Holman Pontiac dealership rear parking lot, police said. The officer located the man walking at the Hampton Court Apartments after climbing a six-foot fence with barbed wire on the top. He denied taking the other man's wallet and said that he had gone to have his vehicle repaired. He was arrested for larceny, driving with a suspended license and held on a warrant.

The victim told police that he and his son were the only customers at the repair shop when he was called into the shop so the mechanic could show him what needed to be repaired, police said. The mechanic was called away to speak with a new customer and that was when the victim said he had realized his wallet was left on the candy box on top of the front counter, police said.

The man wasn't able to locate his wallet, which he said contained \$200, but his son told him the suspect had just left the business, police said.

Police were also unable to locate the wallet.

Break-in
A resident of an apartment at 8181 N. Wayne Road, told police March 29 that someone had kicked in the door and stole her computer valued at \$650. The officer noted that the door frame had been splintered inward and there had been a search of dressers and closets.

Vehicle thefts
On March 23, a resident in the 1500 block of Gloria told police that someone had stolen his vehicle after he left it running for about an hour in a neighbor's driveway. The 2008 Chevrolet Trailblazer was valued at \$20,000. The owner said he started the vehicle so it could warm up, then went inside and got busy on the computer. When he left for an appointment, he said the vehicle was gone. The man told police he was current on the payments.

A resident of an apartment on Lakeview Boulevard told police March 29 that someone had stolen her 2002 Chrysler Sebring, valued at \$10,000, from the parking lot. The car was in the parking lot at 8 a.m., she said, but gone shortly after 11 a.m. She told police the vehicle was paid off and carried only personal liability/property damage insurance.

Larceny from a vehicle
A resident of an apartment at Hunters West, 6501 Yale, told police that someone had stolen the radio/CD player from his vehicle and damaged

the steering column. The stereo was valued at \$150.

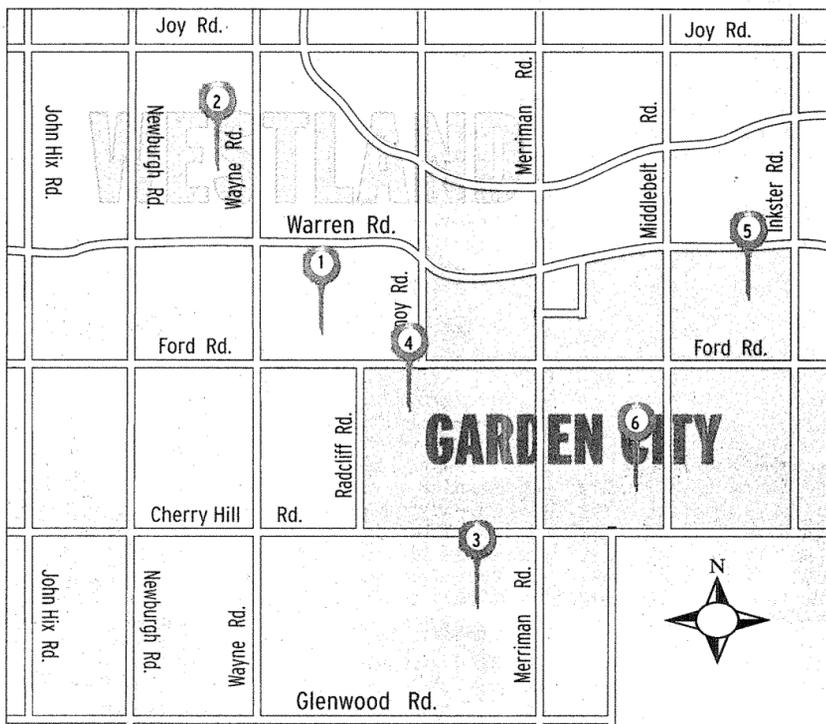
Property found
A member of the Westland Work Program was picking up debris in the area of Irene and Annapolis March 21 when a gray safe was found. The safe was turned over to police. It contained a gun safety inspection certificate and a Top Gun range rules form.

Vehicle recovered
On March 28, police were called to South Radcliff and Hazelwood about a pickup truck abandoned in a ditch. The vehicle had been reported stolen earlier in the day from Wayne. A resident told police he had heard a commotion around 6 a.m. and then spotted the vehicle several hours later when he called police.

The 1992 Ford pickup with cap, valued at \$2,500, was intact except for a broken driver's side mirror and most of the windows had been spray painted, including an obscenity on the rear window. The keys were not with the vehicle but the officer noted the ignition was intact.

Larceny
A Westland woman told police someone had stolen her purse, containing \$4,000 in cash, while she was shopping at Kroger, 36034 Ford, March 28. She said the purse was taken from her shopping cart. The purse also contained a Blackberry, checkbook, credit cards and check for \$619, the woman told police.

— By LeAnne Rogers



Thief targets drugs in home break-in

Breaking and entering
Although an alarm sounded about 1 a.m. March 25, entry wasn't gained at Fouad's Hair Styling, 33211 Ford.

A store front window was broken out by a piece of asphalt, and a video surveillance camera

GARDEN CITY
showed two men in hooded jackets. One man rode a bike near the building and another drove past in a vehicle.

One man could be seen throwing something, according to the police report.

Home invasion
A girl who said that she went to a home in the 28200 block of Maplewood to let her brother's dogs out made a delayed police report March 25 after finding several items

missing from inside the home, including a TV and Xbox games. Jewelry was stolen from the bedroom.

A witness saw a man nervously walking in front of the house and then saw him head to the back door. A short time later, the man, who carried a TV, got into the passenger side of an SUV, which drove away.

Breaking and entering
A woman in the 550 block of Middlebelt reported that someone pried open a breeze-way door and also used a log to open a side door.

She reported that a bottle of Vicodin and Oxycontin were stolen from her nightstand along with collectible coins and stamps sometime before 8:15 p.m. March 29.

The police commented that

there was no other search activity inside the home and that the thief seemed to know exactly what he was looking to steal.

Property destruction
A 67-year-old man who parked his 2004 Ford 150 overnight March 28 at the American Legion Hall on Middlebelt south of Warren Road reported that there was damage to the vehicle after someone broke into it. The thief stole several packs of cigarettes.

The owner of a 2009 Jeep parked in the street in the 6200 block of North Inkster Road before 3 p.m. March 26 said that signs showed that someone had attempted to break into it. Nothing was stolen.

— By Sue Buck



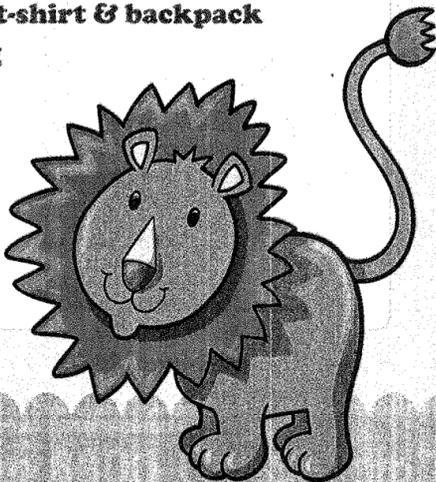
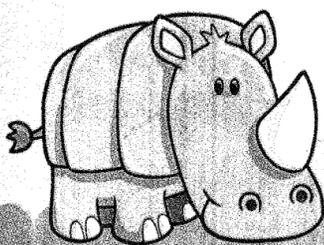
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Westland-Garden City Strictly Business

IT'S YOUR BUSINESS Q&A



Owner Eric Maslany offers full-service repair and maintenance work at his shop on Warren Road in Westland.

Eric's Auto: Fair, honest prices

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

Eric's Auto Service Center is a full-service auto repair and preventative maintenance center. Eric's Auto, established in 1982, is located in Westland.

Observer: What makes your business unique?

We are honest and fair priced. We offer a one-year warranty on parts, 90-day guarantee on labor.

View our Web site at www.ericautoservicecenter.com.

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

I decided to open my own business because I was tired of working for dealerships and wanted to give people a fair price.

Observer: Why did you choose Westland?

I grew up in the neighborhood and always wanted to have my auto

ERIC'S AUTO SERVICE CENTER

Business Name: Eric's Auto Service Center

Address: 28550 W. Warren Road, Westland

Your name and title: Eric Maslany, Owner

Hometown: Westland

Date Established: 1982

Number of Employees: 2

Business specialty: Major and minor repairs, brakes, air conditioning

Hours of Operation: 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Friday

Business Phone and/or Web site: (734) 525-2225; www.ericautoservicecenter.com

repair shop here.

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 a professional auto tech and have been repairing

cars for more than 20 years. During this time, I have purchased many thousands of dollars in tools and damaged my body by bending it in ways Mother Nature never intended. I pay for my own health insurance and work 60-hour weeks. I do not get paid for holidays. I attract customers because I have expertise in identifying problems and fixing them. Don't be mad at me when your tune-up costs \$300 or more. I am not the one who made your car so complicated that it takes computers and flow charts to check the lights. I am not the one who bought a car that requires a \$14 spark plug. I am not the one who bought the fancy foreign model that needs to get parts shipped in from England, Germany and France. People should investigate maintenance costs before they buy a new car.

BUSINESS MILESTONES

You're invited

Location: Invitations by Mary, a division of C&M Printing, at Joy Manor, 28999 Joy, Westland.

Details: Make Joy Manor your one stop place for that special event. Invitations by Mary now features a full line of wedding, social invitations and accessories, with Joy Manor providing the banquet hall and event planning.

Contact: Call Mary at (734) 812-5407 for a personal appointment and Chris at (734) 525-0960 for event planning or go online to www.joymanor.com

Customer service

Location: Mr. Appliance

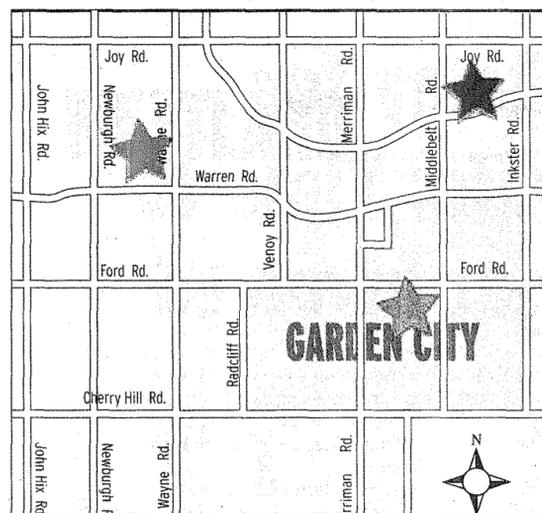
Details: North America's fastest-growing appliance repair franchise system, Mr. Appliance provides full-service residential and light commercial appliance repairs. The company adheres to stringent standards for quality and service. Aaron Adkins & Brooke Lutteke converted their existing appliance repair business, A & S Appliance Repair to Mr. Appliance in 2007 in order to improve their business and the service they provide to their valued customers.

Contact: For your next repair, call Mr. Appliance at (734) 261-4640.

Ticket give-away

Date: Contest is open April 2-15
Location: all Art Van stores, including the Westland store at 8300 N. Wayne Road, north of Cowan.

Details: Art Van guests can register to win a family four pack of tickets to the new Nickelodeon show, "Storytime Live!," coming to the Fox Theatre April 23-25. The show features "Dora the Explorer," "The Backyardigans," "Wonder Pets"



and "Ni-Hao, Kai-lan." Register at the store. One family four pack will be awarded per store. The Art Van Taylor store is hosting a "Storytime Live!" Breakfast. Doors open for breakfast at 8:30 a.m. Breakfast will be served starting at 9 a.m., with Dora stopping by at 10:30 a.m. Kids will go on an adventure and be able to take a photo with Dora. The morning will include a continental breakfast, story telling and party favors. Reservations are currently being taken for the limited seating event. Call (888) 619-2199. Tickets are \$5.

Contact: the Westland store at (734) 425-9600

Cask Ale Festival

Time/Date: 2-6 p.m. Saturday, May 8
Location: Ashley's Bar and Grill, 7525 Wayne Road, north of Warren Road, Westland.

Details: Be a part of the Michigan Cask Ale Festival at Ashley's. Reserve a table for the festival before they're gone. The first cask to be announced is the Thornbridge Hall Jaipur IPA Tickets

available online at www.ashleys.com
Contact: (734) 525-1667

Easter Brunch

Time/Date: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. for breakfast and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. for dinner Sunday, April 4

Location: Hawthorne Valley Country Club, 7300 Merriman, north of Warren Road, Westland

Details: Enjoy a breakfast of scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, hash browned potatoes, french toast sticks and syrup, biscuits and gravy, sweet rolls and orange juice, or a dinner featuring carved top round of beef, baked chicken, baked Brickmann's ham, cod, polish sausage and sauerkraut, meatballs, mostaccioli, whipped and sweet potatoes, mixed vegetables, assorted cold salads, bakery rolls, fresh fruits and sweet table. The Easter Bunny will be here too! The cost is \$16.95 for adults, \$9.95 for children 10 years and under and free for children three years and under.

Contact: (734) 422-3440 Ashley's Beer & Grill

BUSINESS NEWSMAKERS

New collections

Art Van Furniture is welcoming spring to Michigan with three fresh new collections: Rowe, Passport and Paris Flea Market.

Simply put - Rowe Furniture is about color, fashion and style. The fashion conscious buyer will love the color Rowe Furniture offers along its clean, simple lines and mix and match options. The line comes with a full array of custom upholstery and is delivered in just 30 days - a high point of this new collection from one of America's most respected furniture makers.

"Who wouldn't love to visit Paris in the Spring! Travel is the influence behind our new Passport and Paris Flea Market Collections. Our intent is to offer our guests those special treasures they'd find if they traveled the world - but without ever having to leave home," said David Van, senior director of merchandising.

The Passport Collection gathers distinctive accent pieces from around the globe. The assortment includes furniture and accessories in wood, metal, glass and natural stone that inspires guests to develop their own unique style statement.

Imagine searching the best markets in France - that's just what customers will find in Art Van's Paris Collection. With an abundance of treasures, custom upholstery and occasional chairs, the Paris Collection provides

the elements to create a fresh European flair in any Michigan home.

"It's an Art Van you haven't seen before and definitely worth the visit," added David Van.

You can see the new collections at Art Van Furniture at 8300 Wayne Road, Westland.

Celebrating its 50th anniversary, Art Van Furniture is Michigan's largest furniture retailer and America's largest independent furniture retailer, operating 31 stores in 29 communities throughout Michigan, a full service e-commerce Web site plus a new freestanding bedding store in Canton, Art Van Pure Sleep.

For more information, visit the Web site at artvan.com or call the Westland store at (734) 425-9600.

Eggs for BBBS

Now through Saturday, April 3, Westland Rent-A-Center employees are "egging" their customers on to buy \$1 colorful paper eggs to help kids, families and communities where they do business.

For seven years Rent-A-Center has held the spring egg fund-raiser to support Big Brothers Big Sisters, raising more than \$1.79 million for Big Brothers Big Sisters agencies across the United States and Puerto Rico.

"Our co-workers look forward to the Big Brothers Big Sisters fund-raiser each year and are set to exceed the \$2 million mark," said Mark Speese, chairman and CEO of Rent-A-Center. "We are grate-

ful to have the support of our customers and the communities where we have stores to help Big Brothers Big Sisters."

The funds raised during this campaign will go directly to local Big Brothers Big Sisters agencies nationwide, including Big Brothers Big Sisters of Metropolitan Detroit, to match children with mentors and provide ongoing support to "Littles" and their families and the volunteer "Bigs."

The Rent-A-Center will match individual donations dollar for dollar up to \$100,000, and guarantee a minimum donation of \$250 to each of Big Brothers Big Sisters' nearly 385 local agencies.

"We appreciate Rent-A-Center's dedication to BBBSMD and the children, families and communities we serve," said Dara Munson, president and CEO of BBBSMD. "This is the seventh year that Rent-A-Center has helped raise funds for agencies throughout the country. We are excited about the partnership and the much needed support for children in our communities."

The eggs sold will hang in the stores for the duration of Rent-A-Center's fund-raiser. Rent-A-Center is also assisting in Big Brothers Big Sisters' recruitment efforts, inviting agency representatives to set up information booths and distribute literature during the spring campaign.

You'll find the Westland Rent-A-Center at 6503 Wayne Road.

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OUR VIEWS

Relay for Life: Time to get involved

There's still time to support the American Cancer Society by participating in the Westland Relay for Life event, taking place from 10 a.m. May 22 through 10 a.m. May 23 at Jaycee Park at Hunter and Wildwood.

For close to a decade, hundreds of people — families, friends, neighbors — have gathered as teams at the park, where they set up tents and attractions with everything from games for the kids and goodie tables to food stands and pickles on a stick.

While there's plenty to do and see around the park's walking path, there's also some importance to the path itself. Each team member raises money in the days and months leading up to the event. Then they take turns walking laps — for 24 hours, nonstop — symbolizing that cancer never sleeps.

You see, the Relay for Life is the main volunteer-driven cancer fund-raising event of the American Cancer Society. It started in 1985 when a colorectal surgeon in Tacoma, Wash., ran and walked around a track for 24 hours to raise money for the American Cancer Society.

Since then, Relay has grown from a single man's passion to fight cancer into the world's largest movement to end the disease. Each year, more than 3.5 million people in 5,000 communities in the United States, along with additional communities in 20 other countries, gather to take part in this global phenomenon and raise much-needed funds and awareness to save lives from cancer.

It's a special event, that's for sure. Many participants are cancer survivors, while others have loved ones who have been affected by the disease. The Relay gives them a chance to celebrate the lives of people who have battled cancer, remember loved ones lost, and fight back against the disease.

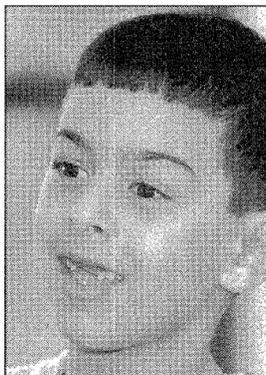
The word "hope" resonates throughout the event, especially during the evening lighting of the luminaries, which is a moving experience for all.

There is still time to get involved in this important fund-raiser in the community. Just log onto www.relayforlife.org and search for the Westland event. From there, the signup information, along with donation information, displays on the front page.

Whether it's joining a team, forming a new team, making a donation or simply stopping by to encourage the teams through the 24-hour journey, it's a worthwhile effort that brings comfort to those who are affected by cancer.

COMMUNITY VOICE

How do you think the Easter Bunny gets to your house?
We asked this question at the William P. Faust Public Library in Westland.



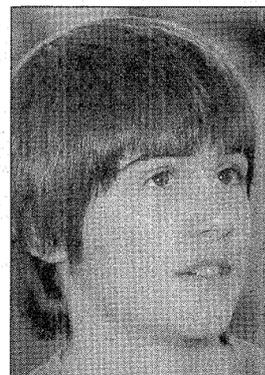
"He jumps around."
Tarek Sbeih
Westland



"I think he flies."
Alexis Baker
Westland



"He uses Santa's sleigh."
Brandon Clark
Westland



"I think he travels or something like in a car."
Leland Hunter
Westland

LETTERS

Beware of 'for-profit'

Once the Detroit Medical Center becomes a for-profit business, how and where will residents in Detroit receive health care?

As a student of public health, I am extremely disappointed with the recent announcement made by the Detroit Medical Center that it is to be purchased by the for-profit company, Vanguard Health Systems. Not only is DMC one of the largest hospital systems in Michigan but more importantly, the DMC treats the largest number of uninsured patients in the state.

VHS claims that it will maintain the same level of charitable care for the next 10 years but can we really believe this? After all, the hospital system will now primarily be concerned with satisfying its investors by generating profits, rather than improving the health care of the community.

Traditionally, for-profit hospitals tend to open where there are a large proportion of insured patients. I'm wondering where the new VHS-owned DMC expects to find these insured patients. Were they betting on national health care? The timing is suspicious.

Too much attention is being given to the potential "economic boost" and "positive spin-off effects" that the deal would have on the city. Everyone knows that Detroit is suffering and could use some sort of economic stimulus, but a health system's responsibility is not to facilitate the opening of new retail shops or to increase the business of local restaurants.

A better model might be to "provide quality health care" and target "the residents of the communities we serve." Ironically, this was taken from DMC's mission statement. Once they go for-profit, do you think it will change?

Kris Jensen
M.P.H. candidate
University of Michigan
School of Public Health

Finance 101

Imagine there's a new car loan available with a great, low rate. It's a five-year loan, but there's a catch. You only get the car for the last three years of the loan. Your payments start now, but you get the car later. If you belong to a special group, you only make loan payments in the fifth year. If you live in certain states, you don't pay at all, you just get the car. Welcome to the new and improved health care plan.

Our nation's leaders have created a "revenue neutral" bill, asking us to pay for 10 years, but receive only six years of benefits. If you're in a "luxury" health care plan (union), you only have to pay for two of 10 years. If you live in certain states, you pay nothing at all for 10 years. The savings will come in the second 10 years. Are you buying that from the folks who brought us Medicare and Amtrak?

Despite polls indicating that most Americans don't want this plan, Congress is pressing ahead with plans to jam this through. It's important to remember that we don't live in a democracy. We live in a republic. We don't vote for legislation, we vote for the people who vote for the legislation. In a republic, people elect public officials they feel are best suited to represent their views. Yet, this Congress is doing everything in their power to force health insurance reforms upon us, despite polls indicating the vast majority of Americans

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

We welcome your Letter to the Editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We ask your letters be 400 words or less. We may edit for clarity, space and content. Submit letters via the following formats. Web: www.hometownlife.com E-mail: smason@hometownlife.com Blog: You may also let your opinions be heard with your own blog at hometownlife.com. Deadline: Letters must be received by 9 a.m. Monday to be published in the Thursday edition.

don't want this bill.

Abraham Lincoln said, "We the people are the rightful masters of both Congress and the courts, not to overthrow the Constitution, but to overthrow the men who pervert the Constitution." The people don't want partisan legislation, crafted in back rooms with special deals for a few groups. Whether it's the process of "Reconciliation" or "Deem and Pass," our leaders are clearly ignoring the will of the people and the abusing the powers given them by the Constitution. We the people are smart enough to know that these rarely used processes were never intended to force through unwanted, controversial, massive spending bills. Remember, every other November, we get a chance to overthrow the government. A word to our leaders — Represent us or go home.

Richard Lerner
Farmington Hills

Background checks needed

I was appalled when I learned that only 80 percent of organizations are requiring background checks on their employees. There is a Michigan Senate bill (1100) in session that will restrict any sexual predator and any person who has been convicted of child abuse to be involved with a child care organization. I was struck by this bill, as a social worker, because of the fact that there are many organizations that still do not run background checks.

All a sexual predator needs is an opportunity to take advantage of a child and by allowing them in child care organizations they are being handed the chance. So why would we even consider letting this happen? Children deserve to be protected and have fun in a safe environment, especially in places where they go to school.

Children will learn from the environment that is shown to them, and by allowing them to be exposed to a potentially violent person, they may learn similar violence. It angers me to think of the potential danger children could be in. It is sad that we have to deal with this issue, but we do, so why not take the precautions and prevent something terrible from happening?

Emily Herrinton
South Lyon

Best fisherman

The last three years have been interesting for me. Every year around this time like clockwork I look for a resident to return from their winter home. This resident of Milford goes unnoticed and is one of the best fishermen known to man. They raise their young without a care of the human world and live undisturbed in their

summer cottage atop one of highest locations smack in the middle of downtown Milford.

I think I'm the only one in Milford who knows of their presence besides the co-workers I told. I'm so caught in awe when I see them it puts me into a trance-like state, and I'm still amazed at its splendor it gives me goosebumps. The residents I speak of are adult Osprey — male and female.

I first encountered the male three years ago as I was driving to a doctor's appointment. I was driving on Milford Road just past Kroger's. I looked to my right toward the swamp, and I saw a massive bird flying with what looked like a straw hat in its mouth. I never seen such a large amount of sticks in a bird's mouth before, so I had to pull to the side of the road and watch this large bird fly to the top of the cell phone tower.

My jaw gaping open as I watched this bird fly circling the towers base with such strength I could hardly believe my eyes. I never in my life seen such a bird do this in Michigan except maybe the bald eagle. I couldn't figure out what type of raptor it was, but I knew it was a bird of prey. All I could see was a silhouette of this huge bird and I watched it fly from the base to the very top of a 150-foot tower.

I figured it could've been a turkey buzzard, and I went on to my doctor's appointment. It wasn't until a week later when I see this bird again, and this time he was flying over Milford Road low enough to be identified. It certainly was a bird of prey and he was huge. It was my first glimpse of this bird of prey so close. He was flying just above the power lines so I got a real good look at him. Brown on black with white colors stood out like a sore thumb, so I had to pull off the road into the Kroger parking lot to process what I really saw. I had seen a male Osprey flying to its hunting grounds. I couldn't believe my eyes.

Every morning I walked out to the smoking area located on the side of Kroger's at about 6 o'clock in the morning to see two large silhouettes sitting atop the cell phone tower. Then one morning in July I see six silhouettes, two noticeable large birds with four smaller birds perched at the top of the tower. They had chicks and their flight feathers were coming in.

I kept watching these magnificent birds every morning until August. Then I saw both the male and the female flying with their chicks about 200 feet up with the juveniles circling downtown Milford. I heard the tell-tale sound of the bird of prey above me as I was walking downtown. I looked up and was amazed to see the whole family flying. Goosebumps ran up and down my arms as I watched these beautiful birds sore with their young.

This is how it's been for the last three years and it seems this year will be no different. I had the privilege to see the huge male today flying toward Camp Dearborn right behind CVS. I am a bit concerned, a few weeks ago I seen two service men climbing the tower and those men may have destroyed the nesting grounds for these two Osprey. I know Osprey return from their winter migration and build off the old nest which results into being one of the largest nests in the bird kingdom, and I hope this doesn't discourage the best fishermen in Milford from nesting here again.

Robert M. Galecki
former Westland resident

ONLINE VOICES & VIEWS

Here is a sampling of what our online readers are saying:

• Teen and Community Team

Mark,

If you are reading this (that is, if you CAN read), please continue with your facade. Keep telling everyone what they want to hear, but retain your anger for the revenge you'll want to get for all those (like me), that are laughing at you now. No Community Team, intervention, group counseling or therapist can help you or will ever deter you from the destructive path that you and your types are on.

In five years, you WON'T be at home. In five years, you'll be at the mercy of a judge that's about to sentence you for the felonies and/or atrocities you will have committed. Maybe while you're sitting in that 6x10 cell for 25 years, you'll realize the pain and suffering you have caused the community.

But don't fret. There is the possibility that you may be incarcerated in the same prison with your idiot brothers!

PIZZUTI-MAN

WESTLAND OBSERVER



Sue Mason
Community Editor

Susan Rosiek
Executive Editor / Publisher

Grace Perry
Director of Advertising

Debt reduction, retirement savings good tax refund uses

Over the next couple weeks many more people will be filing tax returns and receiving refunds. In addition, because more and more people are e-filing, they are receiving refunds within a couple of weeks. The issue for many people is what to do with the refund.



Money Matters
Rick Bloom

In the past, many who received a refund treated it as an unexpected windfall and proceeded to use the money to reward themselves. Whether it was buying a big screen television or a night out on the town, some looked at tax refunds as a year-end bonus.

Unfortunately, in today's

economic climate where many people are receiving refunds, we cannot afford to be so cavalier with our tax refunds. Therefore, if you are lucky enough to receive a tax refund, there are things to look at before you spend your tax refund. The realities of the world are such that you need to prioritize how you spend this money.

The first thing to consider with the refund is to pay off any high interest charge card debt that is not tax deductible. In today's economic times, reducing debt gives you greater flexibility in handling your financial affairs.

I've always said paying off debt allows you to sleep easier at night and, as far as I'm concerned, that is the No. 1 thing to do with a tax refund.

When someone tells me they are thinking about investing the money, my answer is that there is no investment I know

of that produces a guaranteed 18.5 percent return. That is the return you get when you pay off your high interest rate charge cards. In fact, for many people it can even be a greater rate of return because it's not unusual for some charge card companies to be charging over 20 percent.

The second most important thing to do with your tax refund is invest it for retirement. Money from a tax refund is a great way to fund an IRA. My recommendation for most people would be a Roth IRA. However, whether it is a traditional or a Roth IRA, investing for your retirement is a great way to use your tax refund.

The third area that I recommend people consider is saving for their child's or grandchild's college education by establishing a fund such as the Michigan Education Savings Plan. What is happening in the economy today should convince everyone

of the importance of a college education. Consider that the unemployment rate for those with a college education is minimal in comparison to those who did not attend college, you can see the importance of saving for college.

I would love to say that you should reward yourself with a tax refund by taking a trip, buying that big screen television or whatever. Unfortunately, I can't. We are in tough economic times that don't appear to be ending anytime soon. Therefore, we must act like adults when it comes to our money. If you're getting a tax refund, make sure that you spend it wisely.

Good luck!

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. Observer & Eccentric readers can submit questions at moneymatters@hometownlife.com. For more information, visit Rick's Web site at www.bloomassetmanagement.com.

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Rotary holds giant euchre tournament

The Wayne Rotary Foundation will hold what it hopes will be the world's largest euchre tournament on Saturday, April 24, at Burton Manor in Livonia.

"This is going to be a day of fun and excitement for euchre players from all over," said Wayne Rotary President and event planner Bob Gilbert. "Euchre is a fun, fast and easy game to learn and is quite popular in the Midwest. We thought it would be fun to try and set a world record and raise money for The Wayne Rotary Foundation."

The event takes place 1:30 (pre-registration) to 9 p.m. The tournament will begin at 3 p.m. Players can log on to www.thebigcardgame.com and pre-register.

This is an individual player tournament. Tickets are \$20 per players, \$25 at the door. You must pay cash at the door. Players must be 18 years old to play.

"We are marketing the tournament to the entire Midwestern area including Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and parts of Canada too because there are thousands of players that would enjoy this tournament," said Gilbert. "We are hoping for a record 2,000 players to attend the event. We are also excited to have 'My Trivia Live' as a Diamond sponsor (www.mytrivialive.com)."

Another highlight of the day will be Joe Andrews, founder and director of Grand Prix Card Tournaments and the World Series on Euchre.

He will offer euchre instruction and sign his book, *The Complete Win at Euchre*.

If you would like to play in the tournament, make a donation, volunteer and/or become a sponsor, go online to www.thebigcardgame.com. For more information on the Wayne Rotary, visit the club's Web site at www.waynerotary.org.

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April 20, 2010

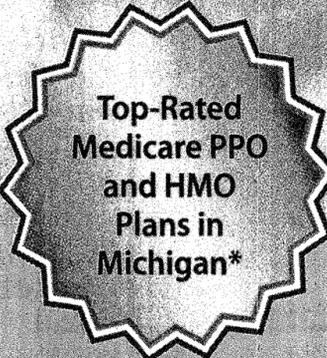
Livonia

April 7, 2010

Doris Biscoe, former TV News Anchor, may personally attend some of these workshops.†

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†Paid Spokesperson, Doris Biscoe, is a member of a HAP non-Medicare Plan.

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Churchill's late rally stuns Catholic Central, 8-7

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

PREP BASEBALL

Despite being outthit by a three-to-one margin, Livonia Churchill played opportunistic baseball Tuesday and upended host Novi-Detroit Catholic Central, 8-7.

The Chargers, playing in their season opener, rallied for three runs in the top of the seventh and winning pitcher Ben Matigian got out of a one-out bases loaded jam in the bottom half of the inning to secure the victory.

Matigian went the final four innings in relief of starter Troy Bogenschutz to

pick up the victory. Matigian turned a 1-2-3 double play ball to end the game.

Matigian yielded just one run on four hits and two walks.

Bogenschutz allowed six runs on eight hits in three innings. He had a pair of strikeouts and did not walk anybody.

The Shamrocks used seven different pitchers who combined for 15 walks.

Reliever Nate Zuchaib, who went one-third of an inning, suffered the loss.

Churchill, down 7-5 entering the final inning, pulled to within one on Steven Hovermale's RBI single. Joe Williams then scored on a wild pitch to even the count at 7-all and David Harris walked with the bases loaded to put the Chargers ahead for keep.

Nate Belyk had a 2-run single in the first for the Chargers.

Brent Nowak, who went 2-for-3 for CC, scored twice and had a 2-run triple in the third inning.

It was Churchill's second win in as many years versus the Shamrocks, who slipped to 2-1 overall.

"It's the first game and you never

know how it's going to go," Churchill coach Ron Targosz said. "The difference in the game is that their pitchers walked 15 and ours only two, which was really only one because one was intentional (to set up the game-ending double play).

"And it's not like we didn't make contact or were looking for walks. We had some decent swings and hit the ball hard."

FRANKLIN 13, GARDEN CITY 4: Nate Robinson had a grand slam and a double Tuesday as host Livonia Franklin (1-0) opened its season by

Please see **BASEBALL, B2**

SIDELINES

MU lands spiker

Madonna University volleyball coach Jerry Abraham announced Monday that he has signed Lauren Mora, a 5-foot-11 outside hitter from Grand Blanc, to an NIAA letter of intent.

Mora is the second signee for the Crusaders this off-season, joining Lutheran High Westland's 6-foot-3 middle hitter Emilie Freeman.

As a senior, Mora recorded a total of 425 kills and a .415 attack percentage to go along with 108 blocks as she earned Class A All-State and All-Kensington Lakes Activities Association honors.

The two-time All-Region selection led the Bobcats to a pair of district crowns.

She also earned Big 9 Conference All-Academic honors as a junior and has been on the A/B honor roll during her entire high school career.

"Lauren is a talented all-around volleyball player," Abraham said. "She has the desire and ability to develop into a versatile attacker from antenna to antenna at the net with a variety of shot selections. Lauren also has a genuine passion to train and develop into a high level player."

"She is also an excellent student with great work ethic and character. Once she adjusts to the speed and pace of the college game, she has the tools and determination to compete for playing time early in her collegiate career."

MU ended the 2009 season with a 32-7 record, ranked at No. 22 in the country and advanced to the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference tournament championship match before falling to host Indiana Tech.

Sears leads MU

Although his score was not designated to count in the team standings, Madonna University sophomore Nick Sears took medalist honors with rounds of 74-76-150 in the Kenyon College men's golf invitational held Friday and Saturday at Apple Valley Golf Course in Howard, Ohio.

Madonna led the 10-school field with two-day total 303-311-616, followed by Walsh (Ohio) University, 644; Daemen (N.Y.) College and Northwestern Ohio, 646 each; Kenyon, 655; Roberts Wesleyan (N.Y.), 658; Albion College, 668; Notre Dame (Ohio) College, 674; Mercyhurst (Pa.) College, 685; and Hiram (Ohio) College, 695.

Other MU scorers included Jimmy Uelmen, second, 76-75-151; Tommy Lucko (Livonia Churchill), third, 79-73-152; Brett Quitiquit, fourth, 73-81-154; Austin Stillman (Livonia Franklin), seventh, 75-82-157; and Steve South (Franklin), 23rd, 79-85-164.

Lutheran Westland remains a contender

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Capsule outlook for area teams, B3.

Lutheran High Westland may be one of the smallest baseball programs in the area, but the Warriors are big on getting results.

Coach Kevin Wade is coming off another successful campaign

PREVIEW after going 19-4 and winning the Division 4 district title in 2009.

Two starters remain off the Warriors' 2008 squad, which finished 25-8 and reached the state championship game.

Senior pitcher-shortstop Austin Baglow and senior outfielder Tony Cipolla will once again lead the way as the Warriors move into the challenging Michigan Independent Athletic Conference's Blue Division from the Metro Conference.

Lutheran Westland rolled in its season opener Friday against Pontiac Academy of Excellence, 20-0.

"By moving into the MIAC Blue, we have definitely



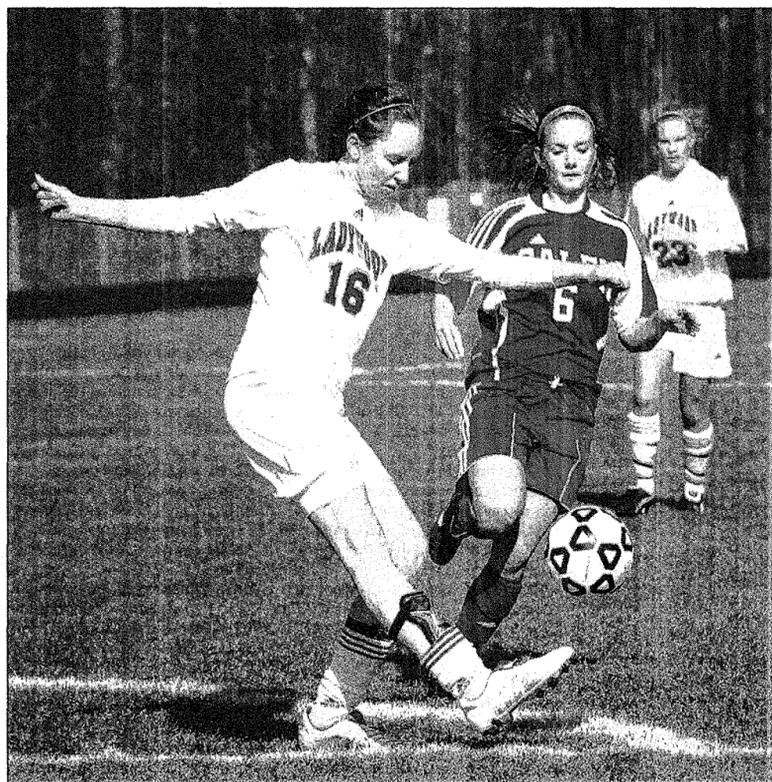
Wade

upgraded," said Wade, who is entering his sixth season. "This division of the conference has had a team in the Final Four six straight years — five

teams have played in the final game with one winning (Rochester Hills Lutheran Northwest, 2004) and that doesn't include Liggett who is a perennial powerhouse (advanced to 2007 quarterfinals and lost to Allen Park Inter-City Baptist, which reached final game). We will definitely be battle-tested when it comes tournament time."

Meanwhile, next-door neighbor Westland Huron Valley Lutheran (9-6) returns a veteran cast that could challenge for the MIAC's Red Division crown.

Please see **PREVIEW, B3**



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Firm footing

Ladywood's Morgan Chops (16) maintains possession of the ball in front of Salem's Emily Lundh (6) and teammate Mary Vance (23) in Monday's non-league encounter. Salem exploded for three goals in the final 10 minutes for a 5-0 win. See the girls soccer roundup on page B2.

MU grounds No. 4 Pilots to end skid

After seeing the longest losing streak since the 2008 season grow to three games with an 11-1 loss in the opener, the No. 19-ranked Madonna University softball team upended No. 4-ranked Bethel (Ind.) College, 6-2, in the nightcap to earn a split in Saturday's doubleheader.

The split moves MU to 14-5 on the year and is the Crusaders' first win over a top-five team since the 2009 season opener — a 1-0 victory over then No. 2-ranked Point Loma Nazarene (Calif.).

COLLEGE SOFTBALL The visiting Crusaders got on the board first in Game 2, scoring a run in the opening inning when Erica Landess singled home Cat Sidor (Livonia Churchill), who earlier singled.

Bethel (17-2-1) squared the game at 1-1 in the bottom of the fourth off of starter Hallie Minch, who limited the damage to a single run by stranding a runner at first.

The Crusaders tallied three runs in the top of the fifth to blow the game open as Arielle Cox led off with a triple and scored when Sidor singled to center to make it 2-1.

Tara LaMilza doubled to the wall in right to put runners at second and third for Ashley

Please see **SOFTBALL, B3**



Laker sets mark

Grand Valley State University junior Megan Maceratini (168) competed Saturday in the 2010 Nike Stanford Track & Field Invitational meet in California. The Livonia Churchill grad finished 19th overall in Section 2 and set a new 10-kilometer (6.2-mile) school record for the Lakers with an NCAA Division II Outdoor Championship automatic qualifying time of 35 minutes, 22.79 seconds, beating her personal and school-record best of 35:27.74.

Gansser, Gooding star in MU sweep

COLLEGE BASEBALL

After playing 19 straight games on the road to open the season, the Madonna University baseball team returned Tuesday to the friendly confines of Ilitch Ballpark and swept a doubleheader from Indiana Wesleyan, 4-3 and 9-1.

The Crusaders, ranked No. 15 in the latest NIAA Coaches Poll, improved to 18-3 overall.

MU rallied for four runs in the bottom of the seventh to take the opener on junior Mike Gansser's walk-off three-run homer.

A double by Zach Flavin, a single by Matt Kay (Canton) and a pinch-hit single by Drew Fry set the table for Gansser's dramatic blast over the left field wall.

"I got lucky — he (Ryne Brown) threw me a pitch to hit and I took advantage of it," said the junior from Rochester Adams, who recorded only his second career homer. "It was my first walk-off homer. It was a lot more exciting than the first one."

Junior Chris Skalski, who went the final inning, got the win in relief.

Starter Robert Fraser (Westland John Glenn) was lights out in his five innings of work, allowing just one hit and striking out seven

before giving way to the bullpen. Gansser and Kay each collected two hits in the win.

MU rolled in the nightcap as starter Jeremy Gooding, who earned the victory, and reliever Tom Hansen, who posted his first save of the year, combined on a two-hitter.

Gooding (3-0) allowed just one run on no hits. He struck out five as did Hansen, who worked the final three innings.

"I wanted to hit my spots all day, trust my infielders and stay around the strike zone the whole time," said Gooding, a native of Livonia. "I have to give credit to our trainer, who gave me a massage 30 minutes before the game and I felt pretty loose."

The Crusaders belted three homers, with Ted Toune and Key each notching their second of the season, while freshman Brad Lineberry (Plymouth) added his first.

Toune went 3-for-3 with two RBI, while Kay was 2-for-3 with four RBI.

Indiana Wesleyan falls to 10-18 overall.

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All-Area boys cagers go strong to the rim

FIRST TEAM

Kyle Vinales, Sr. G, N. Farmington: Vinales became the school's all-time leading scorer the past season, ending a four-year varsity career with 1,661 points. The 6-foot-1 senior guard, who played in a school-record 91 varsity games, scored 617 points and averaged 25.7 points this year — both of which are records, too. He also averaged five rebounds, five assists and three steals for the Raiders (16-8), who were in contention for the OAA Red Division crown until late in the season and won a Class A district title. Vinales had a career average of 18.3 points per game.

"The thing that stands out most about Kyle is his growth not only as a person but a player," coach Tom Negoshian said. "He was a point guard when we needed him to be a point guard, and he scored when we needed him to be a scorer. Kyle has the great ability to handle the ball and get to the rim. He not only put up high numbers; he handled the ball in pressure situations and didn't get knocked off the ball very easily."

"More importantly, he made us very competitive (the OAA) Red Division, which is one of the better leagues in the state. When you add it all up, it was a pretty good high school career for him."

Bobby Naubert, Sr. G, Liv. Stevenson: The two-time All-Observer pick enjoyed a highly productive senior season averaging 21.6 points and 4.5 assists per game for the 16-7 Spartans, who captured the KLAAs Central Division outright.

The 5-9 Naubert has signed to play next season at Madonna University.

"Bobby represents everything that Stevenson basketball is striving to become," coach Mike Allie said of the All-KLAA pick. "His work ethic is what has made him an outstanding point-guard over the past four years. He has proven that he can pass, shoot, attack the basket, and defend this season. Scoring over 1,000 points for his career and leading us to a division championship has made Bobby's senior season that much more special. His impact at Stevenson will not soon be forgotten and it was a complete joy to coach him each and every day."

Dietrich Lever, Jr. PG, Canton: The 5-10 junior was at times unstoppable for the KLAAs South Division co-champions, leading the Chiefs to a 16-7 record with uncanny shooting and playmaking.

He really sparked during the postseason, scoring 85 points over three district appearances including 28 in the final against Novi.

"Dietrich is the best guard in our area, because of his ability to score and create shots for his teammates," said Canton head coach Jimmy Reddy. "He also starts our defense for us by putting great pressure on the ball." Lever earned another All-KLAA Kensington Conference selection with an all-around game. He averaged 19.5 points, 6.5 assists and 3.5 steals.

Daniel Hill, Sr. F, Wayne: The 6-3 senior, who led Wayne to a co-title

2009-10 ALL-OBSERVER BOYS BASKETBALL

FIRST TEAM
 Kyle Vinales, Sr. G, N. Farmington
 Bobby Naubert, Sr. G, Liv. Stevenson
 Dietrich Lever, Jr. PG, Canton
 Daniel Hill, Sr. C, Wayne
 Adam Bedell, Sr. C, Liv. Churchill
 Robert Hogans, Sr. G, N. Farmington

SECOND TEAM
 Andy McCaffery, Sr. G, Liv. Franklin
 Jake Peterson, Sr. C, Salem
 David Evans, Sr. F, Farm. Hills Harrison
 Kevin Weisz, Sr. F, Canton
 D'Juan Cooks, Sr. F, Liv. Churchill
 Demetrius Burton, Sr. G, Garden City

THIRD TEAM
 CJ Mwila, Jr. G, Liv. Stevenson
 Brennen Beyer, Jr. F, Plymouth
 Jamiel Strickland, Jr. G, Wayne
 Tony Frezzell, Sr. G, Liv. Churchill
 Mike Gadsby, Sr. G, Liv. Franklin
 Jaiin Kelly, Sr. F, Farm. Hills Harrison

FOURTH TEAM
 Derric Horton, Jr. G, Wayne
 Mike Nadratowski, Jr. G, Plymouth
 Michael Berrien, Sr. G, Red. Thurston
 Jason Wilson, Jr. G, Farmington
 Don Mullett, Sr. G, Ply. Christian
 Austin Baglow, Sr. G, Luth. Westland
 Urbane Bingham, Jr. C, N. Farmington

COACH OF YEAR
 James Solak, Liv. Churchill
Churchill: Raynard Allen, Kevin Pietrasinski; **Franklin:** Jack Chinavare, Nate Coleman; **Stevenson:** Kyle Bambach, Jordan El-Sabeh; **John Glenn:** Marquise Graves, Nick Daniels; **Wayne:** Reggie Reeves, Nick Mills, Brian Gray, James Jackson; **Clarenceville:** Levonte Brooks; **Damen Quarles, Ben Watts; Lutheran High Westland:** Gage Flanery, Ethan Haller, Mark Rosin; **Huron Valley Lutheran:** Bryan Gruenewald, Tyler Wagaman; **Canton:** Brandon Duffey, Paul Baumgart; **Plymouth:** Dion Johnson, Pat Salo; **Salem:** Tyler Stewart, Ethan Walsh; **Plymouth Christian:** Eric Jipping, Ethan Walker; **Garden City:** Moises Cruz, Nate Kalinowski, Matthew Mitchell; **Thurston:** Troy Bell; **North Farmington:** Tommy Doyle, Dillon Close; **Farmington:** Tom Gocjaj, Darrin Jackson, Charles Anthony; **Harrison:** Ray Hall, Evan Patton, Carlos Eubanks.

in the KLAAs South Division, played the post position as effectively as anybody in the area as he averaged 16 points and nine rebounds per game.

Hill, who carries a 3.5 grade-point average, was a two-year captain for the Zebras who helped his team earn 52 wins over a three-year span.

He also earned All-Observer and All-KLAA Kensington Conference honors for the second straight year.

"Daniel always played bigger than his size," Wayne coach Wayne Woodard said. "He played his best in the big games. We're going to miss his leadership next year."

Adam Bedell, Sr. C, Liv. Churchill: The 6-6, 190-pound senior center averaged 16 points and 12 rebounds for the KLAAs Tournament champs.

He racked up 15 double-doubles (points-rebounds) this season.

"Adam developed into a complete player this year," Churchill coach Jim Solak said. "He had the ability to put us on his back and carry us quite a few times this year. Teams threw every game plan at him and he found a way to beat it. If you doubled him he would dedicate himself to offensive rebounding and score that way and make a few free throws. If you made him go right he developed a couple of different moves

where he could score at will. If you made him shoot it, he'll step out and make the biggest jump shots in school history like at Wayne (Memorial) and (Waterford) Mott. That's just the type of attitude he had every game for two years."

The two-time All-KLAA pick, headed to the University of Detroit Mercy on a soccer scholarship, carries a 3.8 grade-point average and scored a 26 on the ACT.

"He simply found a way to get it done, in the classroom, the community, the soccer field, or the court," Solak said. "He is an excellent role model to the younger kids and he will be remembered as one of the greatest student-athletes to ever come out of Livonia."

Robert Hogans, Sr. G, N. Farmington: Hogans was a two-year varsity starter who has signed to play at Spring Arbor University. He complemented the play of Vinales, taking some pressure off him and giving the Raiders a solid tandem at guard. Hogans developed an outside shot, shooting 41 percent from three-point range and 61 percent inside the arc. He averaged 15.5 points, as well as three steals, three assists and two rebounds.

"What stands out most when I talk about Robert Hogans is him coming in as a very small kid who loved basketball," coach Tom Negoshian said. "Along with growing physically, he worked hard and made himself into a future college player. That says a tremendous amount about him as a worker and his dedication to the game. He put in an awful lot of time and effort, so he could go to Spring Arbor and continue his career. He's a low-maintenance, hard-working kid who wants to learn and play the game the right way."

SECOND TEAM

Andy McCaffery, Sr. G, Liv. Franklin: The 6-3 senior guard averaged 17 points, three assists and four rebounds per game for the Patriots, who captured their first Class A district title in 34 years.

McCaffery shot 49 percent from the field (134-of-276) and 68 percent from the foul line (86-of-127) en route to All-KLAA, Team MVP and Franklin All-Tournament honors.

"Andy is quick, and with his height, is very difficult to guard," Franklin coach Jeremy Rheault said of the All-KLAA Scholar Athlete. "He is an excellent ball handler who is very smooth as an attacker to the rim. Andy possesses the best pull-up jumper I've seen at the high school level. His pull-up is a lay up for many other players. He does it at full speed in transition or in the half-court offense. He creates space and is able to rise above his defenders and finish. Andy is a tremendous player with outstanding skills and ability to score."

Jake Peterson, Sr. C, Salem: The 6-5, 210-pounder was Salem's team captain and MVP, playing well enough to garner interest from college scouts.

Peterson led the Rocks in scoring (15 points) and rebounding (8 boards) and also collected 1.3

blocks per contest to lead Salem and earn selection to the All-KLAA team.

Salem head coach Bob Brodie praised Peterson, the only senior on his team, for how well he played while providing leadership for younger players.

"Jake, we've ridden his shoulders all season long," Brodie said. "He's a tough player for us offensively and he's very unassuming. He doesn't say much, he just goes ahead and does his job."

David Evans, Sr. F, Farm. Hills Harrison: Evans was a three-year starter for the Hawks, who were 16-8 and tied for second place in the OAA Blue Division. The 6-foot-4 senior produced 12 points per game with a season best of 23 for a team with balanced scoring. He also averaged 5.4 rebounds, 3.4 assists and 2.6 steals.

"David is an outstanding athlete and a very versatile player offensively and defensively," coach Pete Mantyla said. "His ability to handle the ball against pressure, rebound on both ends and score in a variety of ways will be missed."

"David continued to improve as the year went on as evidenced by the eight charges he took in our last five games. Most importantly, he learned to value the team over individual achievements, which is a big reason we won 16 games. He had an excellent high school career and is exploring college basketball possibilities."

Kevin Weisz, Sr. F, Canton: Whether going strong to the hole or shooting the three, the 6-6 Weisz was a force for the KLAAs South co-champion Chiefs.

Weisz averaged 14 points and six rebounds per contest, and connected on 58 treys — an exceptional 38 percent.

"Kevin has unique ability to score inside and out and he did a great job of stretching the defense for us this year," said coach Reddy about the All-KLAA honoree.

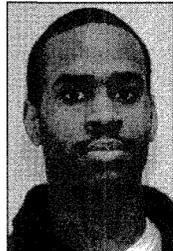
D'Juan Cooks, Sr. F, Liv. Churchill: The 6-5 senior battled ankle injuries throughout the season, but managed to average 11 points, five rebounds and two blocks per game en route to All-KLAA honors.

The long-armed Cooks averaged 12 points, five rebounds and 2.5 blocks during Churchill's four-game KLAAs Tournament run.

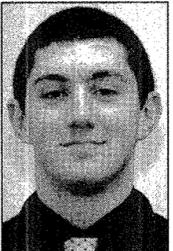
"D'Juan is a very intelligent basketball player who was able to do a little bit of everything," Solak said. "When healthy, he rarely came out of the game. He did many things that wouldn't show up in the scorebook."

Demetrius Burton, Sr. G, Garden City: A three-year starter in the backcourt for the Cougars, the 5-foot-5 Burton played much taller than that on both ends of the court — slithering past defenders and finding his way to the bucket offensively, while mixing it up and contesting shots defensively. Burton averaged 14 points and dished out five assists per game as the Cougars posted a 12-9 overall record.

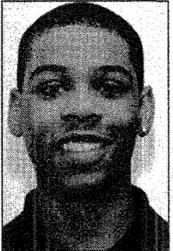
"He's a tough kid, especially for his size," Garden City coach Greg Williamson said of his captain. "He played every minute of every game and did a great job. He did a



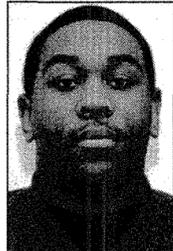
Kyle Vinales
North Farmington



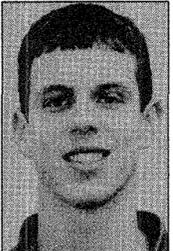
Bobby Naubert
Stevenson



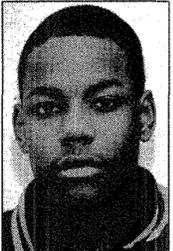
Dietrich Lever
Canton



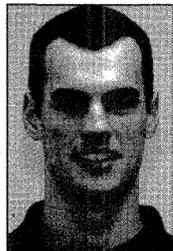
Daniel Hill
Wayne Memorial



Adam Bedell
Churchill



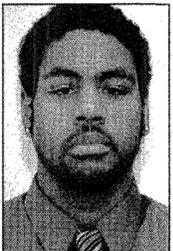
Robert Hogans
North Farmington



Andy McCaffery
Franklin



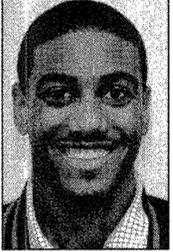
Jake Peterson
Salem



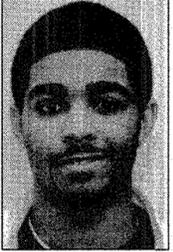
David Evans
Harrison



Kevin Weisz
Canton



D'Juan Cooks
Churchill



Demetrius Burton
Garden City

better job of taking the ball to the basket and was much better on the defensive end as well."

COACH OF THE YEAR

Jim Solak, Liv. Churchill: The eighth-year coach guided Churchill to its first league championship since 1976 as the fourth-seeded Chargers upset three divisional winners to earn the Kensington Lakes Activities Association playoff crown.

"When tournament time came around, these kids were so focused and determined, I wasn't surprised with what we were able to accomplish," said Solak, who teaches in the Taylor Public Schools. "These kids faced so much adversity and unique circumstances throughout the year, yet they maintained a positive attitude and I couldn't be prouder of them. They genuinely liked being around each other, they

worked extremely hard and they had a lot of fun in the process and that's all you can for as a coach."

Churchill finished 12-9 overall.

"I want to thank our principal Joe Anderson and athletic director Marc Hage for being very supportive throughout the years, especially during some tough seasons," said Solak a graduate of Madonna University and former standout at Dearborn Divine Child. "I can't say enough about our coaching staff. Chad Gibbs, Casey Conway, Greg Hovermale and Joel Hall were major reasons for our success this year."



Jim Solak
Churchill coach

BASEBALL

FROM PAGE B1

avenging last year's Division 1 district final loss to the Cougars (1-1).

The Patriots outthit Garden City, 12-6, as sophomore Joel Trudell went 2-for-2 including a homer and four RBI.

Adam Michael and Jack Chinavare each went 2-for-3 as the Patriots built a 7-1 lead after three innings and put it away with five in the bottom of the sixth.

Winning pitcher Brent Marzion worked the first five innings, allowing four runs (two earned) on five hits and two walks. He struck out nine.

Trudell pitched two scoreless innings in relief allowing just one hit.

GC starter Tyler Steele, who gave up seven runs on 2.3 innings, took the loss.

Gee Williams belted a 2-run homer in the top of the fifth for the Cougars, while Nate McHugh added two hits.

CLARENCEVILLE 8, GREENHILLS 4: On Tuesday, timely hitting enabled host

Livonia Clarenceville (1-1) to down Ann Arbor Greenhills (0-1).

The Trojans were outthit 10-7, but key blows off the bats of Damien Quarles, John James, Mike Schiffman, Dan Schiffman, Matt Kurdziel and Ben Gehan helped push across all of their runs from the third through the fifth innings.

Quarles cracked two doubles and had two RBI, while James delivered a two-run single to key the attack.

The win went to Mike Schiffman, who allowed all 10 hits while yielding three earned runs.

S.L. EAST 6, CLARENCEVILLE 2: In the season opener for both teams Monday, host Livonia Clarenceville (0-1) let an early advantage slip away and fell to South Lyon East (1-0).

Leading 2-1 heading to the fourth inning, the Trojans yielded four runs and one more in the fifth to fall behind.

Ryan Ferguson hammered a grand slam for the victorious Cougars.

Starther Damien Quarles took the loss for the Trojans, who matched their foes in the hit column with six apiece. One of those safeties was a run-scoring single by Dan Schiffman.

Mustangs clip Chargers; Spartans stymie Franklin, 4-0

BY BRAD EMONS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

GIRLS SOCCER

Livonia Churchill coach Dave Hebestreit saw plenty of positives Monday night despite a season-opening 1-0 girls soccer loss to host Northville.

"For a first go against a quality side I think we'll be able to pull off some ideas on where we want to go," Hebestreit said. "We learned some things from it and I've already seen growth with this team. Having a tough game early can only help us later on in the season."

Northville's Mallory Weber scored what proved to be the game-winning goal in the 48th minute off an assist from Heidi Haller.

"It was a low shot from 28 yards out and our goalie (Kaylie Secord) may have gotten screened a bit and reacted just a little too late," Hebestreit said.

Shelby Foerg, making her first start in goal for the Mustangs, notched her first shutout.

Churchill's best chance

to score the equalizer came with only 12 minutes left when Rachel Blackney's one-touch off a feed from Abbey Blanchard just sailed wide of the net.

"That was our clearest opportunity," Hebestreit said. "Northville carried the play the first 20 minutes. We kind of sat back and were a little shell-shocked. But we did a nice job of adjusting and really stepped up the last 20 minutes of the first half and I thought we matched them."

Hebestreit singled out of play of Kelsey Rothermel in the center-midfield position, along with defenders Blackney and Rachel Zukowski.

STEVENSON 4, FRANKLIN 0: Molly McConnell tallied a pair of goals Monday as Livonia Stevenson (1-0-1) downed host Livonia Franklin in a Kensington Conference crossover.

Senior Shannon Merritt's corner kick set up sophomore Dayna Stevens with Stevenson's first goal in the fourth minute followed by McConnell's tap-in goal off a cross from senior Renee Boudreau in the 23rd minute.

McConnell made it 3-0 in the 45th minute off another assist from Boudreau and senior Amanda Jenaway completed the scoring in the 60th minute when she took a pass sophomore Kim Griffith and dropped a 30-yard bomb over the head of the Franklin goalkeeper.

Junior goalkeepers Michelle Krawczyk and Caite Marchione combined on the shutout for the Spartans.

SALEM 5, LADYWOOD 0: In a non-league matchup Monday, the visiting Rocks (1-0) scored three goals in the final 10 minutes to turn back host Livonia Ladywood (1-1).

Katelynn Krause scored in the 24th minute to give Salem a 1-0 halftime lead.

Brett deBear then scored on a counter attack following a Ladywood corner kick to make it 2-0 after 47 minutes.

The Rocks then tallied three within a 10-minute span to put the game away — Kristina Klusek (70th minute), Lindsey Newton (74th minute) and Taylor Burgoon (78th minute).

Jamie Hunley, who made three saves, got the shutout in goal for the Rocks.

Ladywood's Maddie Reed came up with seven stops.

"We did not play well enough to beat them, we played O.K. for 70

minutes, but they were just better than us," Ladywood coach Ken Shingledecker said.

S. LYON EAST 3, CLARENCEVILLE 0: A spectacular performance by senior goalkeeper Kristen Jolly wasn't enough Monday as Livonia Clarenceville (0-2) fell to host South Lyon East (1-0) in a non-conference encounter.

Jolly made a total of 29 saves in the match.

One goal came on a penalty kick by freshman Emily Mancos, while the other two were "own goals" off Clarenceville defenders with Carly Hayden and Victoria Reilly each getting credit for East.

"She (Jolly) made a lot of nice saves, but we couldn't help her out," Clarenceville coach Trevor Johnson said.

Freshman Paige Colosimo earned the shutout in goal for the Cougars.

WATERFORD MOTT 8, WAYNE 0: Alyssa Bolling, Meggy McConkey and Hannah Messer each scored a pair of goals as Waterford Mott (1-1) spoiled the season opener Monday for host Wayne Memorial (0-1) in an eight-goal mercy.

Alayna Checkley and Cailey Pawluk also tallied goals for the victorious Corsairs.

Hannah Rhoades and Corey Klein each added two assists, while goalkeeper Katie Ging posted the shutout.

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED 2010-11 BUDGET

In compliance with "Act No. 43," State of Michigan Public Act of 1963, and "Act No. 2," State of Michigan Public Acts of 1968 ("Section 16" of the Uniform Budgeting and Accounting Act), Schoolcraft College publishes this notification of a public hearing on the proposed 2010-11 College budget. This hearing is to take place at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 28, 2010, at the Grote Administration Center, 18600 Haggerty Road, Livonia, Michigan. A copy of the proposed budget is available for public inspection at the above address during normal business hours.

The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.

Jill F. O'Sullivan
Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

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PREP BASEBALL CAPSULE OUTLOOK

LIVONIA CHURCHILL
Head coach: Ron Targosz, seventh year.
League affiliation: KLAAs Kensington Conference (South Division).
Last year's overall record: 16-16-1.
Titles won last year: Livonia City champs.
Notable losses to graduation: Ricky Scully (first-team All-Area), Tyler Bledsoe (second-team All-Area); Andy Szymanski, Jimmy Tyler, Matt Kowalski, Mike Mato, Devin Moynihan, Brent Mishowski, Jimmy Szymanski, Drew Servalish.
Leading returnees: Ben Matigian, Jr. P-SS (.378 batting average; 38.1 innings pitched); Tad Evans, Sr. P (37.1 IP, 3.48 ERA); Steven Hovermale, Sr. 1B-P (4-1 W-L, 28.1 IP); Troy Bogenschutz, Jr. 1B-P; Nate Belyk, Sr. OF-P; David Harris, Sr. OF-P; Christian Leathley, Sr. C; Stephen Foster, Jr. OF-P.
Promising newcomers: Sean Servalish, Jr. Inf.; Matt Windle, Jr. OF; Drew Loudon, Jr. Inf.-P; Trey Jardine, Jr. P; Drew Macorkindale, Jr. C; Chris Vincentini, Jr. OF-P; Joe Williams, Jr. Inf.-P-C; Jon Targus, Jr. OF-P.

Targosz's 2010 season outlook: "We have a group of good, young ballplayers. The thing that concerns me early is that we do not have many experienced varsity players. I am hoping that what we lack in experience can be made up by hard work and hustle. Our opening game is March 30 and I am looking forward in seeing how we will stack up with some of the top teams in our division. My hope is that we continue to work hard as the season goes on and improve our baseball skills. If we can do that, then no matter what happens, we can say that we had a successful season."

LIVONIA FRANKLIN
Head coach: Matt Fournier, fourth year.
League affiliation: KLAAs Kensington Conference (South Division).
Last year's overall record: 19-12.
Titles won last year: KLAAs South Division champs.

Notable losses to graduation: Garrett Gumm (first-team All-Area); Mike Basner (second-team All-Area); Mark McRobb, Josh Weigand, Brad Alderman.
Leading returnees: Prentice Hawkins, Sr. C (All-KLAA); Steven Wells, Sr. Inf.-P (All-KLAA); Nate Robinson, Sr. Inf.-P; Jack Chinavare, Sr. Inf.-P; Nick Hopson, Sr. C-OF; Anthony Crechiolo, Sr. Inf.; Justin Dean, Sr. Inf.-OF; Will Kramer, Sr. C-OF; Kevin Bryan, Sr. OF-P; Mike Peruzzi, Sr. P-OF; Dan Muller, Jr. OF-P; Brent Marzion, Jr. P-Inf.
Promising newcomers: Brandon Hawkins, Jr. Inf.; Bobby Andrus, Jr. P-Inf.; Sean Bhullar, Sr. Inf.; Adam Michael, Jr. C; Robbie Ringe, Sr. OF; Matt Luke, Jr. P; Jake Turchan, Jr. OF; Dallas Centers, Jr. P; Joel Trudell, Soph. P-OF.

Fournier's 2010 season outlook: "We were a pretty good defensive team last year that also put a lot of pressure on teams offensively. If we can continue that trend, it will put us in a lot of good situations. With us, like most teams, our pitching will be the tell tale sign. We have a lot of nice arms that we will lean on, we just do not have as much experience returning in that area as we have had over the past couple of years. Our pitching staff will get stronger and more confident as the year goes on. We are very excited and anxious to see how this team jells and how the season will unfold."

LIVONIA STEVENSON
Head coach: Rick Berryman, sixth year.
League affiliation: KLAAs Kensington Conference (Central Division).
Last year's overall record: 11-19.

Notable losses to graduation: Mike Tuttle.
Leading returnees: Jeff Sorenson, Sr. OF-P (All-KLAA; .422 batting average); J.J. Peterson, Jr. 3B (.344); Mark Wagner, Jr. C-P (All-KLAA; .341); Dan Lopez, Sr. SS (.328).
Promising newcomers: Evan Piechota, Jr. 2B-P; Ben Anderson, Jr. 1B-P; Mike Vomastek, Fr. C; Troy Bodtke, Jr. Inf.-P; Brendon Hayes, Jr. 1B.
Berryman's 2010 season outlook: "The Stevenson players are working extremely hard on their individual goals for improvement and the Stevenson coaching staff is looking forward to positive outcomes from the players' hard work."

WESTLAND JOHN GLENN
Head coach: Tom Wakefield, third year.
League affiliation: KLAAs Kensington Conference (South Division).
Last year's overall record: 12-21.
Notable losses to graduation: Andrew DeLuca (first-team All-Area), Nate Bovia, Devin Crimoli, Steve Hickson, Tony Vetraino, Jake Sperry, Jake Campbell, Jake Watts, Vince Creighton.
Leading returnees: Derrick Ammons, Sr. Inf.-C; Andrew McGrath, Sr. P-Inf.; Spencer Dowd, Sr. P-Inf.; Caleb Clenney, Jr. OF.
Promising newcomers: Shane Anderson, Jr. Inf.; Andrew Benyo, Soph. Inf.; Cody Crane, Jr. P-OF; Danny Croft, Soph. Inf.-OF; Jake DeMoss, Fr. OF; Colton Lipinski, Jr. P-OF; Mike Pietruska, Jr. Inf.; Rob Schurig, Jr. P-Inf.

Wakefield's 2010 season outlook: "We are continuing to build the program at John Glenn. The team will consist of young, hard-working players. As a coaching staff, we are expecting our senior leaders to be role models for our younger players and lead us to a successful season."

WAYNE MEMORIAL
Head coach: Paul Cavanaugh, second year.
League affiliation: KLAAs Kensington Conference (South Division).
Last year's overall record: 6-27.
Notable losses to graduation: Rodney Manning, Jon Bryant, Zeb Hancock.
Leading returnees: Dominik Corredino, Sr. C (second-team All-Area; All-KLAA); Lance Gentry, Sr. 2B; James Nutt, Sr. 3B; Jake White, Sr. P-OF; Daniel Ross, Sr. OF; Michael Grandowicz, Sr. OF; Shane Wilson, Jr. SS-P; Shane Kommer, Jr. 1B-P.

Cavanaugh's 2010 season outlook: "I really think we have the talent and senior leadership this year to compete and have a very good season in a tough KLAAs (South) Division. We need to do the basic fundamentals of the game well this year - like throwing strikes and playing good defense, though. I really like the chemistry that these guys have already shown and the way they've blended together. I feel we are very strong up the middle, which is key to any good game. I really feel this group has the potential to do something really special this year."

LIVONIA CLARENCEVILLE
Head coach: Dan Miller, third year.
League affiliation: Metro Conference.
Last year's overall record: 3-22.
Notable losses to graduation: Jake Bibik.
Leading returnees: Mike Schiffman, Sr. P-OF (first-team All-Metro); Damien Quarles, Soph. OF-P; Jimmy Moody, Jr. 2B (second-team All-Metro); Eric Trotter, Soph. SS; Matt Kurdziel, Jr. C; Ben Gehan, Soph. 1B; Dan

Schiffman, Sr. OF.
Promising newcomers: Zach Rosen, Fr. Inf.
Miller's 2010 season outlook: "We're optimistic heading into the 2010 season. We have a lot of experience returning and we played better last season than our record indicated. We were in a lot of games in the late innings, including losing a handful of seventh-inning leads. Going through that last season is going to help us be more confident late in games, and hopefully allows us to make the next step toward becoming a winning program. Our pitching and defense should keep us in games. If we become more consistent at the plate we can take that next step."

LUTHERAN HIGH WESTLAND
Head coach: Kevin Wade, sixth year.
League affiliation: Michigan Independent Athletic Conference (Blue Division).
Last year's overall record: 19-4.
Titles won last year: Division 4 District champs.
Notable losses to graduation: Sam Ahlersmeyer (first-team All-Area; second-team All-Slate); Micah Hausch (second-team All-Area).
Leading returnees: Austin Baglow, Sr. P-Inf. (second-team All-Area); Gage Flanery, Sr. P-Inf.-OF; Tony Cipolla, Sr. OF; Ben Derminer, Sr. 1B; Jake Andrejewski, Jr. P-OF; Kent Krzyske, Jr. SS; Marc Rosin, Jr. 1B-P; Taurrek Fikes, Soph. OF-P.

Promising newcomers: Thomas Handschumaker, Jr. P; Jordan Garber, Jr. 1B; Aaron Gartha, Jr. C-OF; Nick Andrejewski, Fr. C-P.
Wade's 2010 season outlook: "We are very excited for the start of this season. We have a great core of returners who are very experienced and a great - albeit, small crop of promising newcomers. We have the potential to be very good defensively and that is going to be our focus day-in and day-out. Losing Micah's (Hausch) left arm in the pitching rotation doesn't help, but we have lots of players who can pitch, which will help as the season progresses. Losing Sam's (Ahlersmeyer) power will be difficult to replace, but we have people who can hit gaps and lots of speed top-to-bottom, which has the potential to make us difficult to defend."

WESTLAND HURON VALLEY LUTHERAN
Head coach: Matt Schaeve, eighth year.
League affiliation: Michigan Independent Athletic Conference (Red Division).
Last year's overall record: 9-6.
Notable losses to graduation: Aaron Howell, Austin Tranchida.
Leading returnees: Richie Mamo, Sr. 2B-C (first-team All-MIAC Red); Bryan Gruenewald, Sr. CF; Tyler Wagman, Sr. SS (second-team All-MIAC Red); Andy Barber, Jr. P-3B; Shawn Schaffer, Jr. C-P.
Promising newcomers: Alex Harris, Fr. RF.
Schaeve's 2010 season outlook: "We have 17 players. We were second in the division last year (behind Novi Franklin Road Christian). We lost our last conference game for the title. It was a fun season. Our goal is to win our division in the conference. We've got three strong pitchers and couple of young pitchers. It's probably more than we've ever had. Offensively, we're really strong - one through nine in the batting order. This is the best hitting team that I've ever had. The defense is solid, too. We only lost two starters, so we have a lot of experience."

Winning more games is the ultimate objective for KLAAs South members Westland John Glenn (12-21) and Wayne Memorial (6-27).

Glenn coach Tom Wakefield will miss first-team All-Area outfielder Andrew DeLuca (Adrian College), but returns senior catcher-infielder Derrick Ammons and senior pitcher-infielder Andrew McGrath.

Wayne will be led by second-team All-Area catcher Dominik Corredino. In the KLAAs Central Division, Livonia Stevenson (11-19) should be much improved as senior outfielder-pitcher Jeff Sorenson leads the way. Sorenson hit .422 a year ago en route to All-KLAA honors and was recently named an honorable mention All-American outfielder in the Collegiate Baseball publication.

Livonia Stevenson should be pitching depth," Churchill coach Ron Targosz said. "We are returning about 75 percent of our innings pitched from last year's team. Hopefully, that should keep us in, and hopefully win, quite a few games."

Livonia Clarenceville (3-22) will play its final season in the Metro led by senior pitcher-outfielder Mike Schiffman, a first-team All-Metro selection, along with junior second baseman Jimmy Moody.

In the South Division of the KLAAs Kensington Conference, defending champion Livonia Franklin (19-12) lost three key players to graduation in infielder Garrett Gumm, outfielder Mike Basner and pitcher Mark McRobb.

The Patriots will be led by senior catcher Prentice Hawks and senior infielder-pitcher Steven Wells.

"Our 2010 team does return some key players off of last season's divisional championship team," Franklin coach Matt Fournier said. "As a staff, we think we may have the deepest team we have had in the last four-plus years. We have a lot of nice pieces that we can utilize in different scenarios."

Churchill (16-16-1), the Livonia City Tournament champ, was also hard hit by graduation losses. But a solid trio of pitchers returns in junior Ben Matigian, senior Tad Evans and senior Steven Hovermale.

"The strength of our team this year is our pitching staff," Churchill coach Ron Targosz said. "We are returning about 75 percent of our innings pitched from last year's team. Hopefully, that should keep us in, and hopefully win, quite a few games."

Livonia Stevenson should be pitching depth," Churchill coach Ron Targosz said. "We are returning about 75 percent of our innings pitched from last year's team. Hopefully, that should keep us in, and hopefully win, quite a few games."



Cheers for St. Edith

The JV and varsity cheer teams at Livonia St. Edith Grade School recently competed in the Catholic Youth Organization cheer competition March 14 at Livonia Ladywood High School earning second- and third-place finishes, respectively. Members of the teams include (back row, from left): coaches Lisa Smerdon, Lisa Leja and Katie Campbell; Natalie Apollinari, Tara Caid, Taylor Leja, Kaitlyn Lipinski, Alyssa Breen, Rachel Leja, coach Lucy O'Meara; (middle row, from left) Victoria Smerdon, Holly Cleaver, Caroline Smerdon, Rosie Hodge; (front row, from left) Genevieve Morand, Alexandra Mithen, Lindsey Reed, Maggie O'Meara, Amanda Slater, Jenna Fisher, Hannah Reed, Bailey Papich and Megan Forystek.

SOFTBALL

FROM PAGE B1
 Shay (Garden City/Dearborn Divine Child), who reached on an error that scored Sidor to make it 3-1.

Katelyn Hamann (Westland/Divine Child) later drew a bases-loaded walk to force in a run and make it 4-1. MU tacked on another run in the sixth when Sidor doubled and pinch runner Kiley Thornton scored on a Shay single to make it 5-1.

After Bethel pulled to with in three with a run in the bottom of the inning, MU got a run back in the top of the seventh when Amber Rafko drew a leadoff walk and came around to score on a single from Brittney Scero (Canton)

for a 6-2 lead. Minch allowed a two-out runner in the seventh, but took care of the final out herself, catching a pop bunt to end the game. The sophomore right-hander struck out two and scattered eight hits to improve to 6-3 on the year. Sidor went 4-for-4 with a RBI to lead the way at the plate for MU.

The day's opener was a totally different experience at the plate for the Crusaders, who managed only one run - a solo homer from Sidor in the third.

Brittney Fisher, Kaitlyn Dubois and Mandy Cripe each homered and combined for eight RBI for Bethel. Emily Lamkin also drove in two runs. Losing pitcher Jess Irwin (8-2) gave up six hits and six walks while fanning five in 5 1/2

innings. Winning pitcher Kelli Zache (9-0) scattered four hits over 5 1/2 innings to earn the victory. She struck out five and walked only two. The Crusaders start a six-game road trip beginning Thursday at Huntington (Ind.) College.

WHAC honors Minch
 Madonna University sophomore Hallie Minch (Garden City) was honored as Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference Pitcher of the Week (ending March 28). The award is the first of Minch's career and she is also the first Crusader hurler to be honored this season. Minch held the No. 4-ranked Bethel (Ind.) College to a pair of runs in MU's 6-2 upset Saturday.

PREVIEW

FROM PAGE B1

The Hawks, who finished 8-2 in the Red behind only Novi Franklin Road Christian, will be led by first-team All-Conference pick Richie Mamo, a second baseman and catcher, along with senior shortstop Tyler Wagman.

Livonia Clarenceville (3-22) will play its final season in the Metro led by senior pitcher-outfielder Mike Schiffman, a first-team All-Metro selection, along with junior second baseman Jimmy Moody.

In the South Division of the KLAAs Kensington Conference, defending champion Livonia Franklin (19-12) lost three key players to graduation in infielder Garrett Gumm, outfielder Mike Basner and pitcher Mark McRobb.

The Patriots will be led by senior catcher Prentice Hawks

Trojans romp to two easy triumphs

Livonia Clarenceville ran its season softball ledger to 2-0 Tuesday with a 16-1 three-inning mercy rule victory over visiting Ann Arbor Greenhills.

Izzy Sidon went 3-for-3 with three RBI, while teammate Val Sochacki added three hits and knocked in two runs as the Trojans struck for five runs in the first inning and added 10 more in the second to take control.

Kellie Ankiel also delivered at the plate for the Trojans

PREP SOFTBALL

with two hits and scoring three runs. Stephanie Bishop belted her first homer of the season, scored three times and knocked in three more.

Chelsea Gehan earned the victory on the mound for Clarenceville, tossing three innings of three-hit ball. She did not walk a batter and struck out two.

CLARENCEVILLE 8, LAHSER 2: Senior pitcher Val Sochacki tossed a two-hit, complete game Monday as Livonia Clarenceville (1-0) opened the 2010 season with an impressive non-conference victory at Bloomfield Hills Lahser (1-0).

Sochacki allowed just two earned runs and struck out six in seven innings of work.

Junior Stephanie Bishop paced the Trojans' offense with three hits and two RBI.

Senior Rochelle Haddad chipped in with a 2-run single.

GIRLS TENNIS

LIVONIA STEVENSON 8 LIVONIA FRANKLIN 1
March 30 at Franklin
No. 1 singles: Angelica Woods (LF) defeated Shannon Dwight, 6-1, 6-0; **No. 2:** Laura Gumpfer (LS) def. Jennifer Pagador, 6-0, 6-0; **No. 3:** Ashley Benvenuti (LS) def. Kelsey Sitariski, 6-1, 6-0; **No. 4:** Melissa Martinez (LS) def. Annie McLeod, 6-0, 6-1.
No. 1 doubles: Michelle DeBeaudry-Emily Plumley (LS) def. Jennifer Relling-

Crystal Henderson, 6-1, 6-2; **No. 2:** Simona Enea-Lexie Ranski (LS) def. Sarah Noffze-Jackie Horsell, 6-1, 6-3; **No. 3:** Lauren Arsenault-Calla Miller (LS) def. Chauna Gibson-Brittany Borraeger, 6-3, 6-4; **No. 4:** Kathryn Malkowski-Andrea Burford (LS) def. Natalie Mays-Renee Kozakowski, 6-3, 6-0; **No. 5:** Taylor Tinham-Kelsey Futrell (LS) def. Jamie Buchandzenko-Kayla Buchandzenko, 6-1, 6-1.
Dual match records: Stevenson, 1-0 overall; Franklin, 0-1 overall.

BOYS GOLF

GARDEN CITY 167 WAYNE MEMORIAL 180
March 30 at The Woodlands
Garden City scorers: John Selinski, 39 (co-medalist); Allen Eizember, 40; Matt Wilson, 43; Jared Cusmanso, 45.
Wayne scorers: Zachary Williamson, 39 (co-medalist); Gary Nell, 44; Corey Robbins, 45; and Jaret Williamson, 52.
Dual match records: Garden City, 1-0 overall; Wayne, 0-1 overall.

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ENTERTAINMENT

Creating comedy



Author Bob Harris poses with members of Grand Funk Railroad in the late 1960s.

Author seeks music stories, photos

Bob Harris, music promoter, author and publisher of *The Teen News* in the 1960s and *Extra* in the 1970s, is looking for Detroit bands and musicians to complete his second book, *Motor City Music Legends*.

Harris co-authored *Motor City Rock and Roll: The 1960s and 1970s* (Arcadia Publishing) with Detroit attorney J. Douglas Peters in 2008. Now he wants to complete a more personal, detailed look at Detroit's many music legends.

"In this book, we seek to tell Detroit music fans things about their favorite singers, musicians and groups that no one has published before," Harris stated.

Motor City Music Legends will include more than 200 pages of Detroit-area bands and musicians.

Harris is asking fans and musicians for their help in locating past performers and pictures. His "wish list" includes the likes of Jackie "Mr. Excitement" Wilson, The Southbound Freeway, MC5, Alice Cooper, The Sunday Funnies, The Flaming Embers, The Gaylords, Rare Earth, The Wanted managed by Herb Steiner, Jamie Coe, Jack Rainwater, The Dramatics (formerly The Dynamics) and the Royal Jokers.

Anyone with information and/or photographs concerning these and other legendary Detroit musicians and bands can call Harris at (313) 399-8285 or e-mail John Minnis, who is working with Harris, at jminnis@gmail.com.

The authors plan to publish *Motor City Music Legends* by late summer.



Lesley Braden-Phillips (center) performs with other improvisers at Go Comedy in Ferndale.

Let personal experience create your punchline

BY SHARON DARGAY
O&E STAFF WRITER

It's April Fool's Day, a perfect time to express your sense of humor.

But if pulling pranks isn't your idea of funny, you'll find plenty of venues in Southeastern Michigan — from open mic nights to storytelling slams to improvisational theatre jams — to create comedy. And no matter what genre you choose, you'll be well on your way to eliciting laughter if you keep this simple dictate in mind: Be honest.

"The best kind of comedy is truth. It's empowering and relatable," says Kate Grace of Livonia. "It's not how funny you are. It's about how truthful you are. Are you willing

to be honest about being human?"

Grace draws from personal experience whether telling stories — as she did at The Moth in New York City — or performing improv at Go Comedy in Ferndale.

An alumnus of Churchill High School's Creative and Performing Arts Program, she studied photography in Chicago, Ill., and earned a master's degree in journalism at Columbia University before realizing her writing leaned more toward *The Onion* than the *New York Times*.

"The professors would read in front of the class and they'd crack up. Then they'd hand it back and say 'You can't do that again. This is journalism, not Comedy Central.'"

She trusted her instincts and went "leaping off the edge" and into the People's Improv Theatre in New York, where she honed the craft that teaches performers how to create scenes without pre-planning. Participants learn to say "yes and," to agree with fellow players and add information to the scene.

"It ended up fueling my writing fiction," says Grace, who has since returned home to Livonia to live near family. She was pleasantly surprised to find The Moth had started story slams in Detroit, that open mic nights for stand-up performers abound and that a new improv theatre and training center, Go Comedy, in Ferndale had taken shape.

According to Bill Bushart, a stand-up comedian who also teaches classes at Joey's Comedy Club in Livonia, local comedy "is booming." He says more amateur comics are testing their material than he's seen in the last 10 years.

"People are looking for career options," he says. "Most of the people in stand-up comedy are either fired into comedy or quit into comedy."

FATHER-DAUGHTER

Vera Khzouz of Westland, came to comedy by way of family and ethnic group. She looks for comedic roles when auditioning and landed a lead in *Scarf in the City*, an ethnic twist on *Sex and the City*, that premiered at the Arab American Museum in Dearborn. Khzouz also performed an improvised character in a film shown during the Arab American Comedy Show last summer.

But her current goal is to recreate the sketches that her late father wrote and performed on his radio show, *Voice of Jordan*, for 13 years. She helped him write some of the comedic commercials he broadcast and performed in a few skits.

"There's nothing better than making people laugh. It brings me joy. It's so addic-



Vera Khzouz

tive," says Khzouz, who says humor that comes "naturally" and from being yourself is funnier than forced jokes.

SMART COMEDY

"The funniest things to write about are very truthful statements. I look for common thoughts and actions we do and try to find out why it's acceptable," agrees Lesley Braden-Phillips, a stand-up comedian, cast member at Go Comedy, and member of Motor City Improv troupe. "Why is it that we only think about feeding homeless people twice a year? Thanksgiving and Christmas...that's when they're hungry? That's where my brain goes, to whatever we all have accepted without questioning. I like to question some of those things and then hopefully form a five minute bit from it. I'm a big fan of smart comedy. Anyone can write bawdy comedy."

Braden-Phillips has begun carving a niche for herself in the art of the comedic roast, a form of stand-up comedy. She has been involved in roasts at Go Comedy and Joey's Comedy Club — some were charity fund-raisers — and has served as roast mistress at one event. The key is to strike a balance between "friendship and blasting" the person being roasted.

"Not many women do it," she said, adding "And there is an art to it."

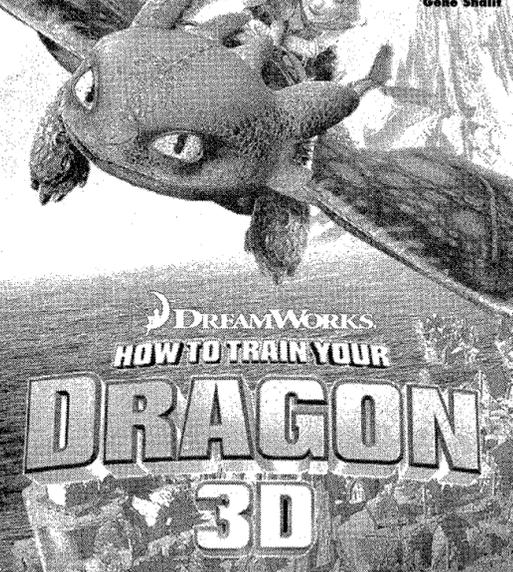
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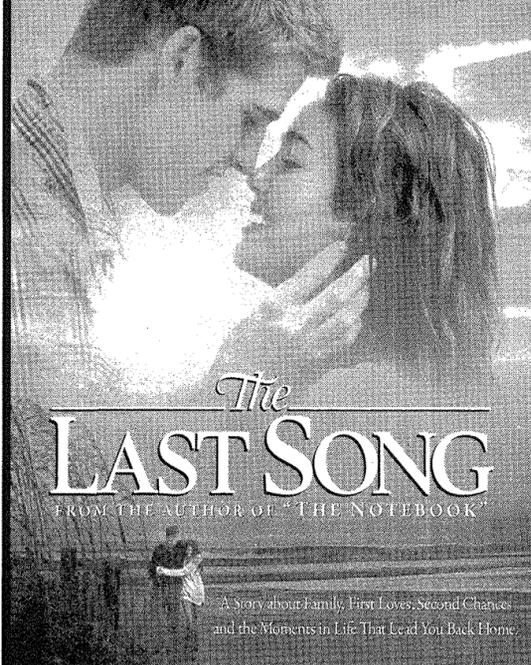


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APRIL 1-7

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church

Time/Date: 10:30 a.m.-noon, Saturday, April 3
Location: 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia

Details: Easter fair and egg hunt for children up to age 8. Parents accompany their children through different activity centers such as egg coloring, cookie decorating, craft making, and a video.

Coming up: Easter Sunday services will be held at 6:30 a.m., 8:30 a.m., and 11:30 a.m. Sunday school classes are held at 9:45 a.m.

Contact: (734) 522-6830
Congregation B'nai Moshe
Time/Date: 5:30-8 p.m., Thursday, April 1

Location: 6800 Drake, West Bloomfield

Details: Passover buffet including assorted soups and salads, grilled chicken and chicken tenders, meat-loaf and fish, mashed potatoes and French fries, fresh vegetables, homemade desserts, fresh seasonal fruit with coffee, tea, juice and soft drinks. Adults \$29, children ages 5-11, \$18, children ages 0-4, no charge. Pre-paid reservations only by Thursday, March 25 with cash or check preferred to: Elite Kosher Catering, 6800 Drake Road (between Maple and 14 Mile Roads) in West Bloomfield
Coming up: RSVP by Monday, March 29 for the "The Magic of Passover," a free Passover program for families with preschoolers, 10-11:30 a.m., Monday, April 5. The program includes a magic show by Steve Zieman, as well as storytime, songs, crafts and Passover snacks.
Contact: (248) 592-0200 or (248) 592-0830 for Passover buffet; (248) 788-0600 for "Magic of Passover" program.

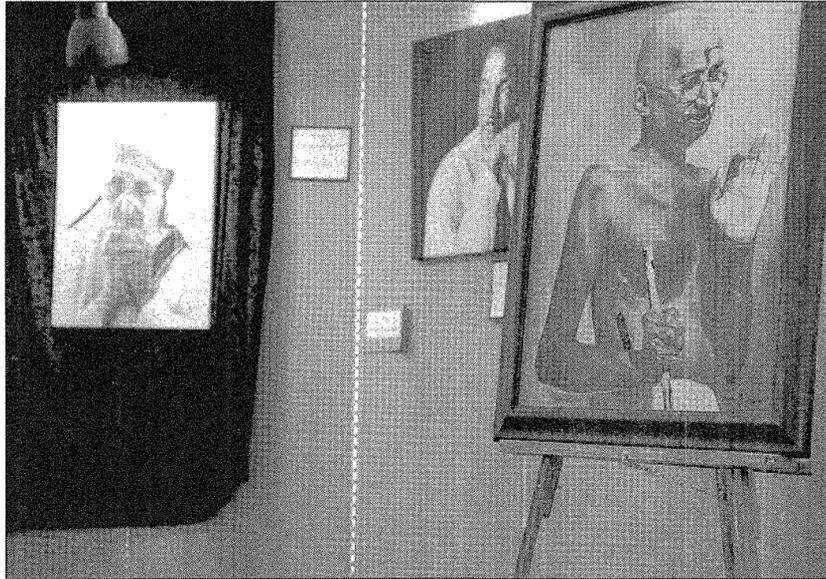
Faith Lutheran Church
Time/Date: Maundy Thursday service, 7:30 p.m., April 1; prayer, noon and service, 7:30 p.m., Good Friday, April 2; Easter vigil service, 7:30 p.m., April 3; Easter celebration service, 10 a.m., with breakfast served 9-10 a.m. and 11 a.m. to noon, Sunday, April 4
Location: 30000 Five Mile, Livonia
Contact: (734) 421-7249

Hope Lutheran Church
Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m., April 1, noon-2 p.m. and 7-8:30 p.m. April 2 and 8:30 a.m.-noon, April 4
Location: 39200 W. 12 Mile, Farmington Hills

Details: Art by Jeanne McCormick of Novi is on display, along with work by members of the congregation
Contact: (248) 553-7170

Kingdom Builders Christian Church
Time/Date: 7-9 p.m., April 6, 13, 20 and 27
Location: 23310 Joy, Redford

Details: Workshop for couples who are married, engaged or in a serious relationship. Learn to communicate better, respect each other and lessen stress on the relationship. Great for couples at every stage and any age. Dinner and child care provided; pre-



Art work by Jeanne McCormick of Novi is on display at Hope Lutheran Church in Farmington Hills.

registration needed for child care. \$40 per couple for all four weeks. Couples must attend all four sessions.
Contact: Marriage Resource Center at (313) 278-4400 or visit www.mimarrriage.org

Loia Park Lutheran Church
Time/Date: 7:30 p.m., April 1, Maundy Thursday service with Holy Communion; 1 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., April 2, Good Friday services; 9:30 a.m., April 4, Easter service

Location: 14750 Kinloch, Redford

Details: Easter Sunday will begin with a free breakfast at 8 a.m. All visitors to the service will receive a free copy of a new DVD entitled *The Road to Emmaus*
Contact: (734) 968-3523 or (313) 532-8655

Mt. Vernon Baptist Church
Time/Date: 11 a.m., Sunday, April 4
Location: 8828 Wormier, Redford

Details: Easter choir cantata, "Arise, my Love"
Contact: (313) 537-7480

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
Time/Date: 7:30 p.m., Thursday, April 1; noon and 7:30 p.m., Friday, April 2; and 8:15 a.m. and 10:45 a.m., Sunday, April 3
Location: 28000 New Market, Farmington Hills

Details: Holy week services
Contact: (248) 553-3380

St. John Church
Time/Date: 1-2:30 p.m., Saturday, April 3
Location: 23225 Gill, Farmington Hills

Details: Community Easter Egg Hunt; all welcome
Contact: (248) 474-0584

St. John's Episcopal Church
Time/Date: Mass of the Lord's supper, 7 p.m., Thursday, April 1; Liturgy, noon, prayers followed by Stations of the Cross, 9 p.m., Friday, April 2; services, 8:30 and 10:30 a.m.

Location: 555 S. Wayne Road, Westland

Contact: (734) 721-5023

Warren Road Baptist Church
Time/Date: 7:30 a.m., sunrise service, breakfast, 8:15 a.m., worship service, 10:30 a.m., Sunday, April 4
Location: 33445 Warren Road, Westland

Details: Easter Sunday worship and events includes live resurrection journey for kids, 4-12, and nursery available for kids under 4
Contact: (734) 458-7301

APRIL 8-14

Congregation Beth Ahm

Time/Date: 1:30 p.m., Sunday, April 11
Location: 5075 West Maple, West Bloomfield

Details: Dr. Amy Brode will talk about the overactive bladder and incontinence, at a program sponsored by the congregation's Sisterhood; free admission and open to the public
Coming up: The Sisterhood starts a weekly Mah Jongg group, 12:30-3 p.m., Tuesday, April 13. Cost is \$1 per person; participants should bring current Mah Jongg card. Also a free weekly DVD series continues at 1 p.m. Wednesday; topics for April 14 are "Rome Arrives in Jerusalem" and "Parting with the Temple," drop-ins welcome and no reservations needed
Contact: (248) 851-6880 or www.cbahm.org for Brode's program; Gail Ellenbogen at (248) 626-4123 or e-mail gellenbo@yahoo.com for Mah Jongg; Nancy Kaplan at (248) 737-1931 for DVD series

The Corners
Time/Date: 8 a.m.-4 p.m., Friday, April 9
Location: 2075 Walnut Lake Road, just west of Inkster Road, West Bloomfield

Details: Rabbi Howard Addison, an assistant professor in the Intellectual Heritage Department at Temple University, leads a workshop about the interface between Kabbalah and the Enneagram. He'll explain how to use it for personal growth and working with clients in the helping professions. Cost is \$100
Contact: RSVP to Michael Abramsky at (248) 644-7398

Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church
Time/Date: 6-7 p.m., April 11, 18, 25
Location: 9601 Hubbard, Livonia

Details: Ballroom dancing lessons, followed by a practice session, with music. A dance party will be held 7-9:30 p.m., April 25. Light refreshments will be served. Cost is \$6 for each lesson and \$6 for the dance. Attend the class and dance for \$10. Pay at the door in Fellowship Hall. The proceeds from the March classes will go to the Cancer Relay for Life; April's proceeds will go to the Capital Improvement Fund
Contact: (734) 751-1957 or (734) 422-0494

APRIL 15-21
Birmingham Temple
Time/Date: 8 p.m., Saturday, April 17
Location: 28611 West 12 Mile, Farmington Hills

Details: Vivace Music Series features pianist Ralph Votapek performing works by Copland, Schubert, Ravel and Albeniz. Afterglow and refreshments follow the concert; tickets are \$20 for members and seniors, \$23



Ralph Votapek will perform Saturday, April 17, at the Birmingham Temple.

non-members. Student and group rates available
Contact: Joyce Chershe at (248) 788-0338 or Ann Sipher at (248) 661-1348

Congregation Beth Ahm
Time/Date: 10:30-11:30 a.m., April 17
Location: 5075 West Maple, West Bloomfield

Details: Shabbat Club for kids provides a morning of parasha play, games, interactive learning and Shabbat fun
Contact: RSVP to Amy Newman at relschool@cbahm.org or (248) 851-8820

Emmanuel Lutheran Church
Time/Date: 6:30-8 p.m., Saturday, April 17
Location: 34567 Seven Mile, between Farmington Road and Newburgh, Livonia

Details: "Spring Fling" dance

designed for adults with developmental disabilities, special needs, and their caretakers includes music, fun, and friendship. Snacks and beverages will be served
Contact: RSVP no later than April 9 to Judy Cook at (248) 442-8822 or e-mail to judy@emmanuel-livonia.org

Leon's
Time/Date: 9:30 a.m., April 17
Location: 30149 Ford Road, south side (next to Tim Horton's) in Garden City

Details: Bethany Suburban West monthly breakfast meeting; all separated, divorced and singles may attend
Contact: Kathy at (734) 513-9479

St. Aidan
Time/Date: 7-9 p.m., Thursday, April 15
Location: 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia

Details: David J. Conrad, M.A. Theology is the presenter at a program called "The Church: Its Essential Qualities and Purpose"
Contact: RSVP by noon the day of the event to (734) 425-5950

APRIL 22-28

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church

Time/Date: 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Friday, April 23 and 9 a.m.-noon, Saturday, April 24
Location: 28000 New Market, just north of 12 Mile, east of Farmington Road in Farmington Hills

Details: The Woman's League of the church sponsors a rummage and bake sale. In addition to clothing and homemade baked goods, the sale will feature small appliances, furniture, books, bedding, linens, toys, jewelry and much more. \$3 and \$5 bag sale on Saturday
Contact: Lucille Ehlers at (248) 553-2889

April 29-May 5
Antioch Lutheran Church
Time/Date: Rummage sale 9 a.m.-7 p.m., Friday, April 30 and 10 a.m.-noon, Saturday, May 1
Location: 33360 West 13 Mile, Farmington Hills

Details: The church also is collecting items for the sale from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. and 5-9 p.m. Monday-Wednesday, April 26-28
Contact: Judy Glass at (248) 476-9074

St. Aidan
Time/Date: 6-9 p.m., Thursday, April 29
Location: 17500 Farmington Road, Livonia

Details: The Rev. Norm Dickson and Dr. Mary Healy will be the guest speakers at the Endow groups at the church. The session, a reflection on Women of Peace and Love, is aimed at women and girls, age 16 and over. A light dinner will be included. A free will offering will be accepted
Contact: RSVP to the parish office by April 25 at (734) 425-5950

ONGOING

AWANA

Time/Date: 6:30-8 p.m., Wednesdays
Location: Faith Bible Church, 23414 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills

Details: AWANA program for children from kindergarten through fifth grade
Contact: (248) 426-0096

Breakfast

St. Michael the Archangel
Time/Date: 8:30 a.m.-noon, third Sunday each month, October through May
Location: 11441 Hubbard, south of Plymouth, in Livonia

Details: The Ushers' Club presents an "all-you-can-eat" pancake breakfast served in the school cafeteria and featuring pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, bacon, hash browns, and assorted breakfast beverages. Meals are served buffet-style. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$3 for children, 4-11, free for children under 3, and \$15 for a family with two adults and children
Contact: (734) 261-1455

Career workshops
St. Matthew's United Methodist Church
Time/Date: First and third Mondays
Location: 30900 Six Mile, Livonia

Details: Workshops are designed to help people in employment transition build a network and use their resources to find that next good job. Workshop leaders are available to work one-on-one with anyone looking for work.
Contact: (734) 422-6038

Classes/study

Detroit First Church of the Nazarene

Time/Date: 9:30-11:15 a.m. Tuesday
Location: 21260 Haggerty, north of Eight Mile
Details: Tuesday Ladies Bible Study; \$15 registration fee includes interdenominational study materials. Child care available for children through age 5
Contact: (248) 348-7600

Please see **CALENDAR, NEXT PAGE**

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HELEN ATTALAI
Age 88, of Plymouth. Passed away March 25, 2010. Arrangements by THAYER-ROCK FUNERAL HOME, Farmington.

ORLANDO ROBERT "Bob" PANSA
Was born in Bristol, Rhode Island on 30 April 1922 to Tommaso (Thomas) and Anna Mangieri Pansa. He died on January 23, 2010 in Twinsburg, Ohio. Bob graduated in 1944 from the Rhode Island State College (later URI) majoring in Mechanical Engineering. He then earned a Masters Degree in Automotive Engineering from Michigan's Chrysler Institute. Upon his return to New England, he was an instructor of mechanical engineering at RISC. He married his college sweetheart, Elaine E. Murphy in June of 1947. In 1949, Bob joined Oldsmobile Division of General Motors, where he was to make his career. The family moved from Boston to East Lansing, Michigan in 1959. Bob was the "go to" guy whenever there was an area needed special attention. Later he was promoted to positions in Memphis, TN and California. After a short tenure as regional manager of Oldsmobile in Illinois, he was invited back to Michigan to join General Motors Corporation in 1976. He served as Director of the Customer Relations and Service Staff until his retirement in 1987. His wife, Elaine, preceded him in death on 30 November 2008. Bob is survived by daughter Martha Pansa and Tom Colosimo, and her daughter Ariana Pansa Maki; daughter Deborah Pansa Gallagher and Dan Gallagher, and their children Amy and Laura Gallagher; son Jeffrey Robert Pansa and Dana Pansa and their children Elizabeth Stephen and Rachel Pansa; and daughter Patti Ann Pansa. He is also survived by his sister, Sylvia Pansa Terra and brother Andrew Pansa, both of whom live in Rhode Island. A memorial service will be held August 21, 2010 at the Kirk in the Hills, 1340 West Long Lake Rd, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan.

CATHERINE (KATIE) ROMA (SCHAEFFER) MINARD
67, died Monday, March 29, 2010 surrounded by family in her Livonia, Michigan home. Born in 1942 to J. Robert and Ruth Schaeffer in Detroit, Katie graduated from Detroit Cooley High School in 1961. After raising a family and working as a parapro with Livonia Public Schools, Katie completed her BS of Mathematics from the University of Michigan, Dearborn in 1994. Katie is survived by her husband, Herbert J. Minard; daughter, Cindy (Mike) Channey; sons, H. James (Stacey) Minard, Rick (Geri) Minard and Mick (Michelle) Minard. She is also survived by her brother, James Schaeffer; sister, Betsy Lewis; seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. A memorial celebration and luncheon will be held at 11:00 on Saturday, April 3, 2010 at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 30650 Six Mile Road in Livonia. Memorial donations can be made to Childrens Leukemia Foundation, www.leukemiamichigan.org

VICTORIA MARIE MOODY
Age 88, of Garden City, formerly of Belleville, died March 25, 2010. A gathering was held Mar. 28. Donations can be made to the American Cancer Society. www.davidcbrownfh.com

BENJAMIN HOYT PARKS
Age 80, born Chattanooga TN, lived 40 yrs. in Westland, passed on March 27, 2010. Survived by loving wife of 64 yrs. Dolores. Children: Ruth, Jack, and Deborah. Grandchildren: Jack, Kasey, John, Lynn, Chris, David, Minda, and Jamie, seven great-grandchildren and one sister Jackie. Private family and friends memorial Sat., April 3rd.

OBITUARY POLICY
The first five "billed" lines of an obituary are published at no cost. All additional lines will be charged at \$4 per line. You may place a picture of your loved one for an additional cost of only \$6. Symbolic emblems may be included at no cost (example: American Flags, religious symbols, etc.)

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SOCIAL SECURITY

Many people are wrongly rejected when they apply for Social Security Disability benefits. Money was taken out of their paychecks for Social Security taxes to ensure that they would receive disability benefits if they could no longer work full-time. Sadly, the government denies approximately 60% of those who apply for disability benefits.

The tragedy is that less than half of those persons who are denied benefits file an appeal. Thus, many thousands of people who deserve benefits never receive them.

Those denied can appeal on their own, but statistics for many years reveal that those represented by attorneys win a much higher percentage of appeals. And attorneys who specialize in Social Security Disability cases win a much higher percentage yet.

Attorney J.B. Bieske has represented only Social Security Disability clients for over 20 years. That is the only type of law he practices. And, he personally meets with all clients and appears himself at all court hearings. Many large firms assign clients to young associate attorneys with much less experience.

Attorney Bieske welcomes you to call him to determine if you may be eligible for these benefits. He offers free phone or office consultations. If Bieske represents you, there will be no fee charged until after the case is won. The fee is a percentage of retroactive benefits.

In a recent radio interview attorney Bieske explained that many people are not even aware that they are eligible for Social Security Disability benefits. These are not the same as Workers' Compensation benefits. It is possible to receive both benefits at the same time. If you have an illness or injury (whether or not related to your work), are under 65 and unable to work full-time you may be eligible. Social Security Disability benefits are based on your work record or your deceased spouse's work record (Widow's/Widower's benefits).

Bieske represents clients from all over the state of Michigan. Call him at 1-800-331-3530 for a FREE consultation if you have been denied. Or if you are thinking of possibility of applying for Social Security benefits call him for FREE advice.

www.ssdfighter.com

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE PREVIOUS PAGE

Emmanuel Lutheran Church

Time/Date: 7-8 p.m., second Monday of the month

Location: 34567 Seven Mile, between Farmington and Newburgh roads, Livonia

Details: Open Arms Bible class for adults with developmental disabilities and special needs. Includes songs, Bible lessons, crafts and activities, prayer, snacks and fun

Contact: Judy Cook at Emmanuel, (248) 442-8822 or e-mail to jcook59@att.net.

Livonia Unity

Time/Date: 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.

Location: 28660 Five Mile, Livonia

Details: 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

Contact: (810) 813-4073 or gary@energeticarts.org.

Men's Bible study

Time/Date: Breakfast at 7 a.m. and study at 8 p.m.

Location: Kirby's Coney Island, 21200 Haggerty, Northville Township

Contact: John Shulenberg at (734) 464-9491

Merriman Road Baptist Church

Details: 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.

Contact: (734) 421-0472; leave your name and phone number and someone will contact you

New Life Community Church

Time/Date: Jobs seminar, 8-9 a.m., Fridays; reading program for students in grades K-12 and martial arts instruction, both at 10 a.m., Sundays

Location: 42200 Tyler, Belleville
Contact: (734) 846-4615

Our Lady of Loretto

Time/Date: 6:30-7:30 p.m. Monday

Location: Six Mile and Beech Daly, Redford

Details: Scripture study

Contact: (313) 534-9000

St. Andrew's Presbyterian

Time/Date: 10:30 a.m., Wednesday and 10:30 a.m. Thursday

Location: 26701 Joy

Details: Wednesday study/discussion group focuses on relationship with God and that of other religious groups and philosophical and scientific issues that might impact faith. Thursday group examines early writings not included in the Bible as well as other versions, extensions and controversies concerning Christianity. Led by interim pastor Larry Hoxey
Contact: (313) 274-3820



Worshippers walk the labyrinth at Farmington First United Methodist Church.

Take a walk with God at Farmington church

BY SHARON DARGAY
O&E STAFF WRITER

Sherry Young likens a walk on the labyrinth at Farmington First United Methodist Church to "making a blind date with God."

"You don't know what to expect. You have to be open and be prepared for what God has in store for you," said Young, the church's director of youth and adult ministries. "I've walked it many times. It is another spiritual vehicle to heighten your personal relationship with God."

The church will offer the ancient meditation tool to the public today, Thursday, April 1 through Saturday, April 3. A portable labyrinth will be laid out in the church's Markem room for visitors and church members alike from 1-6 p.m. Thursday-Friday, and 9-11 a.m. Saturday. Traditional Easter service with Communion will be held at 9:30 a.m., Sunday, April 4. The church is located at 33112 Grand River Ave., east of Farmington Road.

The church opens its labyrinth to the community in July during the annual Farmington Founders Festival.

FOLLOWING THE PATH

The labyrinth is a symbol consisting of a meandering path that loops and circles inward to the image's center.

Walkers follow the path from its entrance to the center of the symbol, then simply reverse direction and take the same way back to the entrance.

Outdoor labyrinths are made of brick, stone or grass and may be landscaped with hedges or encircled by trees and flowers. Portable labyrinths for indoor use are painted on cloth or canvas.

They're different from mazes, which have walled pathways that dead end and confront the walker with choices.

FOCUS ON GOD

Farmington First United Methodist Church acquired its labyrinth about 10 years ago.

"We don't have room to keep it up all the time," said Young, adding that the large canvass symbol measures 20 feet by 20 feet. "We have individuals wear footies on it to keep it clean."

Soft music sometimes plays while walkers follow the path, although some users, like Young, prefer complete silence.

She said the labyrinth helps "keep the world outside" while the walker focuses on God.

Young said she heard a reassuring voice

as she has walked its path after struggling through a difficult period in her life.

"In January 2006 I lost my dad. In September 2006 I was walked out the door of a company where I had worked for 27 years," Young recalled. "Two years before that I felt God calling me to go to the seminary."

But Young had ignored the call, unsure how she'd juggle husband, children, a father struggling with Alzheimer's and a return to college.

GOD'S VOICE

After 2006 when she walked the path, she felt a "total sense of peace." She said it seemed as though God was telling her "I have your life in my hands...just follow me."

She is three months away from earning her bachelor of arts degree and will enter the seminary in September.

"You can step on the labyrinth and you can walk and wait for something to happen. Or you can go with a purpose. Before stepping on it, say 'Lord, I need your direction.' You can come with expectations or now, but you won't leave the same as you came in."

For more on Farmington First United Methodist Church, visit www.farmingtonfumc.org

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www.orchardumc.org
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For additional information visit www.wardchurch.org

For Information regarding this Directory, please call Donna Hart at 248-437-2011, Ext. 247 or e-mail: dhart@dnp.com

FOOD

Easy Easter brunch to make at home.

Hosting an Easter brunch is a great way to bring friends and family together. And it doesn't have to be hard or expensive. Here are some simple things you can do to ensure a memorable celebration without the hassle.

Take Inventory. Pull out the dishes, platters, silverware and glassware to make sure you have what you need. If needed, spruce up any silver and table linens a few days before, so you can concentrate on other things the day-of the event.

Set a Pretty Table. For creative place cards, try Easter eggs. Put a narrow strip of tape around the middle of each egg before you dye it. When it's dry, peel off the tape and write each name in the white space with a thin line permanent marker.

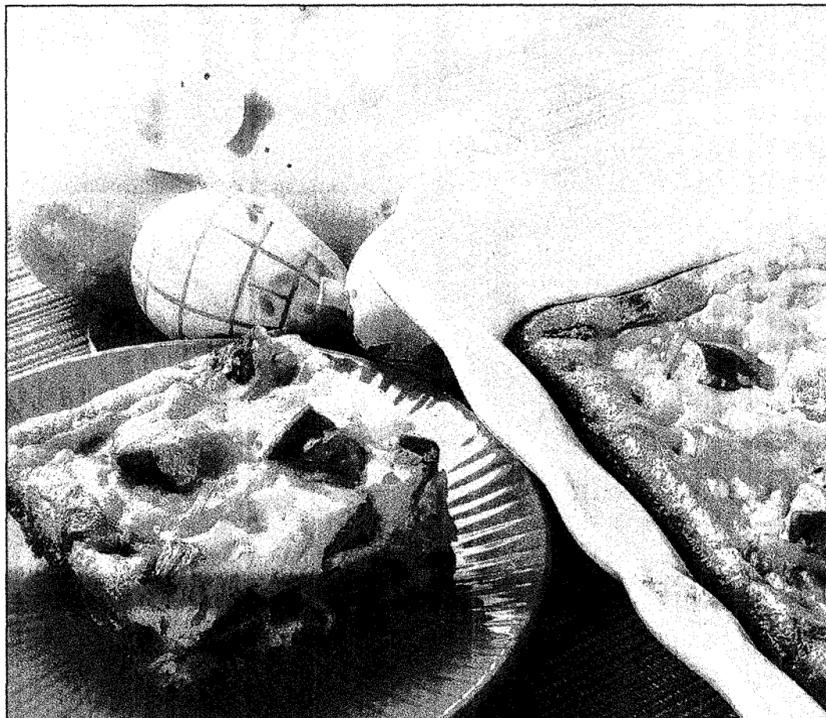
Keep it Centered. For an inexpensive centerpiece, leverage simplicity:

- Fill a glass bowl or vase with colorful Easter eggs — real or plastic.
- Put a potted plant inside an Easter basket.
- Set white or ivory votive candles on top of a flat mirror.

Plan the Menu. The main thing you must always remember is to keep it simple. Don't be afraid to use store bought items and recipes that can be made ahead of time. These simple time savers leave you more time to relax to enjoy your guests.

• Buy instead of baking. Muffins, fruit pastries and seasonal Easter breads can all be found in the bakery section of your grocery store.

• Provide a lighter side dish such as a simple fruit salad. Squeeze lemon or orange juice on the fruit to help it keep from turning brown.



Crustless quiche

• Create a simple, yet special main dish such as a crustless quiche. With this easy recipe from Hillshire Farm, you simply combine flavorful beef smoked sausage with cheese and eggs for a mouth-watering dish. You can prepare the mixture ahead of time, cover the baking dish with foil and keep it in the fridge until just before the party. Remove the foil, bake as instructed and watch your guests enjoy. You can find other tempting smoked sausage and polska kielbasa Easter recipes at gomeat.com.

CRUSTLESS QUICHE

Prep Time: 15 minutes
Cook Time: 45 minutes
Makes: 12 servings

- 1 package Hillshire Farm Beef Smoked Sausage
- 8 eggs, lightly beaten
- 1 1/2 cups heavy whipping cream
- 1/2 teaspoons dry mustard
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon ground black pepper
- 1 1/2 cups (6 ounces) shredded cheddar cheese, divided
- 1/2 cup chopped green bell pepper

Preheat oven to 350 F. Cut sausage into 1/2-cubes; set aside. Place eggs, cream, dry mustard, salt and black pepper in a large bowl; whisk until smooth. Stir in sausage, 1 cup of cheese and green pepper. Pour egg mixture into a greased 13-by-9-inch baking dish. Bake 40 to 45 minutes or until eggs are set. Sprinkle with remaining 1/2 cup cheese. Let stand 5 minutes before serving.

— Courtesy of Family Features

CITY BITES

Good Deeds program

Plymouth — Hiller's Markets will donate all profits from sales of its prepared Wild Vegetable Lasagna to the Detroit Zoo during April.

The fresh lasagna dish — which includes layers of al dente pasta filled with freshly sautéed vegetables, five different cheeses and creamy Alfredo sauce — is an original Hiller's recipe. The dish costs \$4.98 per pound and can be found in the prepared foods section at all seven Hiller's Markets throughout Metro Detroit.

"We're grateful to Hiller's for providing a way for the community to enjoy healthy and delicious food while helping the Zoo," said Detroit Zoo Executive Director Ron Kagan.

The fund-raising campaign is part of Hiller's Markets "Good Deeds in the Making" program, created to inspire consumers to purchase high-quality ready-to-eat meals while contributing to local worthy causes.

"The Detroit Zoo is a hometown cultural gem and one which Hiller's is proud to support as April's recipient," said Jim Hiller, president and CEO of Hiller's Markets.

In addition to its Plymouth location at 15455 Haggerty, Hiller's Markets are located in Ann Arbor, Berkley, Commerce Township, Northville, Union Lake and West Bloomfield.

Tweet & Taste

Everywhere — The blog, Michigan by the Bottle, has devised a way for you to attend wine tastings with-

out leaving your home.

On April 13, Twitter users will be able to interact with Adam Satchwell, winemaker and general manager at Shady Lanes Cellars on the Leelanau Peninsula, as they simultaneously sample a trio of Shady Lanes wines.

Several wine bloggers, including Michigan by the Bottle's Shannon Casey, and Claudia Tyagi, will help facilitate the discussion.

MichiganByTheBottle.com launched Tweet & Taste to make wine more accessible to the average consumer and specifically to wine drinkers in the 20- to 30-something age range who rely heavily on social networking, as well as promote Michigan-made products.

Here's how it works:

Participants buy the featured Shady Lane wines — 2008 Dry Riesling, 2008 Blue Franc and 2007 Pinot Noir — at their local wine shops or online at www.shadylanecellars.com.

They log onto Twitter at 8 p.m. Tuesday, April 13 via Twitter.com or a Twitter client, such as TweetDeck or HootSuite. Next, they'll search using #ttmi, the Tweet & Taste Michigan hashtag. As the facilitators and winemaker taste through the wines, users can share impressions and ask questions, adding the #ttmi hashtag to every "tweet" to ensure everyone participating sees it.

For more information on buying wine directly from Shady Lanes Cellars, call the tasting room at (231) 947-8865.

For more about the blog, visit www.MichiganByTheBottle.com



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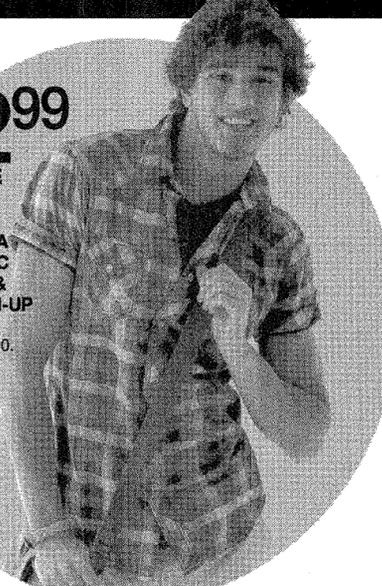
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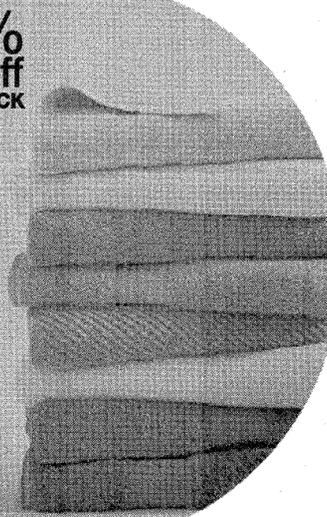
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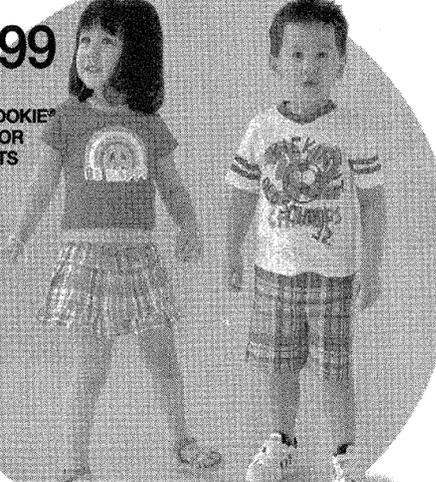
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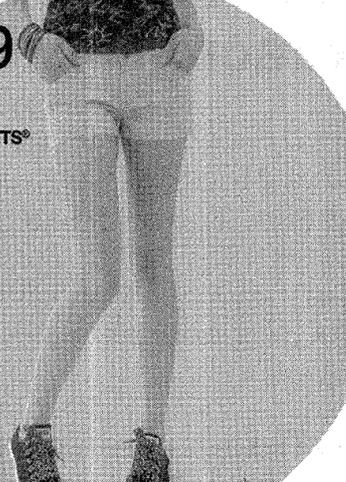
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